Food Waste Processing Infrastructure Grant Information Session

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

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Aug. 12, 2026
Virtual Zoom Meeting

CERTA
CLIMATE EQUITY AND RESILIENCE THROUGH ACTION

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DEQ Department of Environmental Quality

Webinar Agenda

1. Introductions
2. CERTA & Measure 11 Program Overview
3. Funding Overview & Eligible Projects
4. Application Overview & Timeline
5. Applicant Resources & Support

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Project Team

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Guidehouse

Measure 11 Project Team	CERTA Management Team	Program SMEs	Grant Management Contractor
Sanne Stienstra	Morgan Schafer	Bob Barrows, Permitting	Sean Duling
Patty McGovern	Kali Glenn-Haley	Lily Herd, Large-Scale	Brendin James
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CERTA and Measure 11 Grant Program Overview

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CERTA Grant Programs

Total CERTA Funding: $197 million

M1:Zero Emission Vehicle Rebates
$31 million

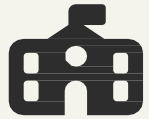
M2:Electric Vehicle Chargers
$10.9 million

M3:Medium- and Heavy-Duty ZEV Rebates
$14.8 million

M4:Medium- and Heavy-Duty ZEV Grants
$6 million

M5:Medium- and Heavy-Duty EV Chargers
$3 million

M6:Energy Efficient Housing Incentives
$21.3 million



M7:Building Performance Standards Incentives
$12.1 million

M8:Heat Pump Incentives
$25.3 million

M9:Residential Weatherization
$8 million

M10:Building Reuse and Space-Efficient Housing
$25.6 million

M11:Food Waste Infrastructure
$28.9 million

M12:Landfill Gas Controls
$6.6 million

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Measure 11 Projected Impacts

Invests in infrastructure that helps increase the amount of food waste recovered from landfills

OREGON TODAY

58%

Share of landfill methane linked to food waste

10%

Food waste recovered in 2020

12

Compost and anaerobic digestion facilities that accept food waste

PROGRAM GOAL

Increase food waste recovery through expanded composting and anaerobic digestion infrastructure statewide

ANTICIPATED M11 IMPACT

~263,000

Tons of increased food waste processing capacity

~241,500

Tons of greenhouse gas reductions

Funding Overview and Eligible Projects

M11 Funding Available

$27.4 million in total funding awarded through two solicitations:

1. Large-scale projects
2. Small-scale projects

$25.7M for large-scale compost projects

Award size: **$50,000 - $2,000,000**

$1.7M for small-scale compost projects

Award size: **$50,000 - $250,000**

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Project Requirements

1

Reduce GHGs by *one* of the approaches below:

Large-Scale Projects: Must scale up existing facilities, or support new facilities, to increase food waste processing capacity and increase the amount of food waste recovered. The value of these projects is up to $2M.

OR

Small-Scale Projects: Must address a gap in service or access to composting at the community level. The value of these projects will be between $50K and $250K.

2

Comply with relevant local, state (DEQ Air Quality, Land Quality, and Water Quality permitting requirements, and any relevant waste-hauling franchise agreements) and federal laws (including Build America, Buy America)

3

Project must be complete on or before March 30, 2029

Eligible Expenses: Large-Scale Projects

Large-Scale Composting grants are intended to cover large pieces of infrastructure that are necessary to process food waste

Eligible Applicants

DEQ-permitted Facilities

- **Compost facilities**
- **Anaerobic digestion facilities**
- **Wastewater treatment facilities**
- **Transfer station facilities**
- **Tribal compost facilities**
- **On-farm composters** *(will be considered on a case by case basis)*

Facility Examples

- Facilities that currently accept food waste as a feedstock and want to expand processing capacity.
- Facilities that currently do not accept food waste as a feedstock and want to begin accepting food waste.

Eligible Expenses

Equipment and Installation Costs

- **Equipment to increase food waste processing capacity**: Screen, grinder and shredders, de-packager, or below-ground aeration systems
- **Equipment to increase anaerobic digestion:** Grinders, choppers, pumps, or storage tanks
- **Infrastructure associated with improving site operations:** Electrical service upgrades, piping and blower systems, feedstock receiving areas, leachate management improvements

Indirect Costs

- **Supporting work:** Administrative and labor costs associated with equipment installation or business development activities

Eligible Expenses: Small-Scale Projects

Small-Scale grants support local composting systems, food-waste collection, workforce development, and compost end markets

Eligible Applicants

Current Operators & Organizations

- **Local governments**
- **Tribes**
- **Non-profits**
- **For-profit businesses**
- **Community organizations**
- **Academic institutions**
- **On-farm composters** *(will be considered on a case by case basis)*

Example: Hosting a compost drop site at a local farmers market or community garden to service multifamily or underserved neighborhoods

Eligible Expenses

Systems & Collection

- **Small-scale composting systems:** Equipment or improvements that expand local food-waste processing
- **Collection access:** Local drop-off sites and collection pilots in accordance with local and state regulations
- **End uses & markets:** Compost, procurement, and land application tied to local food production, urban farms, community gardens, or regenerative agriculture

