



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects NOFO

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and Matt Reichert

Water Resources and Planning Office

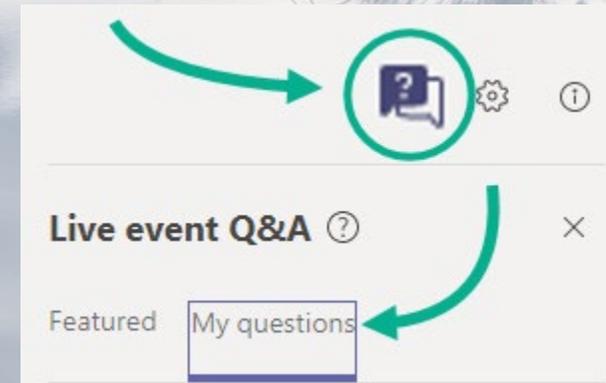
February 3, 2021

Getting Started

- To watch the recording, use the same link: [Join Live Teams Event](#)
- Attendees' cameras and microphones are muted
- A copy of the slides will be available on our website:

<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/swep/>

- Questions and comments can be posted in the Q&A icon on the bottom of the menu bar



Agenda Overview

- **WaterSMART SWEP NOFO**
 - Eligible Applicants
 - Eligible Project Types
 - Evaluation Criteria
- Application Tips
- Preparing to apply – required systems
- Useful Program Links
- Questions



WaterSMART Program Overview



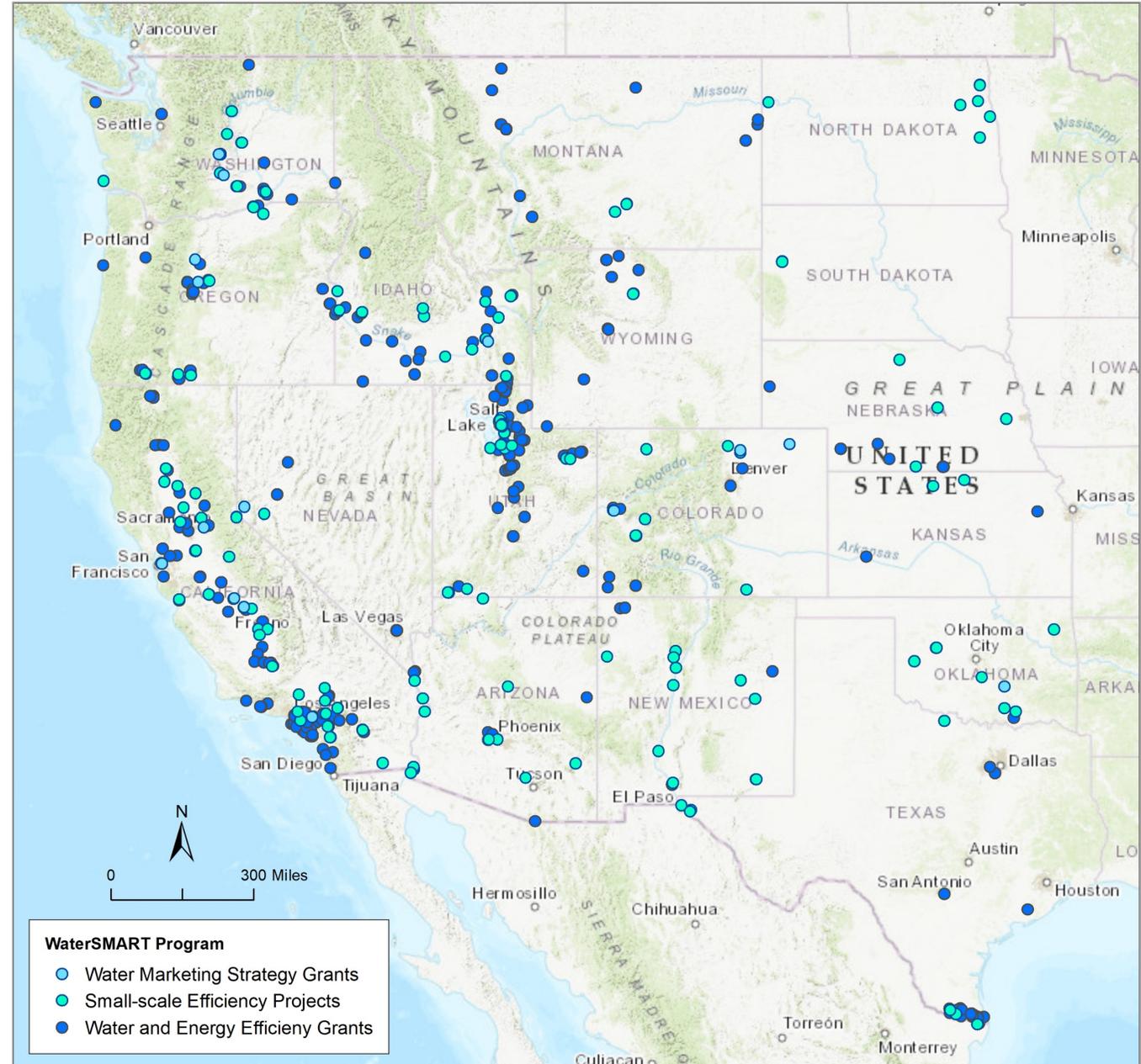
Provides a framework for Interior to support water supply reliability for multiple water users.



