



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

Division of Water Infrastructure

Spring 2025 Application for Funding

(Last updated February 2025)



Low-interest loans, principal forgiveness (PF), and grants from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) are available for the Spring 2025 funding round. Principal forgiveness (PF) for construction projects from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) DWSRF Emerging Contaminants (DWSRF-EC-C) funds and IIJA Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF-EC-C) are available for projects addressing PFAS contamination in drinking water and wastewater. **Note: Funding for DWSRF-EC and CWSRF-EC study projects is now available on a rolling basis. A separate application for these projects is available on the [Application Forms and Additional Resources](#) page of the website.** Low-interest CWSRF loans are available for green projects such as stormwater quality infrastructure, stream restoration, reclaim water, or energy efficiency projects.

Complete this Application for Funding form and submit it along with required additional forms and documents to the Division of Water Infrastructure for consideration.

Note: there is a different application form for Lead Service Line Inventorying and Replacement funding as well as EC study funding.

Spring 2025 applications are due **Wednesday, April 30, at 5:00pm.**

Instructions for Completing the NC DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure Application for Funding

(Last updated: February 2025)

The following instructions relate to completing the Application for Funding form for loan and grant funding programs offered by the Division of Water Infrastructure (the Division), attached below. Please follow these directions when completing the form. In some cases, the instructions may refer you to the Division's [applications webpage](#) for additional information that may be helpful. Such cases are noted below.

Note: there is a different application form for Lead Service Line Replacement and EC Study projects.

Section 1 – General Information

This section contains information the Division will need to process your application. Complete each blank as directed below.

- Applicant Name** – Provide the official name of your local government unit (LGU) or utility or organization eligible to apply for funding (e.g., Town of Anytown, Bixby Sanitary District).
- County** – List the county(ies) in which the Applicant is located.
- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)** – Use www.sam.gov to find your Unique Entity Identifier number. The UEI replaces the former DUNS number. Make sure your number is up to date.
- Federal Tax ID #** – Needed for loan and/or grant disbursement purposes.
- PWSID #** – Public Water System ID; needed for [all drinking water projects](#).
- NPDES #** – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit number; provide if applying for a project involving a [wastewater treatment system](#).
- Project Name** – Enter a project name that is short yet captures the nature of your project.
- Applicant Type** – Check the type of applicant that is applying.
- Funding Amount Requested** – Enter the amount of funding you are requesting. **Failure to provide this information will result in an incomplete application, which will not be eligible for consideration.**
- Total Project Cost** – Enter the cost of [the entire project](#), including costs that will be covered by other sources. Total Project Cost might vary from (but will not be less than) the Funding Amount Requested.
- Funding Type(s) Requested** – Check the box(es) that is/are appropriate for the project type for which you are requesting funding. **Each application will be evaluated based on the Priority Rating System (PRS) that applies to the selected funding type(s).** CWSRF Green Projects (e.g. energy reduction, stream restoration, stormwater control measures, reclaimed water) construction project applications will be reviewed according to the PRS for Wastewater Projects. Projects focused solely or primarily on addressing PFAS contamination will be reviewed according to the PRSs for Drinking Water Projects and Wastewater Projects (please claim all of the line items in the PRS that apply to your project), and will also be scored separately on the PRS line items that apply to EC construction funding – applicants for PFAS projects need only apply once and claim all line items in the full PRS that applies. Please see the [drinking water/wastewater construction guidance](#) for more information.
- Application for Existing Project** – There may be situations when an Applicant is applying for more funds for a current, ongoing project. If this is the case, please list the Agreement Number or Project

