

Grant Spotlight: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is offering funds for clean drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses in rural areas.

Agency: Department of Agriculture

Awards: Awards are long-term, low-interest loans. If funding is available, a grant may be considered with a loan to keep costs reasonable.

Application deadline: Rolling

Match Requirement: None

Eligible applicants: communities with less than 10,000 residents, tribes, nonprofits

Eligible Projects

Funds can be used for acquisition, construction, or repairs of the following projects. In some cases, fees for engineering, permits, maintenance, etc. can be included.

- Drinking water: sourcing, treatment, storage, distribution
- Sewer: collection, transmission, treatment, disposal
- Solid waste: collection, disposal, closure
- Storm water: collection, transmission, disposal

Eligible Recipients

- State and local governments with fewer than 10,000 residents;
- Private nonprofits;
- Federally recognized Tribes

Application Tips

- Priority will be given to very small, financially distressed rural communities.
- If possible, leverage funding from other sources—government or private.
- Applicants must be unable to finance the project through commercial credit on reasonable terms.
- Applicants must demonstrate that the project will be financially sustainable.
- Your state may have other requirements. Check the online program page or contact your local USDA representative for more information
- Contact your local USDA Rural Development office when you are ready to apply. They will help with the application process, saving you time.

Resources

- [Grant opportunity \(go.usa.gov/xhWBk\)](https://go.usa.gov/xhWBk)
- [Program page - USDA \(https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/USDA\)](https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/USDA)
- [Rural Development State Offices \(rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices\)](https://rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices)

