



Food Waste Infrastructure Program Large-Scale Grant Opportunity Application Walkthrough

Oregon Department Of Environmental Quality

Pre-Bid Conference
October 8, 2026, 1:00 p.m. PT

Pre-Bid Conference Purpose, Scope, and Housekeeping

Purpose

Review the opportunity, application components, and evaluation process.

Scope

We cannot discuss or assess individual applications or projects during this session.

Housekeeping

We are recording today's presentation for note-taking purposes. We will send participants a copy of the presentation slides and post them on the DEQ website.

Questions and Answers

We will collect all questions submitted during today's webinar and combine them with those submitted through WebGrants. The consolidated list of questions and corresponding answers will be published and made publicly available on October 23.



Agenda

- 1 **Food Waste Infrastructure Program (FWIP) Overview**
- 2 **Funding Background and Information**
- 3 **Large-Scale Applicant Information Form**
- 4 **Large-Scale Application Form**
- 5 **Evaluation Information**

Food Waste Infrastructure Program (FWIP) Overview

Purpose

The Large-Scale Grant Opportunity focuses on expanding and improving food waste recovery infrastructure throughout Oregon.

Large-Scale Grant Program Goals

- Expand or improve food waste recovery infrastructure through equipment purchases, site improvements, capacity expansions, or other eligible investments.
- Increase statewide food waste recovery capacity, for food waste that has previously gone to landfill.

Funding Background and Information

Background

The Food Waste Infrastructure Program (FWIP) is one of Oregon's Climate Equity and Resilience Through Action (CERTA) initiatives designed to reduce GHG emissions.

Funding Source

Part of Oregon's CERTA initiative, funded through EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program.

Total Funding Available

\$25.7 million available for large-scale projects

Anticipated Size Of Awards

- Estimated 18 – 20 programs
- Individual award amounts between \$50,000 – \$2,000,000

OR DEQ reserves the right to make fewer or more awards than anticipated, depending on available funding and application quality.

Key Dates

Application Milestones

Event	Date
NOFO release	September 30, 2026
Large-Scale Grant Opportunity Pre-Bid Conference	October 8, 2026, 1:00 p.m. PT
NOFO questions / clarification requests due*	October 16, 2026, 5:00 p.m. PT
OR DEQ posts responses to questions	October 23, 2026
Application due	November 30, 2026, 5:00 p.m. PT

*Applicants must submit questions and requests for clarification through WebGrants until October 16, 2026, 5:00 p.m. PT

Award and Project Milestones

Event	Date
Anticipated notice of award	January 2027
Anticipated award agreement execution	No later than April 1, 2027**
Project period end	Intended by April 6, 2029

**Projects are eligible to begin after OR DEQ signs off and executes the award agreement.

OR DEQ and Guidehouse Responsibilities

DEQ retains final decision authority. Guidehouse administers the program on DEQ's behalf.

OR DEQ: Policy and Decisions

- **Program Rules:** Set eligibility, scoring, and application requirements.
- **Approvals:** Decide awards. Approve scopes, budgets, agreements, and major changes.
- **Expertise:** Advise on food waste processing, GHG reduction, permitting, and policy.
- **Final Authority:** Interpret rules, decide exceptions and enforcement, and oversee funds and compliance.

Guidehouse: Administration

- **Applicant Support:** Manage communications, webinars, and technical assistance.
- **Award Administration:** Support agreements and recipient onboarding.
- **Monitoring:** Review reports and reimbursement requests. Track progress and compliance.
- **Payments:** Coordinate payments and records, subject to DEQ approval and funding authorization.

Funding Recipient Responsibilities

Funding recipients must deliver approved projects, maintain compliance, and fulfill reporting and oversight requirements.

- **Agreement and Workplan:** Enter an OR DEQ funding agreement and finalize the approved scope, workplan, budget, schedule, and objectives.
- **Project Delivery:** Complete onboarding and all funded activities within the approved project period. Coordinate partners and contractors.
- **Permits and Compliance:** Maintain required permits and site authorizations. Follow the funding agreement and applicable laws and program requirements.
- **Staffing and Contact:** Maintain sufficient staff, resources, and project management. Designate one authorized point of contact.
- **Reporting and Records:** Submit required updates, performance data, financial records, reimbursement requests, and completion information. Retain supporting records.
- **Monitoring and Oversight:** Participate in reviews, audits, and site visits, as applicable. Respond to OR DEQ and Guidehouse information requests.