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North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Division of Water Infrastructure Application for Funding <small>(Last updated: February 2025)</small>		
1. General Information		
Applicant Name	County	Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
Project Name	Federal Tax ID #	PWSID or NPDES # (if applicable)
Applicant Type	Funding Amount Requested	
<input type="checkbox"/> Municipality <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Water and Sewer District <input type="checkbox"/> Water and Sewer Authority <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary District	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan Water/Sewerage District <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Water Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Investor-Owned Drinking Water Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Council of Government <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify: <input type="text"/>)	Total Project Cost
Funding Type(s) Requested – Construction Projects		
<input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater Emerging Contaminants (PFAS project)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drinking Water <input type="checkbox"/> Drinking Water Emerging Contaminants (PFAS project)	
<input type="checkbox"/> CWSRF Green Project: stream restoration, stormwater SCM, reclaimed water		
If this application is for more funding for an existing project, please provide the Agreement Number or Project Numbers: <input type="text"/>		
<i>Note: Applications for projects previously funded by the State Water Infrastructure Authority will only be considered for additional funds to cover unfunded project costs.</i>		
Acceptance of Funding Offer (for Construction Projects) Please read the Instructions page for details. Most funding available is in the form of low-interest loans. Offers of grant and principal forgiveness (PF) are based on availability and the applicant's eligibility for grants/PF. Please indicate to the Division your willingness to accept a loan and the minimum amount of grant/PF you would accept for this project. The greatest amount of grant/PF available for your application based on eligibility and availability will be offered to your application if selected, even if you are willing to accept less.		
1) I am willing to accept a low-interest loan offer for the Funding Amount Requested above. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (stop here) or <input type="checkbox"/> No (answer the next question). <i>(Answering "Yes" does not reduce the amount of grant or PF the project will be offered if awarded. The project will be offered any grant or principal forgiveness for which it can receive based on eligibility and availability.)</i>		
2) I will only accept a funding offer if a minimum of \$ <input type="text"/> is offered as a grant or principal forgiveness (PF). I understand that I will not be offered any funding if the minimum requested grant/PF amount cannot be offered. <i>(In many funding rounds projects will be limited to \$100,000 in PF based on PF availability. Indicating a minimum grant/PF request above \$100,000 has a higher likelihood that a potential funding offer would not meet the minimum grant/PF requested and result in the project being bypassed for funding. Applicants should indicate the lowest amount of grant/PF required.)</i>		

Application for Funding form: Page 1 of 7

Instructions are enclosed.

Application form is attached after the Instructions. Additional forms required for completing an application are available on the Division of Water Infrastructure's [application page](#).

Instructions for Completing the NC DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure Application for Funding

(Last updated: February 2025)

The following instructions relate to completing the Application for Funding form for loan and grant funding programs offered by the Division of Water Infrastructure (the Division), attached below. Please follow these directions when completing the form. In some cases, the instructions may refer you to the Division's [applications webpage](#) for additional information that may be helpful. Such cases are noted below.

Note: there is a different application form for Lead Service Line Replacement and EC Study projects.

Section 1 – General Information

This section contains information the Division will need to process your application. Complete each blank as directed below.

- **Applicant Name** – Provide the official name of your local government unit (LGU) or utility or organization eligible to apply for funding (e.g., Town of Anytown, Bixby Sanitary District).
- **County** – List the county(ies) in which the Applicant is located.
- **Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)** – Use www.sam.gov to find your Unique Entity Identifier number. The UEI replaces the former DUNS number. Make sure your number is up to date.
- **Federal Tax ID #** – Needed for loan and/or grant disbursement purposes.
- **PWSID #** – Public Water System ID; needed for all drinking water projects.
- **NPDES #** – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit number; provide if applying for a project involving a wastewater treatment system.
- **Project Name** – Enter a project name that is short yet captures the nature of your project.
- **Applicant Type** – Check the type of applicant that is applying.
- **Funding Amount Requested** – Enter the amount of funding you are requesting. **Failure to provide this information will result in an incomplete application, which will not be eligible for consideration.**
- **Total Project Cost** – Enter the cost of the entire project, including costs that will be covered by other sources. Total Project Cost might vary from (but will not be less than) the Funding Amount Requested.
- **Funding Type(s) Requested** – Check the box(es) that is/are appropriate for the project type for which you are requesting funding. Each application will be evaluated based on the Priority Rating System (PRS) that applies to the selected funding type(s). CWSRF Green Projects (e.g. energy reduction, stream restoration, stormwater control measures, reclaimed water) construction project applications will be reviewed according to the PRS for Wastewater Projects. Projects focused solely or primarily on addressing PFAS contamination will be reviewed according to the PRSs for Drinking Water Projects and Wastewater Projects (please claim all of the line items in the PRS that apply to your project), and will also be scored separately on the PRS line items that apply to EC construction funding – applicants for PFAS projects need only apply once and claim all line items in the full PRS that applies. Please see the drinking water/wastewater construction guidance for more information.
- **Funds for Existing SWIA Funded Project** – Funding Applications for projects that have Division of Water Infrastructure funds committed to the project are asked to provide the agreement number or project numbers assigned to the project. Both the Agreement Number and the Project numbers should be

