

### Water Conservation: Financial Assistance Opportunities



U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation 2022



### **Bureau of Reclamation – Five Regions**

#### 17 States comprise Five Regions:

- California-Great Basin
- Columbia-Pacific Northwest
- Lower Colorado Basin
- Missouri Bain and Arkansas-Rio Grande-Texas Gulf
- Upper Colorado Basin

California is in both the CGB and LCB Regions





### **Reclamation's Water Conservation Team**

Region	Team Member	Telephone Number(s)	Email Address
CGB	Jake Berens	530-892-6203	Jberens@usbr.gov
CGB	Thomas Hawes	916-978-5271	Thawes@usbr.gov
CGB	Gene Lee	916-978-5219	Glee@usbr.gov
CGB	Deb Page	775-884-8392	Dpage@usbr.gov
CGB	Anna Sutton	916-978-5214	Asutton@usbr.gov
CGB	David T. White	916-978-5208	Dwhite@usbr.gov
LCB	Ken Isakson	702-293-8537	Kisakson@usbr.gov
LCB	Deb Whitney	951-695-5310	Dwhitney@usbr.gov
LCB	Meghan Thiemann	702-293-8438 or 702-816-8707	Mthiemann@usbr.gov



### **Reclamation Funding Opportunities**

#### **CGB** Region

- Bay-Delta CALFED Water Use Efficiency
- Agricultural Water Use Efficiency

# All Reclamation Regions

**WaterSMART** 

www.usbr.gov/watersmart

- Basin Study Program
- CWMP Cooperative Watershed Management Program
- Drought Response Program/Resiliency Projects/Plans
- SWEP Small-scale Water Efficiency Project
- Title XVI Program
- Desalination Construction
- Water Conservation Field Services Program
- Water Marketing Strategy
- WEEG Water Energy Efficiency Grant



### **Reclamation Financial Assistance**

#### **General Information**



Up to 50% of the project's cost and no more than \$25 million



States, tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, and other entities with water or power delivery authority



Awards are made through a competitive process



Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) are posted to <a href="https://www.grants.gov">www.grants.gov</a>



### **CGB: Bay-Delta CALFED Water Use Efficiency Grants**

- Eligible applicants must be located within the CALFED Solution Area
- Significant benefits to the Bay-Delta
- Since 2010, over 70 grants have conserved or better managed over 303,000 acre-feet (*i.e.*, +100 billion gallons) of water
- Recent NOFO: BOR-CGB-21-F001



EBMUD Leak Detection



### **CGB: Agricultural Water Use Efficiency Grants**

- Partnership with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) -Fostering District/Farmer Partnerships
- Increase the capability of on-farm water conservation projects
- Encourage supplier/grower partnerships to identify district/regional needs and opportunities



Recent NOFO: BOR-MP-19-F003



### WaterSMART: Basin Study Program

Water Management Options Pilots: Build on completed Basin Studies to advance strategies and apply tools and information to address water management challenges and supply and demand imbalances.

- Each study includes four key elements:
  - 1) Project future supply and demand by river basin
  - 2) Analyze how the basin's existing water and power operations and infrastructure will perform in the face of changing water realities
  - 3) Develop strategies to meet current and future water demands
  - 4) Identify a trade-off analysis of strategies

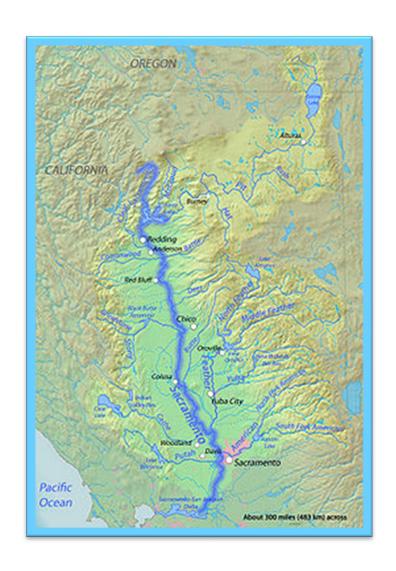


### WaterSMART: Basin Study Program

#### Applied Science Grants:

- 1) Improve or enhance modeling capabilities
- 2) Improve or adapt forecasting tools and technologies
- 3) Improve access to, and use of, water resources data

# WaterSMART – CWMP Cooperative Water Management Program



- Provides funds to develop local solutions to water management needs
  - Phase 1 Planning
  - Phase 2 Implementation
- Projects provide a variety of benefits throughout a watershed:
  - Improve water quality and ecological resilience
  - Conserve water
  - Reduce conflicts
- Recent NOFOs: BOR-DO-21-F003 and BOR-DO-21-F002

### WaterSMART – Drought Response Program/ Drought Resiliency Projects/Drought Plans

Projects increase water supply reliability, improve water management, and build long-term resiliency to drought.