Large-Scale Grant Information: Eligible Applicants

Large-Scale grants are open to a range of organizations that can meet project and compliance requirements.

Eligible Applicants

Current Operators & Organizations

- OR DEQ-permitted composting and anaerobic digesting facilities that already accept food waste
- OR DEQ-permitted composting and anaerobic digestion facilities seeking to begin accepting food waste
- Newly proposed OR DEQ-permitted composting facilities that will accept food waste
- Tribal composting facilities
- Other OR DEQ-permitted facilities such as wastewater treatment plants and transfer stations/MRFs

Applicants must:

- Be legally eligible to receive state and federal financial assistance
- Be registered with the Oregon Secretary of State and in good standing as required for the organization type
- Not be suspended, debarred, or otherwise excluded from receiving state or federal funding
- Demonstrate the ability to complete and maintain the proposed project
- Agree to comply with applicable program requirements and funding agreement terms

Other Applicant Requirements and Considerations

Applicants may use project partners, host sites, or other collaborators.

Insurance

- Applicants will be required to carry insurance that represents the level and type of risk that their Project may have.
- Final minimum requirements for category and coverage will be determined on a Project basis and OR DEQ anticipates providing these requirements to the successful applicant with the Notice of Intent to Award.

Partnerships

Applicants may use project partners, host sites, or other collaborators. The primary applicant must:

- Identify each material project partner
- Explain the partner's role
- Describe any site, operating, financial, or contractual dependency
- Retain responsibility for compliance and project performance

Large-Scale Grant Information: Eligible and Ineligible Expenses

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

Types of 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

Types of Ineligible Expenses

- ✗ Pre-project or planning expenses
- ✗ Land or real estate purchases
- ✗ General operating expenses unrelated to the approved project
- ✗ Costs incurred before funding agreement execution
- ✗ Fines, penalties, or enforcement costs
- ✗ Lobbying or political activities
- ✗ Entertainment, fundraising, or gifts
- ✗ Costs unrelated to food waste recovery
- ✗ Costs prohibited by applicable state, federal, or program requirements

Submission Instructions: WebGrants Registration

Applicants must submit a complete application package through WebGrants no later than 5:00pm (PT) on November 30, 2026.

Registration Information

- You will need to provide **personal and organizational information** when registering.
- WebGrants requires each registered user to be associated with a public or governmental entity, Tribal government, organization, or business before the account can be approved.

If you experience any issues accessing or using WebGrants, please contact foodwastegrants@deq.oregon.gov for assistance.

Additional Guidance

Additional guidance on registering for WebGrants is located on the Food Waste Processing Infrastructure Grant website:

[WebGrants Registration Guidebook](#)

Submission Instructions: Navigating to the Large-Scale Application

Once logged into WebGrants you can find the Large-Scale NOFO by:

- 01 Click Funding Opportunities located in the side menu
- 02 Find and click on funding opportunity ID 5139: “Food Waste Infrastructure Program (FWIP) Notice of Funding Opportunity: Large-Scale Grant Opportunity”

The screenshot shows the WebGrants interface. On the left is a side menu with options: Dashboard, People and Organizations, Funding Opportunities (highlighted with a red circle and the number 1), Submitted Applications, Reports, and Utilities. The main content area shows the 'Current Funding Opportunities' page. At the top, there are tabs for 'Current Funding Opportunities' and 'Archived Funding Opportunities'. Below the tabs, there is a section titled 'Current Funding Opportunities' with a message: 'The Funding Opportunities in Editing, Posted, Closed, Test, and Suspended statuses appear below. Shift click to sort by multiple columns. My FO List help'. Below this is a table with columns 'ID', 'Status', and 'Title'. The table contains two entries: ID 5139 with status 'Posted' and title 'Food Waste Infrastructure Program (FWIP) Notice of Funding Opportunity: Large-Scale Grant Opportunity', and ID 5132 with status 'Posted' and title 'Food Waste Infrastructure Program (FWIP) Notice of Funding Opportunity: Small-Scale Grant Opportunity'. A red circle with the number 2 highlights the ID 5139. At the bottom of the table, it says 'Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries'.