Indirect Costs

- **Labor and workforce development:** Labor costs associated with small-scale installations or skills-based training opportunities
- **Education and outreach:** Engagement activities with schools, community centers, or other groups to improve composting participation

Ineligible Expenses

Grant funds must directly support an eligible Measure 11 project and comply with federal, state, and program requirements

EXAMPLES OF INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- **Land or real estate purchases**
  Land, buildings, and permanent property interests are not eligible
- **General operating expenses**
  Routine overhead, rent, utilities, insurance, and unrelated administration are not eligible
- **Costs incurred before the award**
  Expenses incurred before execution of a grant agreement or PSC are not eligible
- **Fines, penalties, and enforcement costs**
  Regulatory penalties, legal settlements, and corrective actions tied to violations are not eligible
- **Lobbying and political activity**
  Efforts to influence legislation, elections, or government decisions are not eligible
- **Entertainment and promotion**
  Gifts, prizes, alcohol, fundraising activities, and entertainment costs are not eligible
- **Costs unrelated to food waste recovery**
  Activities must increase processing capacity, expand community composting, improve recovery, or support an eligible objective
- **Costs prohibited by federal requirements**
  Purchases must comply with procurement, reporting, and applicable Build America, Buy America requirements

PSCs vs. Subawards

Oregon will award Large- and Small-Scale funding using two different funding methods

Participant Support Costs (PSC)

SIMPLIFIED • PURCHASE-FOCUSED

- **Purpose:** Specific climate pollution control equipment or participation in environmental programs
- **Funding Type:** One-time reimbursement or rebate-style mechanism paid upon activity completion
- **Eligible Costs:** Equipment, infrastructure and installation costs, excluding any administrative or overhead expenses, such as staffing, operations, or similar costs
- **Administration:** Fewer compliance and reporting requirements than subawards

Subawards

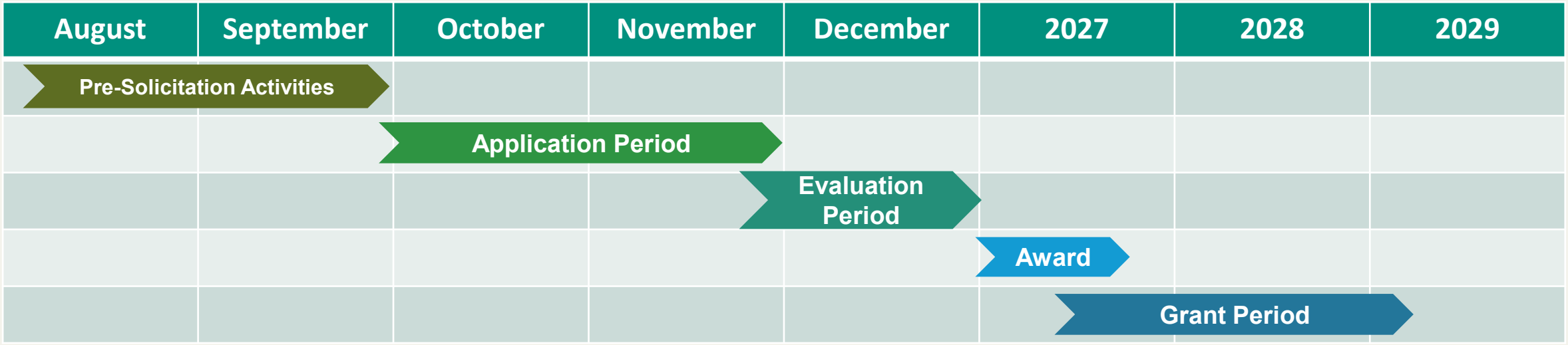
BROADER • PROJECT-BASED

- **Purpose:** Comprehensive project costs and activities to reduce climate pollution
- **Funding Type:** Ongoing reimbursements throughout the project lifecycle
- **Eligible Costs:** Equipment, infrastructure, professional services, staffing, implementation costs, or eligible construction
- **Administration:** Additional federal regulations, reporting, monitoring and grant administration requirements

SELECTING A PATHWAY Application materials will provide guidance and resources to help applicants match project scope and intended use of funds to the appropriate pathway

Application Timeline and Guidance

Application Timeline



- **Pre-Solicitation Activities: August 12 – September 30**
  Applicant webinar starts the process and additional materials will be published
- **Application Period: September 30 – November 30**
  Solicitation support will be available throughout this period
- **Evaluation Period: December 1 – December 30**
  Oregon DEQ will award decisions and Guidehouse will announce funded projects
- **Award Period: Early 2027**
  Planned award decisions, agreement execution, and project onboarding will be completed
- **Grant Period: Early 2027 – April 6, 2029**
  Projects must be implemented during the period