WaterSMART Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects (\$3 million in FY 2021)

- Water and Energy Efficiency Grants (WEEG)
- Small-Scale Efficiency Projects (SWEP)
- Water Marketing Strategy Grants (WMSG)



WaterSMART Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

(\$3 million in FY 2021)

- **Eligible Project Types**

- Canal lining/piping
- Municipal Metering
- Irrigation flow measurement
- Irrigation measures
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and Automation

Other projects that are similar to those tasks listed above may be submitted for consideration and will be allowed to the extent that they are consistent with program authorization and goals.



WaterSMART Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

(\$3 million in FY 2021)

Eligible Applicants

Category A:

- States, Indian Tribes, irrigation districts, and water districts;
- State, regional, or local authorities, whose members include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority; and
- Other organizations with water or power delivery authority.

Category B: Nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership with and with the agreement of an entity described in Category A. Category B applicants must include with their application a letter from the Category A partner, stating that they are acting in partnership with the applicant and agree to the submittal and content of the proposal.

To be eligible, applicants must also be located in one of the following States or Territories: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

****Revised Applicant Eligibility Requirement****



WaterSMART Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

(\$3 million in FY 2021)

- **Funding**

- Up to \$75k in Reclamation funds for 2-year projects
- Maximum total project costs of \$200k
- 50% non-Federal cost share

- **Evaluation Criteria**

- Simplified evaluation criteria
- Benefits to applicant
- Previous planning efforts supporting the project

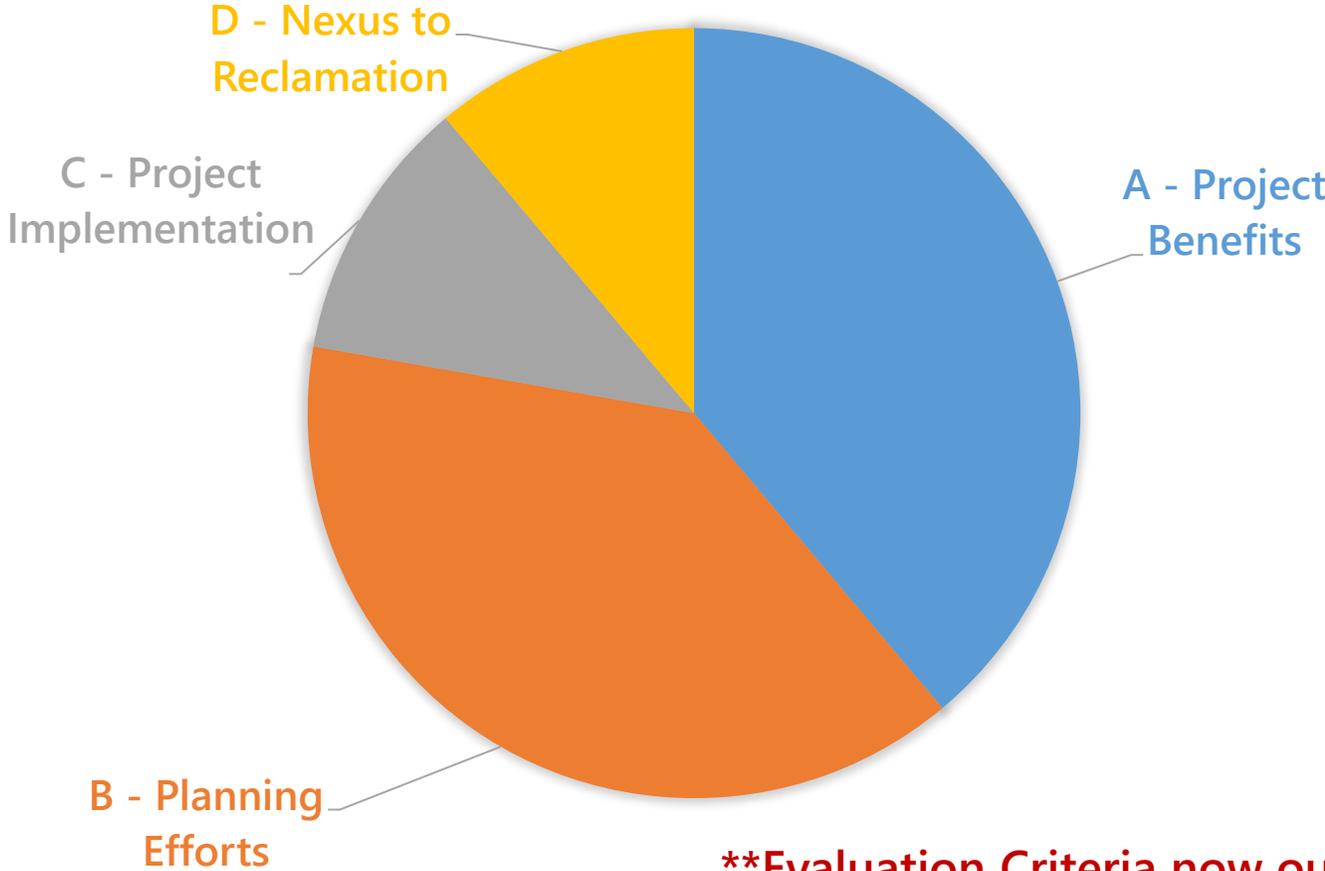
Applications Due March 18, 2021, 4pm MDT