ID	Status	Title
5139	Posted	Food Waste Infrastructure Program (FWIP) Notice of Funding Opportunity: Large-Scale Grant Opportunity
5132	Posted	Food Waste Infrastructure Program (FWIP) Notice of Funding Opportunity: Small-Scale Grant Opportunity

Additional Guidance

Additional guidance on completing an application in WebGrants is located on the Food Waste Processing Infrastructure Grant website:

[WebGrants Application Guidebook](#)

Large-Scale Applicant Information Form

Project Information

Provide basic project information and identify the funding requested.

Project Title

Provide a concise title that clearly identifies the proposed project.

Brief Project Description

Summarize the project's primary purpose and the major activities or purchases for which you are requesting funding. (250 words or less)

Funding Instrument Selection

Select Subgrant or Participant Support Cost (PSC) funding based on your proposed project expenses. Review NOFO Section 3.2 before selecting.

Total Grant Amount Requested

Enter the total funding requested from OR DEQ, between \$50,000 and \$2,000,000. The amount must match the applicable budget worksheet.

Identifying Project Expense Types

To help applicants determine which funding instrument to apply for, applicants are asked to identify all expense types included in their proposed project.

- ☐ **Equipment Purchase and Basic Installation:** Purchase, delivery, installation, startup, and commissioning of food waste processing equipment
- ☐ **Personnel and Labor:** Employee salaries, wages, fringe benefits, or staff time associated with project implementation
- ☐ **Professional and Technical Services:** Professional services provided by third parties to support project implementation
- ☐ **Construction and Facility Improvements:** Construction activities, facility modifications, or site improvements beyond basic equipment installation
- ☐ **Project Management, Monitoring, and Reporting:** Activities associated with managing the project, tracking project performance, or complying with grant reporting requirements
- ☐ **Outreach and Training:** Activities intended to educate, engage, or train stakeholders, employees, or program participants
- ☐ **Indirect Costs:** Administrative or overhead costs that cannot be directly assigned to a specific project activity and are recovered through an approved indirect cost rate or allocation methodology

Funding Instrument Selection

The applicant must select which funding instrument it would like to apply for.

Based on the previously selected project expense types, we have provided the following guidance regarding this decision.

Subgrant Funding

Subgrant funding may be more suitable if you selected “Yes” for any of these expense categories:

- Personnel and Labor
- Professional and Technical Services
- Construction and Facility Improvements
- Project Management, Monitoring, and Reporting
- Outreach and Training
- Indirect Costs

Participant Support Cost (PSC)

PSC funding may be more suitable if you selected:

- “Yes” for Equipment Purchase and Basic Installation category
- ✗ “No” for all other expense categories

Review NOFO Section 3.2 before making a selection. OR DEQ reserves the right to determine the final funding instrument during the award process.

Required Application Documents

The selected funding instrument determines which application documents applicants must complete.

Required Document	Subgrant Applicants	PSC Applicants
01 Completed "Large-Scale Applicant Information and Required Documents" Form	●	●
02 Exhibit D: Subgrant Budget Worksheet	●	✗
03 Exhibit E: PSC Budget Worksheet	✗	●
04 Exhibit B: Organizational Information Sheet	●	●
05 Exhibit F: Not Suspended or Debarred Certification	●	●
06 Exhibit G: Environmental Cross-Cutter Questionnaire	●	✗
07 Exhibit H: Compliance Acknowledgement	●	●
08 Completed "Large-Scale Application" Form	●	●
09 Two letters of support from two unique sources	●	●

Budget Worksheets

PSC applicants and Subgrant applicants must submit different budget worksheets based on their selected funding instrument. The total amount requested must match the total calculated in the budget worksheet.

Subgrant Worksheet (Exhibit D)

Itemized expense estimates for project years 1 and 2.

Subgrant Budget Summary			
Cost Category	Year 1	Year 2	Total Years
Personnel	\$	\$	\$
Fringe Benefits	\$	\$	\$
Travel	\$	\$	\$
Equipment	\$	\$	\$
Supplies	\$	\$	\$
Consultants	\$	\$	\$
Contractual	\$	\$	\$
Other Direct Costs	\$	\$	\$
Total Direct Costs	\$	\$	\$
Indirect Costs*	\$	\$	\$
Total	\$	\$	\$

PSC Worksheet (Exhibit E)

Itemized estimates for equipment and other project costs.

