

## FY2024 AWC RFA questions

- We were looking into changing to Xeriscaping/ changing the irrigation. Is this something that could qualify them for the grant program?
  - Landscape irrigation projects are not applicable for this program.
- I have an on-going research-demonstration project that could greatly reduce groundwater withdrawal by promoting hybrid potable/non-potable reuse of reclaimed water for landscape use.
  - Landscape irrigation projects are not applicable for this program.
- in terms of match funds, can we provide match funds from stakeholder organizations such as cotton consumption companies, wind and solar companies, and other non-profit conservation organizations as part of match funds for this grant?
  - Yes
- Could we have a stand-alone proposal for increased brush management activities and a stand-alone proposal for measuring soil moisture content and water infiltration? Or do we need to combine both into the same proposal?
  - Any proposed projects must be responsive to the current RFA, achieving the below. If it is beneficial to you to separate proposals then do so otherwise combine to achieve the most goals. There is also nothing to discourage multiple applications.
- How much can we ask for?
  - We recommend asking for what you need to achieve your project goals
- Can we a non-profit receive funding directly?
  - No, funds must go through a political subdivision or state agency first
- Are there limits to the amount of gross income a producer can make to qualify for an equipment cost share grant?
  - No, the producer has no cap on the amount of gross income they can make to participate in our grant program.
- Is it possible for an agency or water district to seek the grant to assist agriculture users in sampling their soil, water wells, and ponds for contamination? For example, could we apply for the grant and assist farmers with water quality testing?
  - No, that would not meet the goals of the RFA.
- What is the maximum timeline on these projects? Is it a three year timeline once awarded?
  - We don't typically put a time constraint on projects. Its based on the submission projects needs but typically projects are around 5 years, but can be shorter or longer.
- Is there a template for applications?
  - See RFA instructions. Questions are listed 1-10. Best to copy and paste to state the questions as listed then give your response to each question.
  - [https://www.twdb.texas.gov/about/contract\\_admin/request/doc/FY2024-Agricultural-Water-Conservation-Grants-Application-Instructions.pdf](https://www.twdb.texas.gov/about/contract_admin/request/doc/FY2024-Agricultural-Water-Conservation-Grants-Application-Instructions.pdf)
- I was thinking of a proposing a small demonstration project in partnership with a Texas university that can study this for a more regional perspective. I am curious if any projects have been proposed in the past similar to this.

- To qualify for our program, you would need to partner with a university, who would then apply for our grant.
- I'm interested in developing agricultural conservation strategies for inclusion in the plan and need to quantify costs and water savings from particular strategies. Who at the TWDB or other entities can I contact to ask questions?
  - Please email us and we can provide you the appropriate contacts.
- For contractors and consultants, what is the best way to find opportunities to provide services?
  - If you have a product or service that will benefit irrigation conservation, the best way would be to reach out to a district or university that could have an interest in working with you.
- So the way my program works is we receive the funding then match projects to them. We have landowner enrollment. We don't have current projects. We receive several federal grants and partner funds that gets awarded but we don't have projects prior to the grant application but rather after the grant is awarded.
  - our program or project would need to be defined in your application when applying. If you do or don't have farmers to participate at the time of applying you will be able to find those farmers during your contract period.
- As a start up in development/demonstration phase, if we have farmers who want to be project site partners but no government entity how/who do you suggest we connect with to help with the application?
  - You will have to find an eligible political subdivision to apply for our program. I would recommend reaching out to your local GCD or other SWCD in the area and let them know about the money we have available.
- Is this funding available every year? same application deadline dates?
  - Yes funding is available every year. Application deadlines vary year to year. This year is a bit later than our normal schedule. The RFA is usually open in the fall and open for around 3 months.
- Are indirect costs reimbursable?
  - No, indirect cost are not eligible for reimbursement through our grant program. However, the indirect costs can be part of the project cost as local match (not reimbursable).

Also see webinars for additional questions asked during live webinars.

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/AWCG/index.asp>