WaterSMART Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

Evaluation Criteria



****Evaluation Criteria now out of 90 points****



WaterSMART Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Evaluation Criteria

Criterion A – Project Benefits (35 points)

- Discuss
 - Benefits to applicant's water supply delivery system
 - Other benefits (e.g., broader benefits to supply reliability, increasing collaboration, benefits to other sectors, collaboration with NRCS)

Criterion B – Planning Efforts Supporting the Project (35 points)

- Prioritizes projects that are identified through local planning efforts and meet local needs



WaterSMART Grants

Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Evaluation Criteria

Criterion C – Project Implementation (10 points)

- Describe implementation plan including schedule and milestones
- Discuss required permits and compliance, describe any engineering and design work that has been performed

Criterion D – Nexus to Reclamation (10 points)

- Describe the connection to Reclamation project activities and facilities if applicable.



Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Program Requirements Summary

Eligible Applicants

States, Indian Tribes, irrigation districts, and water districts; State, regional, or local authorities, whose members include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authority; Other organizations with water or power delivery authority. OR a nonprofit conservation organization partnering with a previously described entity.

Funding Groups

Up to \$75,000 in Federal funds for projects generally \$200,000 or less in total project costs.

Cost Share

50% non-Federal cost share required

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated against the evaluation criteria which comprise a total of 90 points.