Equipment					
Name of equipment	Equipment Manufacturer	Equipment Type	Unit cost	Number of units	Total equipment cost
			\$0.00	-	\$0.00
			\$0.00	-	\$0.00
			\$0.00	-	\$0.00
Equipment Subtotal					\$0.00
Other Items					
Item	Description		Unit cost	Number of units	Total equipment cost
			\$0.00	-	\$0.00
			\$0.00	-	\$0.00
			\$0.00	-	\$0.00
Other Items Subtotal					\$0.00
Activities Total (Equipment + Other Items)				\$0.00	

Organizational Information Sheet

Collects applicant, project, and operator information, along with certifications and authorization.

- 01** Applicant Information
 - Organization type (Existing or Future OR DEQ-permitted composting facilities), name, address, UEI number, primary contact name, contact information
- 02** Facility Information (if applicable)
 - Name, address, latitude/longitude, TRS and tax lot numbers, permits and permit numbers
- 03** Facility Operator Information (if applicable)
 - Name, address, contact information
- 04** Applicant Certifications

Authorized Representative: The individual signing below has the legal authority to submit this application and make certifications on behalf of the applicant organization. This may include an executive officer, authorized government official, tribal official, or other individual with delegated signing authority.

☐

I certify that the Applicant is eligible and the content of the application is accurate and complete.

Not Suspended or Debarred Certification

Confirms the applicant is eligible to participate in state and federal financial assistance programs.

Applicant must certify to this condition required under this NOFO.

INSTRUCTIONS: Sign below to finalize response and submit this document as part of the response to the NOFO.

OR DEQ may not award a grant to an applicant that has been suspended, debarred, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in state or federal financial assistance programs. OR DEQ reserves the right to verify applicant eligibility prior to award.

By signing here, I warrant that my organization has not been suspended, debarred, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in state or federal financial assistance programs.

I certify that this information is true, correct, and reliable.

The submission of inaccurate or misleading information may be grounds for disqualification from the grant award process, termination of any resulting grant agreement, repayment of awarded funds, or other remedies available under applicable law.

**Authorized
Representative
Name*:**

Title*:

Date of Signing*:

Environmental Cross-Cutter Questionnaire

Collects site and project details to help EPA determine which federal environmental requirements apply.

- 01** Select all of the checkbox(es) that best describe the project:
- ☐ Within an existing facility, easement or right(s)-of-way.
 - ☐ Outside of an existing facility, easement or right(s)-of-way.
 - ☐ Site previously undisturbed
 - ☐ Site previously disturbed
- 02** When are on-site activities anticipated to commence? (Month-Yr)
- Please include any sampling, test borehole drilling, or similar design-related activities as well as site preparations that may occur before construction.
- 03** Describe the current site use, landcover, and/or vegetation
- 04** Street address or nearest intersection
- 05** Site coordinates (Latitude/Longitude, or Decimal Degrees)

Compliance Acknowledgement

Certifies the applicant’s legal standing and acknowledges applicable requirements if selected for funding.

Please review the Exhibit H: Compliance Acknowledgement attachment for more information on Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) and Davis Bacon Act requirements.

I certify that the applicant is duly organized, validly existing, registered, and in good standing in accordance with all applicable laws and requirements governing its organization type and authority to conduct business.

We further acknowledge that, if selected for funding, the applicant, project, and funded activities must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, ordinances, permits, approvals, funding agreement requirements, and program requirements, including, but not limited to, requirements related to Build America, Buy America (BABA), Davis-Bacon and Related Acts, and Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) prevailing wage requirements, as applicable.

Authorized
Representative
Name*:

Title*:

Date of Signing*:

Large-Scale Application Form

Large-Scale Evaluation Categories

Evaluation Category 1

Project Impact

Evaluation Category 2

Data and Reporting

Evaluation Category 3

Technical Feasibility and Readiness

Evaluation Category 4

Cost Effectiveness

Evaluation Category 5

Long-Term Sustainability

Category 1: Project Impact and Measurement

Total available points under Evaluation Category 1: 30 points

Q1.1: Food Waste Processing Infrastructure Gap

(Max points: 10)

Describe the regional food waste processing infrastructure gap that this project is intended to address.