- Contingency Planning
- Resiliency Projects
- Emergency Response Actions
- Recent NOFO: BOR-DO-20-F002



# WaterSMART – SWEP Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

- Small-scale projects conserve and use water more efficiently; mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict; and accomplish other benefits that contribute to water supply reliability.
- For projects with a total cost of \$200,000 or less
- Streamlined Application Process
  - Rolling Application Submission
  - Simplified Evaluation Criteria
  - Clarified Budget Documentation
- Recent NOFO: BOR-DO-20-F006 and R21AS00300



### **Title XVI Program**

Projects reclaim and reuse wastewaters and impaired ground and surface waters.

- Authorized Projects: Congressionally-authorized Title XVI projects
- WIIN-Eligible Projects: Title XVI projects with an approved feasibility study but lack Congressional authorization
- Feasibility Studies: Determine viable water recycling and reuse projects
- Research Studies: Water reclamation research
- Cost-share: Each recipient must provide at least 75% of the total project cost
- Recent NOFO: BOR-DO-20-F009 and R21AS00429

#### Contacts:

CGB – Ankur Bhattacharya at AnkurBhattacharya@ubsr.gov or 916-978-5348

LCB – Meghan Thiemann at Mthiemann@usbr.gov or 702-293-8438



### WaterSMART: Desalination Construction

- Planning, design, and construction of ocean and brackish water desalination projects under section 4007(a) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act.
- To be eligible, sponsors must have completed a Title XVI Feasibility Study that Reclamation has reviewed and found to meet all of the requirements of Reclamation Manual Release WTR 11-01.
- The recipient must provide at least 75% of the total project cost.
- Recent NOFO: BOR-DO-19-F008 and R21AS00428



### Water Conservation Field Services Program

Projects promote water conservation planning and design:

- Demonstration projects
- Water project designs
- System Optimization Reviews
- Develop Water Conservation Plans
- Design water management improvements





### WaterSMART: Water Marketing Strategy Grants

- Planning activities that develop water marketing strategies that establish or expand water markets or water marketing activities between willing participants, in compliance with state and Federal laws.
- Webinar: <a href="https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/watermarketing/docs/2019/2019-06-21watermarketingstrategygrantswebinar.pdf">https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/watermarketing/docs/2019/2019-06-21watermarketingstrategygrantswebinar.pdf</a>
- Recent NOFO: BOR-DO-19-F006 and R21AS00278



# WaterSMART – WEEG Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

Projects conserve and use water more efficiently, increase the use of renewable energy and improve energy efficiency, benefit endangered and threatened species, facilitate water markets, or carry out other beneficial activities.

Eligible projects fall into one or more "Tasks":

- Task A: Water Conservation
- Task B: Energy-Water Nexus
- Task C: Benefits to Endangered Species

Recent NOFO: BOR-DO-20-F001



### **Application Advice and Insight**

- Read the entire NOFO and ask questions.
- The Application Review Committee does not know your project and will not conduct additional research.
- The non-Federal cost-share could come from a variety of sources, such as state funding and loans.
- Copy the criteria from the NOFO and answer each part of the question.
- You can divide large projects in phases, with each one being separately funded.
- You can request a debrief if your application was not successful.



#### Resources and Additional Information

www.usbr.gov/mp/watershare
www.usbr.gov/watersmart
www.usbr.gov/lc/socal/wtrcons.html
www.grants.gov

- Notice of Funding Opportunities
- Previously Funded Projects
- Performance Measures
- Newsletter
- Water Management Planning Tools



# Applying for Federal Funding Using Grants.gov

- 1: Understand the federal funding agency
- 2: Grants.gov: Search and apply
- 3: Tips for Applicants

# 1. The federal funding agency

Each agency has its own mission, goals, and expectations on the use of federal funds.