included in the subject line or listed as a CC recipient for all Division letters related to the project. Providing either number allows the Division to more efficiently ensure any additional awards are provided to the existing project.

- **Application for Existing Project** – There may be situations when an Applicant is applying for more funds for a current, ongoing project. If this is the case, please list the Agreement Number or Project Numbers so that Division staff can match the application to the appropriate project. Note: Applications for projects that have been previously funded by the Authority will only be considered for additional funds to cover unfunded project costs.
- **Acceptance of Funding Offer (for construction projects only)** – There are limited grants and PF funds available each round. Projects are eligible for grant/PF up to a percentage of the funding award, based on the results of the Affordability Calculator that is part of the funding application (available on the Division’s [application page](#)), or based on the type of project. Grant/PF is also limited by caps for each funding program as follows:
 - \$500,000 PF in State Revolving Funds for most types of drinking water and wastewater construction projects. Additional \$500,000 increments (up to the applicant’s percentage eligibility) may be provided if additional PF funds are available in a funding round, but it is not possible to tell during the application stage whether any or how much additional PF above the initial \$500,000 may be available to selected projects;
 - \$5 million in DWSRF-EC-C funds for drinking water construction projects addressing PFAS.
 - No cap in the CWSRF-EC-C funds for wastewater construction projects addressing PFAS

Due to the limited PF funds available, it is common for projects to be eligible for a funding offer, but for the funding package to not meet the financial needs of the applicant. The Division does not wish to award PF funds to projects when the funding package is not sufficient to meet the financial needs of the project. This practice can put an applicant in a position to decline a funding offer that does not meet their project needs, and it ties up a portion of the limited PF funds that could be award to other eligible projects. The questions in this section of the application are used by the Division to identify projects for which a funding offer would not meet the minimum requested PF amount and bypass those projects for funding.

The first question asks if the Applicant is willing to accept a low-interest loan with no PF. Selecting “Yes” does not limit the project eligibility for PF, nor will it limit the amount of PF offered if the project has sufficient priority to be awarded PF. If you select “Yes” and the project has sufficient priority for funding and PF is available, the maximum PF that the project is eligible for will be offered. If you select “No”, continue to the second question.

The second question asks the Applicant to specify the minimum amount of PF that is needed for the project to move forward. If the project is not eligible for the minimum PF indicated in the application, or if there is insufficient PF available to be offered to meet your requested minimum PF, no funding offer (loan or grant) will be made. Keep in mind that PF is limited based on the caps listed above and on the applicant’s eligibility.

Section 2 – Drinking Water and Wastewater System Parameters (not applicable for stormwater projects)

This section contains information related to drinking water and wastewater system parameters, which is used across all programs. Please complete all blanks unless otherwise noted.