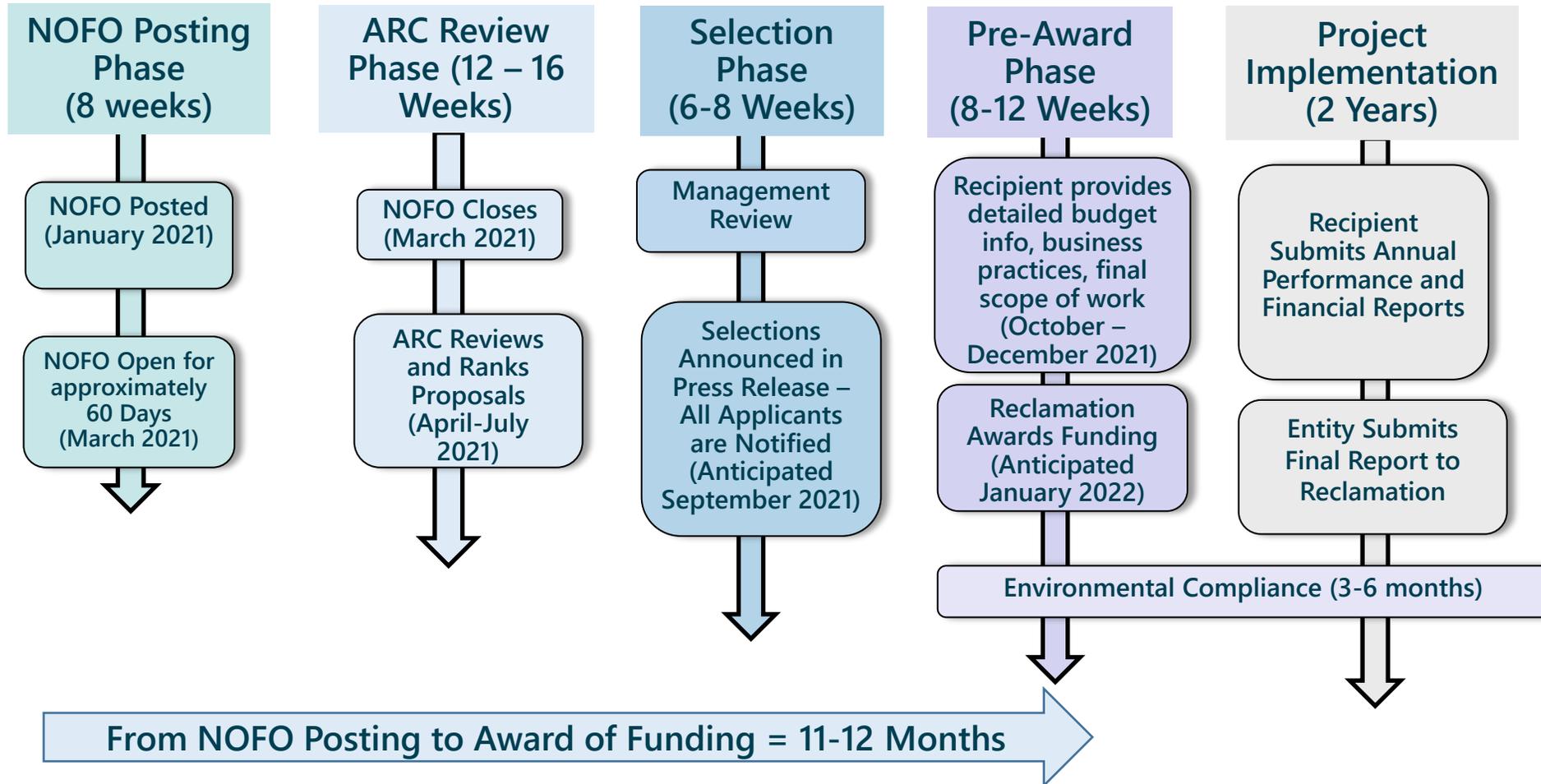
Important Dates

Pre-award costs date: July 1, 2020
Construction start date limitation (includes installation): January 31, 2022

NOFO Deadline: Thursday, March 18th, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. MDT

WaterSMART Selection Process

Sample schedule



Application Tips

How do I get a grant?

Search notice of
funding opportunity
number R21AS00300 on
[grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