Sometimes a proposed project will complement the work of multiple federal agencies.

The NOFO should detail how to find information about the funding agency: website, regional or local office contact, etc.

As an executive agency, we do what the legislative branch tells us to do. In the absence of such direction, we can exercise discretion.

If you understand the agency's perspective, you might be able to design a project that has a more meaningful ROI for the funding agency.

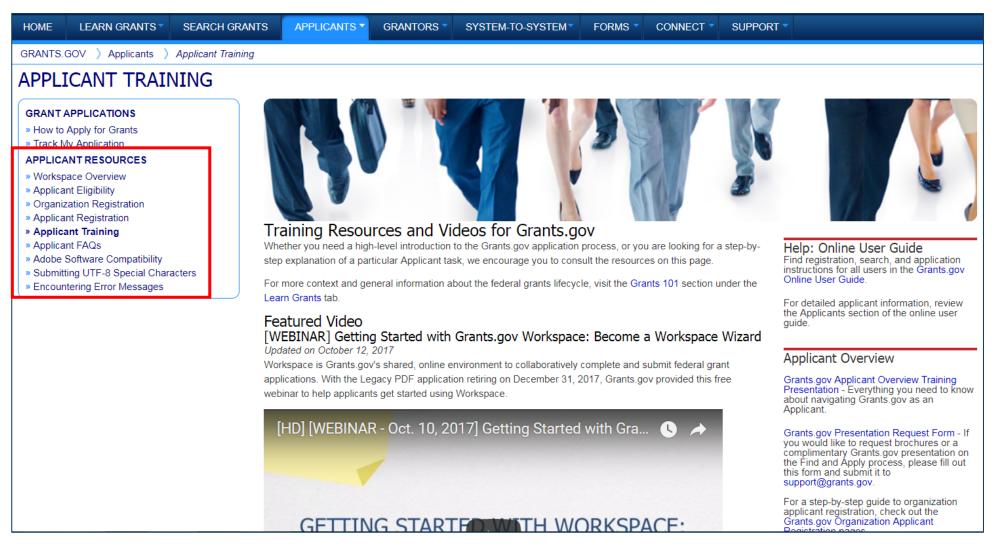
### RECLAMATION

### 2. Grants.gov

- Funding is for your project; your project is not for funding.
- Money is competitively awarded through Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs).
- NOFOs are "forecasted", "posted", "closed", or "archived".
- Previous NOFOs can provide insight into current and future NOFOs and how to apply.