- **Residential and Non-Residential Sewer and Water Connections** – Follow the guidance found in Line Item 4.A of the *Priority Rating System Guidance and Form for Division of Water Infrastructure Construction Funding Programs* (Guidance, available on the Division’s [application page](#)). For wastewater applications, count only sewer connections. For drinking water applications, count only drinking water connections. Include only existing connections; do not include number of new connections resulting from the project.
- **Monthly Sewer and Water Bills for 5,000 gallons** – If your system offers both water and sewer service, provide the monthly bills for 5,000 gallons of use for **sewer and water, each**. These rates are (1) used to calculate Line Item 3.B operating ratio eligibility via rates to median household income; (2) used to determine points in Line Item 4.B; and (3) used to determine PF eligibility for some funding programs. See Line Item 4.B in the Guidance for more information about what is needed for this parameter.
- **Service Population** – Enter the number of individuals the utility serves directly, excluding wholesale customers. If your utility is primarily or solely a wholesale provider, please type “Wholesaler”.

Sections 3, 4, and 5 – Applicant, Application Preparer, and Engineer Contact Information

Complete this section with all pertinent information. The following bullet points contain specific information.

- **Authorized Representative Name** – This name must be either: (1) the top elected official (e.g., Mayor, Chair of the Board), (2) the top administrative official (e.g., Town Manager, Town Administrator, County Manager, CEO), or (3) must match the name listed on the Resolution by Governing Body of Applicant as the Authorized Representative. The Resolution by Governing Body authorizing filing of the application must be submitted as part of the application package. ***The top elected official, top administrative official, or Authorized Representative must be the person to sign the application.***
- **Mailing Address of the Applicant** – Provide the mailing address where the Applicant receives mail. For example, if the Applicant has a PO Box, provide this information rather than the physical address.
- **Application Preparer Contact Information** – For the Application Preparer, provide the following: Preparer’s firm name, contact name, phone number, and email address.
- **Engineer Contact Information** – If your Application Preparer is the same as the Engineer Contact, check the “No” box. Section 5 may then be left blank. If the answer is “Yes”, provide the engineer’s firm name, contact name, phone number, and email address.

Note: Zip codes between PO Boxes and physical addresses may vary. If using a PO Box to receive mail, **use the zip code that matches the PO Box.**

Section 6 – Project Description

In this section, provide a brief description of the proposed project in a broad level of detail. Include the project purpose and what the project entails. For example: rehabilitation of approximately 2,000 linear feet (lf) of sewer, construction of a new well, stream restoration, construction of a new stormwater control measure, connecting 104 residences in a disadvantaged area to the water system along Orchard St., etc. Include information such as types of equipment to be included, capacity of equipment, estimates of line length, street names for sewer or waterline work, and/or neighborhoods or areas where work will occur, or benefits will accrue. **Descriptions of the work related to the major line items in the Project Budget (Sections 8a – 8c) must**

be included in the project description. For example, if approximately 2,000 lf of 4-inch, 3,000 lf of 6-inch, 4,000 lf of 8-inch pipe, are listed in the project budget, they must be listed in the project description.

For projects rehabilitating and replacing infrastructure, we recommend that if you intend to utilize all funds requested to maximize the rehabilitation and replacement work while still meeting the project purpose discussed in the project description, use approximate linear footage or other measurements and clearly identify the project areas in which the work will occur.

For construction projects that address PFAS contamination, the project description must clearly indicate that the main purpose of the project (at least 75 percent of the project cost) is to address PFAS contamination.

If your drinking water construction, wastewater construction, or emerging contaminants (PFAS) construction project will add new connections to the water and/or wastewater system (or to a new system or to a decentralized system owned, operated, and maintained by the public utility), please estimate the number of new connections in this section. For drinking water or wastewater projects that provide new public water or wastewater service to disadvantaged areas or to projects that create new public water systems to address PFAS contamination, provide the number of affected customers that will be incorporated into the new or existing public water system.

If 50 percent or more of the project cost will directly benefit one or more disadvantaged areas (see the Guidance for drinking water/wastewater construction projects for Line Item 4.C.4), please check the box. Identify the disadvantaged areas and their direct benefits from the project in the project description. Indicate in the project budget and the narrative the costs associated with the direct benefit to the disadvantaged areas.