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Applicant Guidance

Applicants should focus on four key areas when preparing application materials

AREA		WHAT TO DEMONSTRATE
01	**Clear Environmental Benefits**	Demonstrate a clear greenhouse gas reduction by providing CERTA with information on how M11 funding will result in increased capacity, food waste recovered, or other relevant benefits
02	**Readiness to Proceed**	Show site processing methods, feedstock sources, permitting status, partners, and procurement readiness
03	**Defined Plan**	Define the baseline operations and capacity and next steps, what problem you intend to solve, and why the investment is needed
04	**Realistic Budget and Schedule**	Align costs, milestones, risk management, and concrete timeline to finish by **March 30, 2029**

The complete application instructions and required data fields will be included in the solicitation and application materials in the pre-solicitation phase

Applicant Support and Resources

Applicant Support Mechanisms

The team will provide comprehensive support during the process, including individual meetings

1

Virtual office hours

Discuss project ideas with DEQ staff before the application launches

DEQ - CERTA M 11: Food Waste Processing Funding website

2

Open Q&A period

DEQ will compile, review, and approve responses before publishing answers

3

Email support

The program inbox will respond to applicant questions as needed and share deadline reminders, GovDelivery notices, and newsletter updates

foodwastegrants@deq.oregon.gov

ON THE WEBSITE

Answers & resources, anytime

FAQ answers

Approved responses to submitted questions

Webinar library

Recordings of informational and pre-bid sessions

Guidance & updates

Applicant resources, program news, reminders, and deadlines

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Next Steps

Choose the right opportunity, prepare early, and stay connected throughout the application process.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT PATH

Identify the Right Funding Track

Decide whether the small-scale or large-scale opportunity is the best fit

Review the Solicitation

When it is released, confirm eligibility, required materials, deadlines, and evaluation criteria

USE APPLICANT SUPPORT MECHANISMS

Submit Written questions

Send questions through the designated channel and review the published responses

Attend Office Hours

Bring specific questions about your project's eligibility and application requirements

STAY CONNECTED

Sign up for updates

Subscribe now to receive program notices, deadline reminders, and future updates

GovDelivery Newsletter Sign Up

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Additional Information and Resources

For More Information

Contact us using our M11 email
foodwastegrants@deq.oregon.gov

Follow us on LinkedIn:
Oregon DEQ LinkedIn

Sign Up for our Newsletter
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

GovDelivery Newsletter Sign Up

CERTA and DEQ Resources and Reports

OR CERTA Website
Department of Environmental Quality: State of Oregon's CERTA Welcome Page

OR CERTA M11 Website
CERTA Measure 11: Food Waste Processing Funding

OR Priority Climate Action Plan
Climate Pollution Reduction Grant - Oregon's Priority Climate Action Plan

OR DEQ's Food Systems Strategic Plan
Reducing Food Impacts: A Strategic Plan for Oregon

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Thank You!

Recology Aumsville
Site Visit May 2025

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Appendix

PSC Eligibility

A PSC is a project-completion payment mechanism—not a grant program

PSCs are…

COMPLETION-BASED • DIRECT TO BENEFICIARY

- **Purpose:** Rebates, subsidies, or incentives for climate-pollution-reduction equipment and installation
- **Timing:** One-time lump-sum payment after project completion
- **Recipient:** Paid directly to the Program Beneficiary
- **Agreement:** Requires a written PSC Agreement with the beneficiary
- **BABA:** Applies to infrastructure over $250K

PSCs are not…

NOT ADVANCE FUNDING • NOT A SUBGRANT

- **Payment:** No advance or upfront payment—and no multiple installments
- **Instrument:** Not a federal subgrant or contract; generally outside 2 CFR 200, with limited exceptions
- **Eligibility:** Beneficiary cannot be debarred and must attest to cost reasonableness under 2 CFR 200.404
- **Federal rules:** Not subject to Davis-Bacon or federal “cross-cutters"
- **Excluded costs:** No admin or overhead fees, staffing, monitoring, or similar costs

Compliance and Governance

Subgrantees must follow 2 CFR 200 compliance standard to maintain eligible projects

THE GOVERNING FRAMEWORK

2 CFR 200

Sets the baseline for **allowable costs, procurement, records, monitoring, and reimbursement.**

The award terms then flow applicable BABA and Davis-Bacon duties to the subgrantee.

1 BABA — DOMESTIC SOURCING

What it does: For covered infrastructure, products permanently incorporated into the project must meet U.S.-production rules—including iron/steel, manufactured products, and construction materials.

Why it matters: Equipment or site improvements may qualify. Put BABA in specifications and bids; retain manufacturer certifications or an approved waiver.

2 DAVIS-BACON — PREVAILING WAGES

What it does: Covered construction contracts over $2,000 must pay laborers and mechanics the applicable DOL prevailing wage and fringe benefits.

Why it matters: Installation or site work may trigger it. Include the wage determination and DBRA clauses; review weekly certified payrolls and monitor contractors.

3 BUILD COMPLIANCE IN BEFORE BIDDING

Confirm applicability with DEQ, then carry requirements into the scope, solicitation, contract, and project file. Missing steps can delay procurement, contract award, or reimbursement.