Contents

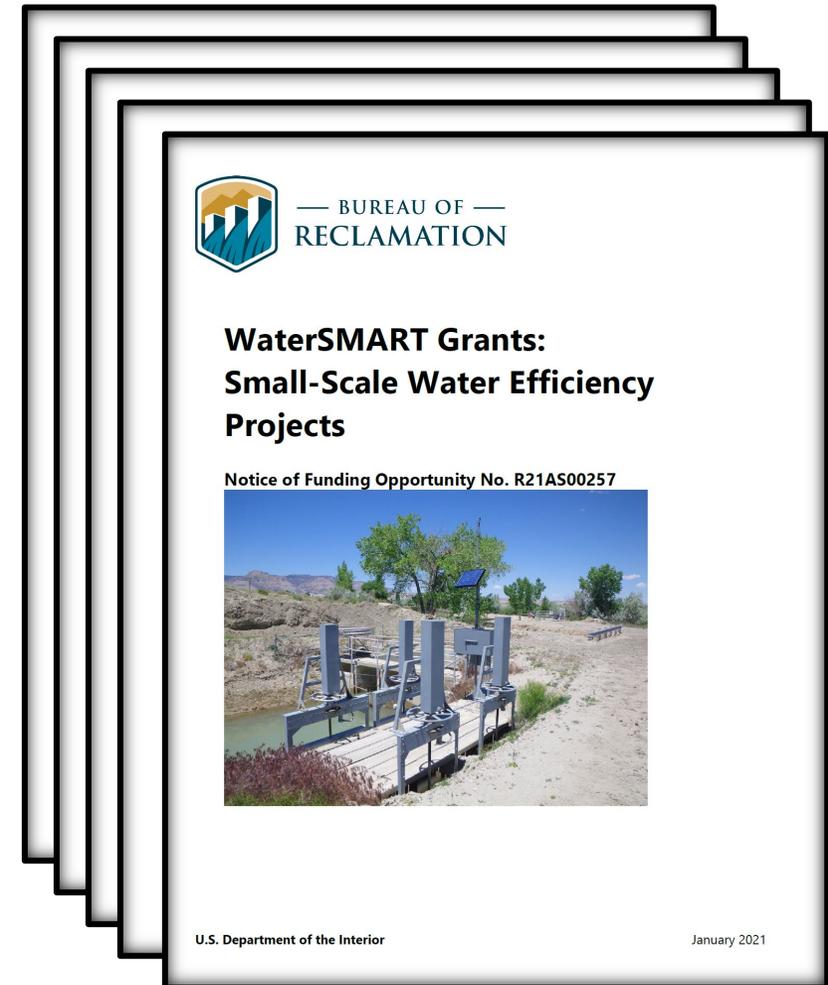
	Page
Section A. Funding Opportunity Description	1
A.1. Program Information	1
A.2. Objective of this Funding Opportunity Announcement	2
A.3. Statutory Authority	2
A.4. Other Related Funding Opportunities	2
Section B. Award Information	5
B.1. Total Project Funding	5
B.2. Project Funding Limitations	5
B.3. Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance	5
B.4. Assistance Instrument	6
Section C. Eligibility Information	7
C.1. Eligible Applicants	7
C.2. Cost Sharing Requirements	7
C.3. Eligible Projects	8
Section D. Application and Submission Information	19
D.1. Address to Request Application Package	19
D.2. Content and Form of Application Submission	19
D.3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management	33
D.4. Submission Date and Time	33
D.5. Intergovernmental Review	36
D.6. Automated Standard Application for Payments Registration	36
Section E. Application Review Information	37
E.1. Evaluation Criteria	37
E.2. Review and Selection Process	45
E.3. Federal Award Performance Integrity Information System	48
E.4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Date	49
Section F. Federal Award Administration Information	51
F.1. Federal Award Notices	51
F.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements	51
F.3. Reporting—Requirements and Distribution	54
F.4. Conflicts of Interest	55
F.5. Data Availability	57
F.6. Releasing Applications	57
Section G. Agency Contacts	59
G.1. Financial Assistance Contact	59
G.2. Program Coordinator Contact	59
Section H. Other Information	61
H.1. Environmental and Cultural Resource Considerations	61
H.2. Background on Federal Environmental and Cultural Resource Laws	62



Application Tips

Which WaterSMART NOFO is right for me?

- The most successful projects are those that fit well with the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
- Review the objective of the NOFO, the eligible project types and the evaluation criteria carefully to choose the right NOFO.
- Make sure you present your project in a way that aligns with the NOFO. You may want to make minor revisions. E.g., if you will conserve more water by piping over lining, maybe your project could be revised.
- Application Tip: Call the Program Coordinator to discuss which NOFO your project fits best under. Look at past successful applications at www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART



Application Tips

General Tips

- **Important:** Read everything in the NOFO!
 - Ask questions if something does not make sense.
- Give yourself plenty of time to write and submit the proposal.
- Copy and paste evaluation criteria into your application.
- Answer all parts of multipart questions.
- Do not assume the Application Review Committee knows you.
- Committee is comprised of Reclamation staff from throughout the Western states.



Application Tips

Additional General Tips

- For large projects, consider doing it in phases and applying for funding in sequential years.
- Previously successful applications are on our website.
- If your application is not awarded, ask for a debriefing to help prepare better proposal next year.



Application Tips

What do I have to include in my application?

- Every WaterSMART NOFO includes a section describing the application content
- Page iii of every NOFO includes Application Checklist
- All of the bulleted items must be included with your application by the application deadline, except those identified with a * may be submitted by the alternate deadline indicated in the NOFO
- Application Tip: Structure your proposal in the order identified in the NOFO

D.2.2. Application Content: The application must include the following elements to be considered complete:

- Mandatory Federal Forms
 - SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance
 - SF-424 Budget Information (A or C Form, as applicable to the project)
 - SF-424 Assurances (B or D Form, as applicable to the project)
 - SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable)

These forms may be obtained at www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html

- Title page
- Table of contents
- Technical proposal and evaluation criteria (limited to X pages)
 - Executive summary
 - Project location
 - Project description
 - Evaluation criteria
- Project budget
 - Funding plan and letters of commitment
 - Budget proposal
 - Budget narrative
- Environmental and cultural resources compliance
- Required permits or approvals
- Letters of funding commitment
- Letters of project support
- Official resolution*

It is highly recommended that application packages be structured in the order identified above.



