



## Fact Sheet

# Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program

The Department of Environmental Quality is awarding grants for eligible projects that are on the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan. In August of 2021, EPA announced the availability of approximately \$1 million in funding through the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant, or OSG, Program to the state of Oregon. Additional funding will be made available in future years. Funds can be used for the planning, design, and construction of stormwater management projects, green stormwater infrastructure, and to address combined sewer overflows and sanitary sewer overflows.

## Project information

Managing runoff remains a complex environmental challenge for local communities across Oregon. For communities facing financial challenges trying to correct these issues, this grant program will provide much-needed funding for stormwater infrastructure projects. Urban stormwater is a significant source of water pollution that can create a public health concern if it collects pollutants (including trash, chemicals, oils, and dirt/sediment) and conveys them to nearby waterways. When mixed with domestic and industrial wastewater in combined sewers, stormwater can also contribute to combined sewer overflows during heavy storm events.

Eligible organizations must be a federally recognized Indian Tribal Government or Public Agency and include:

- A state agency, incorporated city, county, sanitary authority, school district, county services district, sanitary district, metropolitan service district, or other special district authorized or required to construct water pollution facilities.
- An intergovernmental entity created by local government under [ORS 190](#).

## Frequently asked questions

General information about the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant funds can be found in EPA's [OSG guidance](#). Additional questions can be addressed to the contact at the end of this document.

### What can these funds be used for?

The program funds can be used for the planning, design, or construction, of projects to address and prevent combined sewer overflows, sanitary sewer overflows, and other stormwater management projects. All selected projects will have clearly identified timelines for completion prior in the work plan prior to receiving an award. Some specific eligible project types include:

- Planning and design such as creating a stormwater system map.
- Stormwater system improvements to aging infrastructure.
- Green infrastructure such as bioswales and green runoff areas like rain gardens.
- Structures to capture, store, and direct runoff such as gutters and downspouts.

### What is the application process?

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All projects for DEQ's OSG funds are selected from applications that have been approved for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan. There is no additional application required, however projects requesting OSG funding must identify distinct stormwater components.

### **How much funding is available for each stormwater project?**

Funding amounts for OSG grants are based on community needs, funds available, and project scope. Because of these variables, the total number of awards, and their amount will vary each award cycle.

### **Are matching funds a requirement?**

Matching funds may be required depending on the community and project. Some communities identified under the Oregon Affordability Criteria may qualify for a match reduction, as well as projects identified as green through the [CWSRF criteria](#). The maximum required match for OSG funds is 20%.

### **What parts of a stormwater project does the program fund?**

The program partially funds larger projects that include stormwater components. DEQ will work with grant recipients to identify which portions of the project can be funded with these grants.

### **Can property be purchased for our stormwater project?**

Yes, property can be purchased under the Treatment Works definition of land purchase for construction of a stormwater management facility. If the land purchased with program funds is later converted for other use, the recipient may be required to repay funds to the EPA.

### **Do Build America Buy America Act rules apply to these projects?**

Construction portions of OSG projects are required to follow the BABA rules as well as other flow down requirements for hiring, lobbying and other rules. There may be exceptions for BABA rules for individual projects, and those waiver requests must be completed by the recipient, and results reported to DEQ.

### **Resource links**

- [OSG Program Guidance](#)
- [ORS 190](#)
- [Clean Water State Revolving Fund green criteria](#)

### **Contact**

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