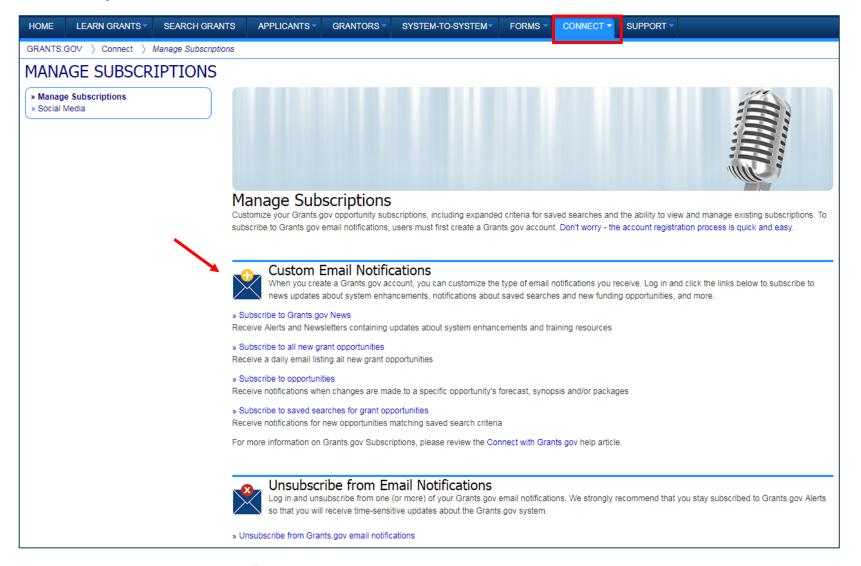
# Navigating Grants.gov

Applicant Resources: Videos, User Guide, Training Content, FAQs and More



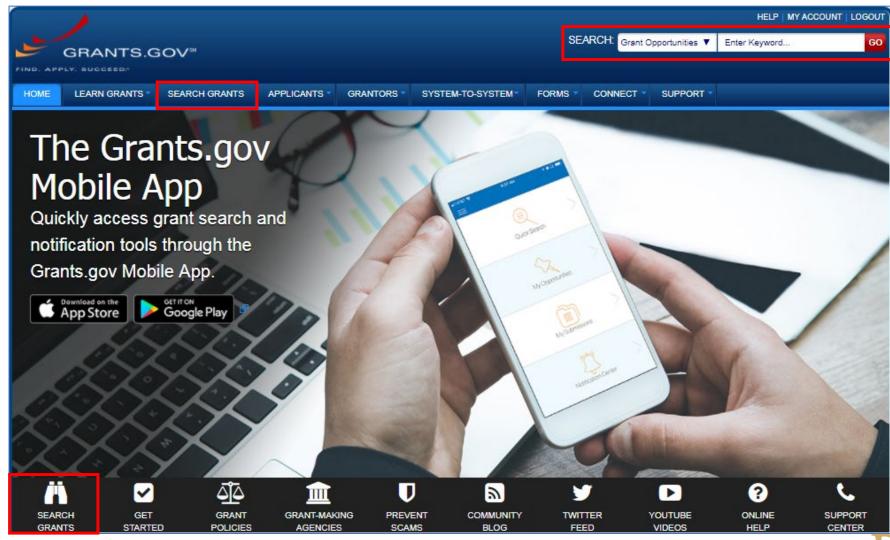
# Navigating Grants.gov

#### **Subscriptions and Email Notifications**

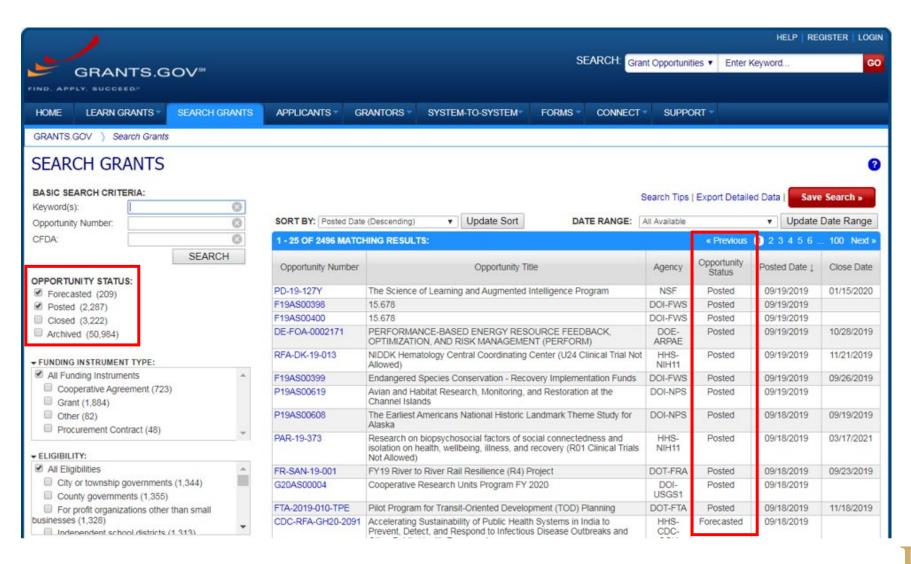


# Searching for Funding Opportunities

Using the Grants.gov Search Fields



# Searching for Funding Opportunities



Select the Opportunity Status to find what you are looking for:

**Forecasted** - Potential grants in the near future

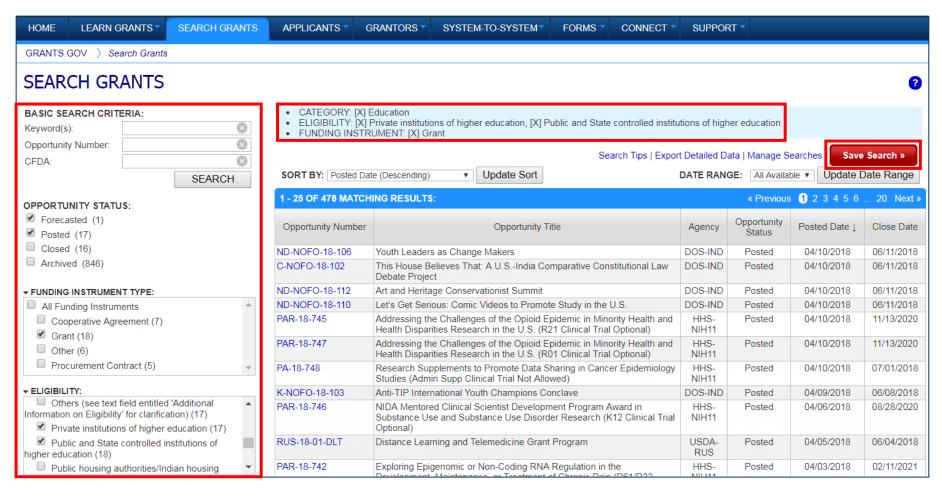
**Posted** - Currently open grants

**Closed** - Recently ended grants

**Archived** - Past grants available for reference

# Searching for Funding Opportunities

#### Sign In and Save Your Search



#### Search:

- CFDA Number
- Keyword
- Eligibility
- Funding Agency
- Opportunity Status

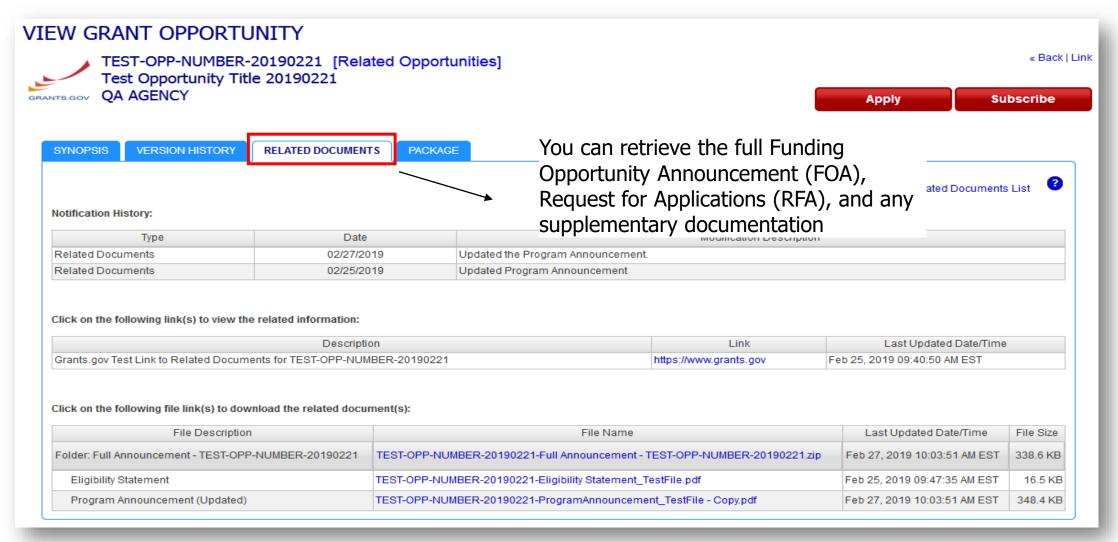
Click "Save Search" button to store this set of search criteria to receive emails

Click "Manage Searches" link to review your saved searches



# What's in a Funding Opportunity?

Full Announcement – Under "Related Documents" Tab





# NOFO: Understanding the Goals

# RECLAMATION Managing Water in the West

Funding Opportunity Announcement No: R15AS00026

### **Bay-Delta Restoration Program: CALFED Water Use Efficiency Grants**









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Synopsis	
Federal Agency Name:	Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Mic Pacific Region
Funding Opportunity Title:	Bay-Delta Restoration Program: CALFED Water Use Efficiency Grants, California Bay-Delta Constituents
Announcement Type:	Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)
Funding Opportunity Number:	R15AS00026
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:	15.533
Dates: (See FOA Sec. IV.B)	Application due date: March 20, 2015 12:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time
Eligible Applicants: (See FOA Sec. III.A)	Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, or othe organizations with water or power delivery authority located in the state of California.
Recipient Cost Share: (See FOA Sec. III.E)	Non-Federal Sources: 50% or more of project costs
Estimated Federal Funding Amount: (See FOA Sec. II.B)	Up to \$750,000.00 per agreement.
Estimated Number of Agreements to be Awarded: (See FOA Sec. II.B)	Approximately 4-12, depending on requested funding amounts for selected projects and final Fiscal Year (F) 2015 appropriations.
Estimated Total Amount of Funding Available for Award: (See FOA Sec. ILA)	Up to \$8.0 million is estimated to be available for awar under this FOA, Applications submitted under this FOA also may be considered if other funding becomes available in FY 2015 or thereafter. This FOA may be canceled at any time if sufficient funding is not availab