Application Tips

Evaluation Criteria

- Make sure you respond to every criterion and every sub-criterion
- Your responses should:
 - Directly respond to the criterion – copy and paste the criteria directly into your proposal and place your response immediately below each criterion/sub-criterion
 - Provide support in the form of quantification or links to reference documents
 - Make the case for how your project meets the criterion – general statements without explanation or support will not score well
 - Don't assume that the reviewers know about the issues in your area, or the benefits of your project
- Application Tip: Well-supported responses to the evaluation criteria are the key to writing a competitive proposal

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 - Funding plan Budget proposal
 - Budget narrative
- Environmental and cultural resources compliance
- Required permits or approvals
- Letters of funding commitment
- Letters of project support
- Official resolution*
- Unique Early Identifier and System for Award Management*

It is highly recommended that application packages be structured in the order identified above.



Application Tips

Preparing your budget

- The Application Review Committee uses the budget to confirm their understanding of the project's scope and intended benefits
- Should represent all project costs, including those to be paid with Federal funds and non-Federal cost share.
- Must not include costs for work that is being funded under another Federal financial assistance agreement or contract
- **Application Tip:** Email SHA-DRO-FAFOA@usbr.gov if you have questions about your budget as you are preparing your proposal.

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- Letters of funding commitment
- Letters of project support
- Official resolution*
- Unique Early Identifier and System for Award Management*

It is highly recommended that application packages be structured in the order identified above.



Pre-award Documentation

What to expect after being selected for funding

You may be asked to provide:

- Invoices, quotes, bid tabs or other documentation to support unit prices
- Pre-award system survey
- Single audit
- Letters of commitment
- Pre-award costs

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Application Tips

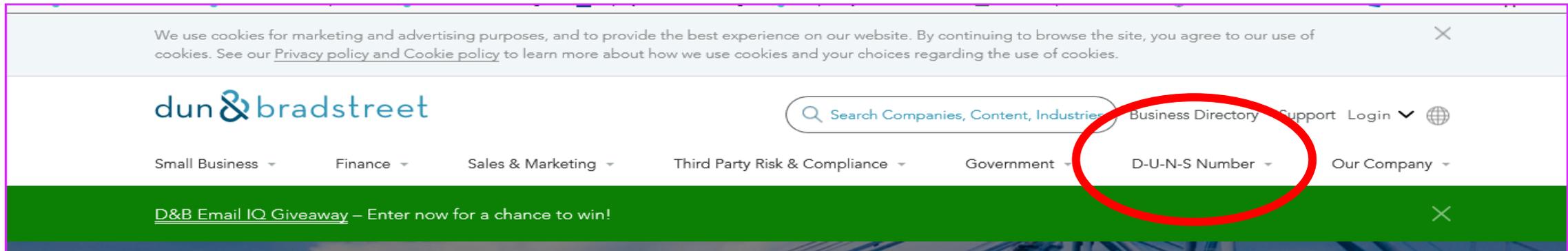
Environmental and Cultural Resource Compliance

- All projects funded through this opportunity must comply with Federal environmental and cultural resource laws. Reclamation regional and area office staff will ensure this compliance. This compliance must occur prior to any ground disturbing activities can take place, including installation of meters and similar devices.



System Requirements for Applicants

- DUNS number - <https://www.dnb.com/>
 - Must have a DUNS number for the applicant organization