For drinking water, wastewater construction, Emerging Contaminants construction, or CWSRF Green Projects: check the appropriate box(es) if the project is a result of a study grant (Asset Inventory and Assessment grant and/or Merger/Regionalization Feasibility grant) previously awarded by the Division or if it is a study grant that is a continuation of a previous AIA or MRF grant. If neither is the case, check None of the Above.

Section 7 – Additional Information for Consideration

In some situations, a construction project's purpose might not be listed as eligible for points under Category 1 – Project Purpose of the relevant construction project's PRS. In these situations, you may use the *Supplemental Guidance for the Ranking of Applications and Providing Additional Information for Consideration* found on the Division's [application page](#). Please note the following related to this section:

- This section does not apply to funds awarded from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program.
- Information for this section must fit into the space provided.

Section 8 – Project Budget for All Construction Projects and Emerging Contaminants (PFAS) Evaluation/Assessment Studies

Complete Section 8 for all construction projects and for Emerging Contaminants evaluation/assessment studies.

Complete the project budget by addressing the categories provided in the table (insert rows as needed). Total the cost amount for each line and provide the total cost amount. Please note the following related to this section:

- The project budget is **required**.

- If applying for a construction project, include the pre-construction planning costs in the budget. Final design and permitting costs are eligible as pre-construction costs.
- Note the instructions at the top of Section 8 about separating costs and labeling them to show portions of the project costs that are attributable to certain factors, such as cost components for disadvantaged areas vs. non-disadvantaged areas, portions of the project that address PFAS contamination, and replacement/rehabilitation of older water/sewer lines vs. newer lines. This can be done by adding additional lines to the project budget (e.g.: [1] construction of 720 lf of waterline extensions in disadvantaged areas, and [2] 300 lf of waterline extensions in non-disadvantaged areas). You may also add additional rows for the sole purpose of separating and labeling costs as required at the top of Section 8.
- The project budget must be signed, dated and sealed by a properly licensed Professional Engineer (PE). **If you do not provide a PE signature and seal on the budget, the application will be incomplete and not considered for funding.** Note: If not using DocuSign to seal and sign the budget, put the seal/signature on the Word document or use a wet seal/signature with a scan of the wet seal/signature.

Certification by Authorized Representative

The Authorized Representative must read and initial in the space beside each question, or use “N/A”.

Completeness Checklist

When assembling the application package, initial next to the checklist items to show that the information is in the package, if applicable. **Failure to include or properly document an item marked with * will result in the application being incomplete and ineligible for consideration of funding.** Forms are available separately on the Division’s [application page](#).

Submittal Information

Applications must be submitted electronically **no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, April 30, 2025.**

- Submit the application electronically at: <https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/Forms/Spring2025FundingApplication>. Follow the directions as shown on the form on the website.
- Complete the required fields, almost all of which can be found directly from this Application for Funding form.
- For construction projects addressing emerging contaminants via the IJJA SRF funds, select either Drinking Water or Wastewater.
- Upload each required document (e.g. completed Application for Funding form, Resolution by Governing Body and the Form of Certification by the Recording Officer, Narrative to Claim Points, etc.) **individually; do not upload a single file with the entire application package. Individual file sizes must be limited to 250 MB.**
- Uploading files may take several minutes and may be slow during high volume periods. **It is strongly encouraged to submit applications several days before the application due date to avoid technical difficulties.**
- Once you have submitted your application online, the applicant submitter should receive a confirmation email.

- Online submittal of the application package is sufficient for all applications.

Application Signature

Signing of this application indicates the Applicant's willingness to accept federal and state conditions. *The top elected official, the top administrative official, or the Authorized Representative who is named in the Resolution by Governing Body of Applicant must sign the application.*

Note: Use a scanned wet signature, or DocuSign signature if signing electronically.

An application without this signature is incomplete and will not be eligible for consideration.