U.S. Department of the Interior Mid-Pacific Region Sacramento, California Bureau of Reclamation



### NOFO: The Criteria

Section IV. Application and Submission Information

The evaluation criteria portion of your application should thoroughly address each criterion and sub-criterion in the order presented to assist in the complete and accurate evaluation of your proposal.

It is suggested that applicants copy and paste the evaluation criteria and sub-criteria in into their applications to ensure that all necessary information is adequately addressed.

Table 1. Evaluation Categories and Point Distribution

Category	Possible Points
Conservation Benefits	20
<ol><li>Water Benefits in Relation to Delta Supply</li></ol>	15
Environmental Benefits	15
Technical/Scientific Merit	10
5. Cost Effective Budget and Project Costs	10
6. Performance Measures and Project Monitoring	10
8. Ability to Implement the Proposed Project	15
Water Management Plan	05
Total	100

The Technical Proposal should thoroughly address, in the order presented below, each of the following categories.

#### 1. Conservation Benefits (20 points maximum)

Please calculate the *lifetime* project water savings as related to the percentage of the applicant's water supply received from the Bay-Delta by multiplying the project's total *lifetime* conserved water benefit by the percent of Bay-Delta water supply received by the applicant. For implementation projects that ONLY result in water better managed, attribute 10% of benefits to conservation (i.e., multiply benefit by 0.1 in calculation).

Example

A subcontractor of a primary contractor (Contractor) has submitted a project proposal. The project is estimated to save 1,670 AF of water over the life of the project. The subcontractor gets 65% of their water from the Contractor (the rest is groundwater and recycled). The Contractor receives 60% of their water from the Delta.

 $1,670\,X.65$  (65% of subcontractor's water is from Contractor) =  $1,085\,AF$   $1,085\,X.60$  (60% of Contractor's water is from the Delta) =  $651\,AF$  of water is their Delta Water Savings

#### 2. Water Benefits in Relation to Delta Supply (15 points maximum)

Using the *annual* quantity of Delta water conservation benefits, please calculate and state the percentage of Delta water supply that will be conserved by the project. For implementation projects that better manage water, attribute only 10% of benefits to conservation (*i.e.*, multiply benefit by 0.1 in calculation)

Example (Based upon the same application as above):

The project is estimated to save 85 AF/year. 85 X. 65 = 54 AF of water from Contractor 54 X. 60 = 32 AF of water is attributed to Delta water

32 AF divided by 180,000 AF (total annual supply for the subcontractor) = 0.01%

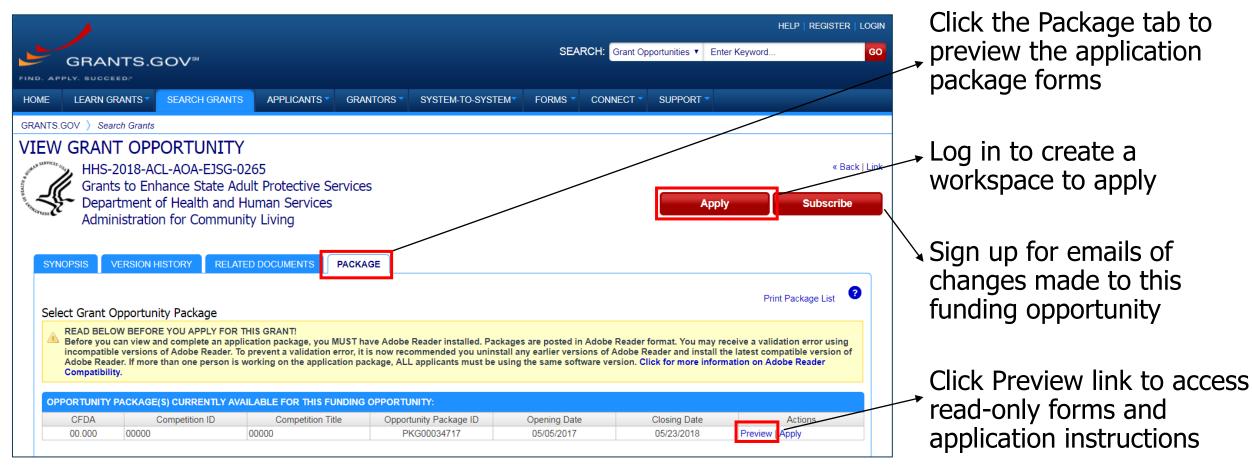
#### 3. Environmental Benefits (15 points maximum).