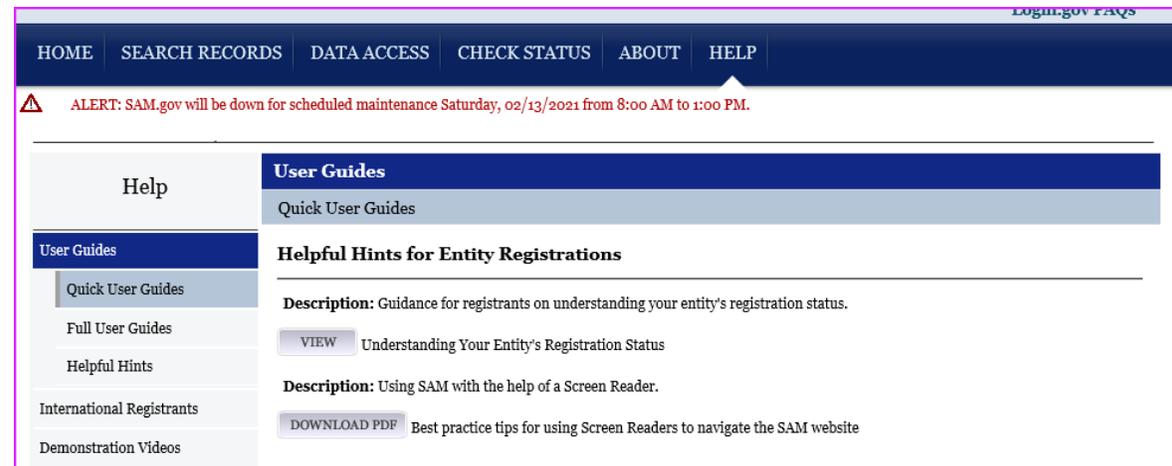
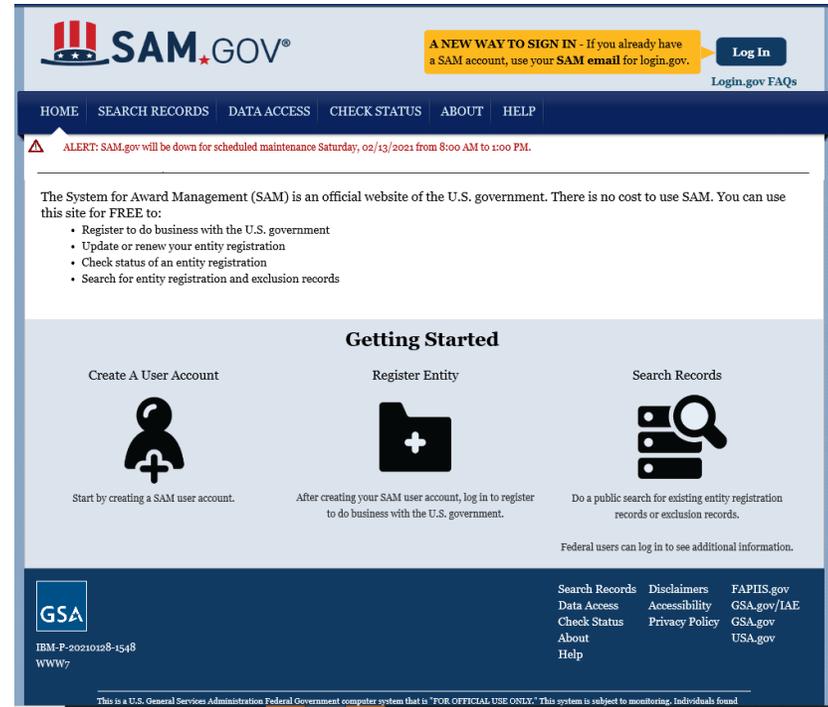


The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Dun & Bradstreet website. At the top, there is a light blue banner with a cookie consent message. Below this is the Dun & Bradstreet logo on the left and a search bar with the text "Search Companies, Content, Industries" in the center. To the right of the search bar are links for "Business Directory", "Support", and "Login". Below the search bar is a horizontal menu with several items: "Small Business", "Finance", "Sales & Marketing", "Third Party Risk & Compliance", "Government", "D-U-N-S Number", and "Our Company". The "D-U-N-S Number" link is circled in red. At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a green banner with the text "D&B Email IQ Giveaway – Enter now for a chance to win!".



Sam.gov registration (System for Award Management)

- Begin registration process *prior to or no later than* when you are starting to prepare your application
- Sam.gov required at the time of submission of application
- See NOFO p. 22
 - **Meeting the requirements set forth above is mandatory.** If the applicant is unable to complete registration by the application deadline, the unique entity identifier must be obtained, and SAM registration must be initiated within 30 days after the application deadline in order to be considered for selection and award. You can find additional information on how to complete a SAM registration here:
sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/loginFAQ.jsf.



Sam.gov registration, cont.