Using qualitative and quantitative data about the proposed project, please address the following:

- Contribution towards one or more of the CALFED objectives: improving flows in the Bay-Delta, reducing irrecoverable water losses, attaining water quality benefits or attaining ecosystem benefits.
- > Describe measurable benefits that are quantified or qualitative targets.
- ➤ Identify the direct benefits of the proposed work, including estimated acre-feet of water conserved or better managed, and any indirect benefits. Provide support for how estimates of the benefits were made (e.g., calculations, measurements and references).
- Identify the estimated period of time during which direct and indirect benefits will be derived (i.e., life of the project in number of years and whether benefits would occur year-round).
- Describe any long-term direct Bay-Delta benefits.
- Describe any State-wide (i.e., not local) benefits.
- Complete and include the following Project Benefit Table:

Benefit	Calculated Amount
Reduce Leaks and Seepage	Acre-Feet/Year
Reduces System Spills	Acre-Feet/Year
Makes More Water Available for Crop Use	Acre-Feet/Year
Reduces Diversions	Acre-Feet/Year
Reduces Operation Costs	\$/Year
Reduces Energy Costs	\$/Year
Reduces Waste Treatment Cost	\$/Year
Improves Crop Yield	%/Year
Reduces On-Farm Costs	\$/Year
Reduces Per Capita Use	Gals/Capita/Day
Provides Technical Training	# of People
Provides Water Conservation Education	# of People
Improves Water Supply Reliability	Frequency (Years)
Reduces Drainage Induced Erosion	Tons/year
Improves Water Quality	% Reduction of
Enhances Aquatic/Riparian Habitat	Acres
Endangered Species	Yes/No

# Grants.gov—The Application Package

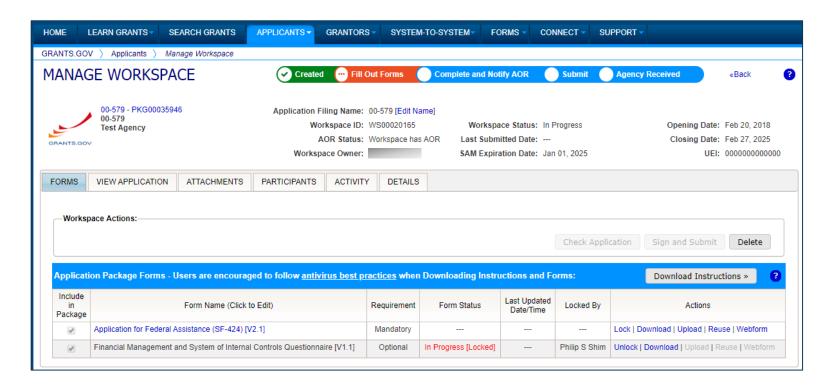


\*Any Closed packages associated with the NOFO will be listed near the bottom of the Package tab, within a separate grid.

**RECLAMATION** 

## What Is Grants.gov Workspace?

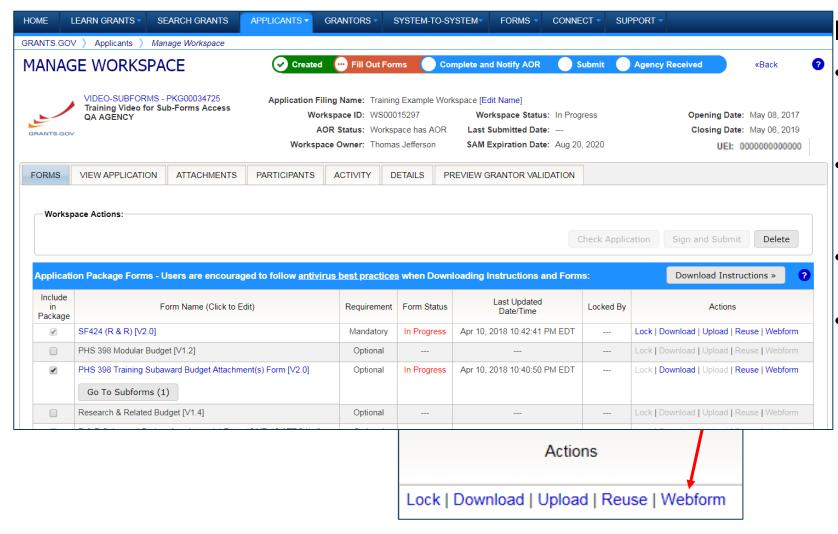
The online space on where you work on your grant application



Workspace is a **shared, online environment** where members of a grant team may simultaneously access and fill out forms within an application.



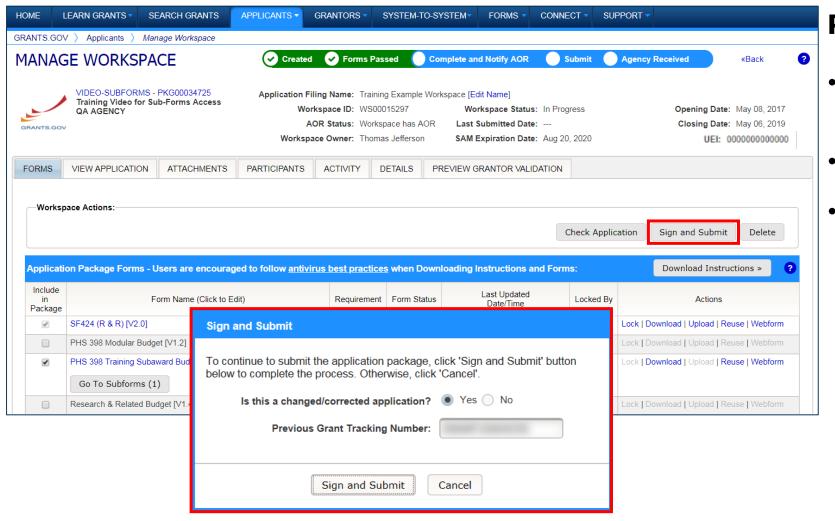
# Completing Workspace Forms



#### **Key Actions:**

- Fill out webforms (if available)
- Download and Upload PDF forms
- Lock/Unlock forms
- Reuse forms from other workspace

# Workspace: Submit Application



#### **Process:**

- Workspace Manager notifies users with AOR role
- User with AOR role submits
- Workspace Manager or AOR may choose to Reopen Workspace

**RECLAMATION** 

# After Submitting Your Application

- Make sure you receive an on-screen confirmation receipt
- Document your Grants.gov Tracking Number (GRANTXXXXXXXX)
- The date/time stamp is the official time of submission
- You will also receive email confirmations



### Submission Confirmation Messages

#### Grants.gov Submission Receipt Email

- Your application has been received by Grants.gov
- Grants.gov E-mail Verifying Receipt (with Track My Application URL)

#### Grants.gov Submission Validation or Rejection Email

- Grants.gov E-mail Verifying Successful Submission
- OR Rejection Due to Errors with a description of issue

#### Transmission to Agency

The Agency has received the Agency Retrieval Email from Grants.gov

#### **Agency Emails**

The Agency may also send you an agency tracking number, notes, or other confirmation emails

## 3. Tips for Applicants

- Register and submit early
- Thoroughly read and follow all of the instructions provided by the agency
- Fill out SF-424 forms first
- Include sufficient program and budget details
- Recommend completing the optional forms in the application
- Your project will be evaluated based solely on what is in the application.
- Tell a compelling story about your project.

- Limit application file size / file name characters (50 characters or less)
- Use only UTF-8 characters in file names
- Use correct DUNS number (Unique Entity Identifier or UEI) when creating a workspace
- Make sure you have Grants.gov compatible PDF software (Adobe Reader)
- NEPA compliance is not required prior to award, but must be completed prior to any ground-disturbing activities. NEPA cannot be retrospective.

### RECLAMATION