- If you have a sam.gov registration
 - Verify that it is active (not expired)
 - Verify that POCs are current and update if needed
- ***If sam.gov is not active at time of selection the award process will be delayed***
- [Link: www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov)



The screenshot shows the SAM.GOV website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the SAM.GOV logo and a "Log In" button. A yellow banner above the navigation bar reads: "A NEW WAY TO SIGN IN - If you already have a SAM account, use your SAM email for login.gov." Below the navigation bar, there is a red alert banner: "ALERT: SAM.gov will be down for scheduled maintenance Saturday, 02/13/2021 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM." The main content area features a heading "Getting Started" and three columns of options: "Create A User Account" (with a person icon), "Register Entity" (with a folder icon), and "Search Records" (with a magnifying glass icon). Each option includes a brief description of the action. At the bottom, there is a footer with the GSA logo, contact information, and a list of links including Search Records, Disclaimers, FAPIIS.gov, Data Access, Accessibility, GSA.gov/IAE, Check Status, Privacy Policy, GSA.gov, About, and USA.gov.



Sam.gov User Guide

<https://www.sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/help/samQUserGuides.jsf>

User Guides

Quick User Guides

Helpful Hints for Entity Registrations

Description: Guidance for registrants on understanding your entity's registration status.

[VIEW](#) Understanding Your Entity's Registration Status

Description: Using SAM with the help of a Screen Reader.

[DOWNLOAD PDF](#) Best practice tips for using Screen Readers to navigate the SAM website



If selected applicants must register in ASAP (Automated Standard Application for Payments)

- If selected for an award, Recipient is required to registering with ASAP
 - If selected, ASAP registration must be completed and active before proceeding with the grant award process
- System used by Recipient to drawdown funds, track grant award account balances
- To begin process of registering with Reclamation, send email to: sha-dro-ASAP_ENR@usbr.gov
 - If already registered – you still must register specifically with Reclamation to be awarded funds
 - ***Failure to register in a timely manner will delay the awarding of your grant***
- This is a multi-step process with specific deadlines to complete each step
 - Failure to complete a step by the stated due date will stop the process and it has to be started again from the beginning



Automated
Standard Application for Payments - on the Web



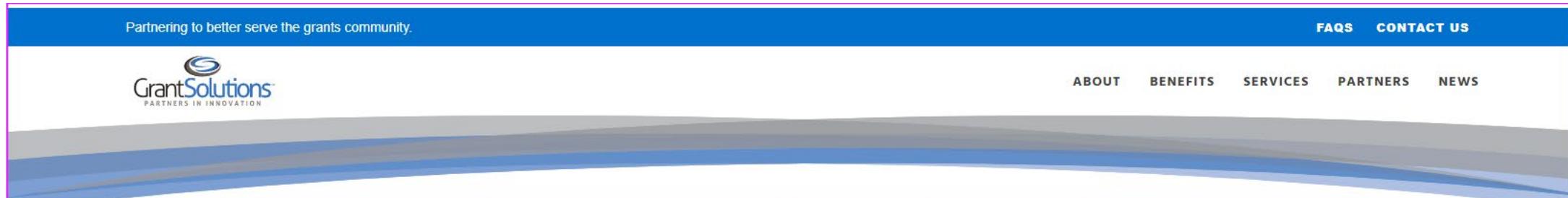
ASAP – Already registered?

- If you have an active/existing ASAP registration
 - Verify the POCs are current/updated
 - Verify that someone from your organization is able to login and access your ASAP account
- Questions about the registration process can be submitted via email to: sha-dro-ASAP_ENR@usbr.gov



Grants Solutions

- System used by Reclamation to accept applications submitted through grants.gov, to award and administer grants
- Applicants continue to submit applications through grants.gov
- If selected, applicants must register in system required to receive and view awards, submit reports, request amendments



WaterSMART

Data Visualization

- Online interactive maps of each WaterSMART Program
- Learn more about each funded project
- Shows program growth since 2010

[WaterSMART Data Visualization Tool](#)



WaterSMART Program Web Links

Basin Studies	Basin Studies - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/bsp/index.html Reservoir Operations - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/pilots/index.html Applied Science Tools - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/appliedscience/index.html
Title XVI	https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/title/index.html
WaterSMART Grants	Water and Energy Efficiency Grants - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/weeg/index.html Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/swep/index.html Water Marketing Strategy Grants - https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/watermarketing/index.html
Field Services	https://www.usbr.gov/waterconservation/
Drought	https://www.usbr.gov/drought/
CWMP	https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/cwmp/index.html

Thank you!

Questions regarding project and applicant eligibility:

Robin Graber; rgraber@usbr.gov; (303)445-2764

Nickie McCann; nmccann@usbr.gov; (303)445-3733

Questions regarding budgets and system requirements:

Email SHA-DRO-FAFOA@usbr.gov



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