In the response:

- Describe the area (e.g., city, county, or other geographic area) served by the project
- Explain the current limitations, constraints, or unmet needs in food waste processing infrastructure within that area, and how they limit food waste recovery efforts
- Clearly explain the proposed project
- Explain how the proposed project will address those limitations

Category 1: Project Impact and Measurement (cont.)

Total available points under Evaluation Category 1: 30 points

Q1.2: Additional Capacity and Expected Utilization

(Max points: 20)

Estimate both the processing capacity that will be created by the proposed project and the amount of food waste they reasonably expect to process using that capacity at future milestones.

For purposes of this question:

- **Processing Capacity** means the estimated annual amount of food waste that the facility, equipment, or system can process when operating as designed following project completion.
- **Expected Utilization** means the annual amount of food waste the applicant reasonably expects to process at the identified future milestones, taking into account anticipated feedstock availability, participation levels, collection systems, contracts, operational constraints, and other relevant assumptions.

Applicants should provide estimates supported by reasonable assumptions.

Applicants will respond to this question using the two tables provided and then explain their methodology, assumptions, and calculations used to support the values reported in both tables.

Category 1: Project Impact and Measurement (cont.)

Total available points under Evaluation Category 1: 30 points

**Table 1:
Additional
Processing
Capacity**

Provide the facility's annual food waste processing capacity (NOT total organics processing capacity) before and after implementation of the proposed project.

Please consider the following when completing the table:

- Report annual processing capacity in weight or volume per year.
- Capacity should reflect the maximum amount of food waste that could be processed under normal operating conditions when the facility, equipment, or system is operating as designed.
- If the project creates capacity at multiple locations or through multiple components, provide the combined total capacity.

Capacity Metric	Residential Mix / Curbside	Commercial Food Waste	Industrial Food Processing Waste	Other (please explain)
Baseline (i.e., current) Processing Capacity (weight or volume of food waste per year)	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left
Projected processing Capacity Following Project Completion (weight or volume of food waste per year)	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left

**Table 1
Assumptions**

Explain the assumptions you used to calculate the values provided in Table 1. This may include information about the specifications or design of the equipment to be installed, and/or operational assumptions that inform your calculations

Category 1: Project Impact and Measurement (cont.)

Total available points under Evaluation Category 1: 30 points

Table 2:
Expected
Utilization of
Additional
Capacity

Provide the annual amount of food waste (NOT total organics) you expect will actually be processed, due to this project, at each identified future milestone.

For purposes of this question:

- Report estimates as annual weight or volume per year expected to be processed at each milestone.
- Estimates should reflect anticipated utilization of the capacity created by the project rather than the facility's maximum capacity.
- Applicants should consider factors such as feedstock availability, collection service, customer participation, contracts, market demand, operational ramp-up, and other relevant factors.

Milestone	Residential Mix / Curbside	Commercial Food Waste	Industrial Food Processing Waste	Other (please explain)
Projected amount of food waste (by weight or volume) per year by the end of 2030	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left
Projected amount of food waste (by weight or volume) per year by the end of 2035	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left	75 character(s) left

Table 2
Assumptions

Explain the methodology, assumptions, and calculations used to estimate the increase in tonnage of food waste processing capacity.

Category 2: Data and Reporting

Total available points under Evaluation Category 2: 20 points

Q2.1: Data Collection, Measurement, and Reporting

(Max points: 20)

In the previous section, applicants are asked to describe the outcomes and impacts they expect the project to achieve, namely, in food waste recovery and closing of infrastructure gaps. This section focuses not on the impacts themselves, but on how the applicant's organization will measure whether those impacts are realized.

Describe how the applicant will collect, manage, measure, and report project data and outcomes throughout the grant period.

In the response, describe:

- What data will be collected (this should refer to the responses in the “Project Impact” section)
- How data will be collected and maintained
- How project outcomes will be measured
- How data quality and accuracy will be ensured
- The staffing, systems, and organizational resources that will support these activities throughout the grant period.

Category 3: Technical Feasibility and Readiness

Total available points under Evaluation Category 3: 45 points

Q3.1: Project Workplan

(Max points: 10)

Provide a workplan using the fields below. In your workplan, provide sufficient detail for reviewers to understand how the project will be implemented from start to finish.

The workplan should be organized into major phases and key activities necessary to complete the project, with realistic timelines and clearly identified responsible parties.

Applicants are not expected to include every operational step, but should include enough detail to demonstrate project feasibility, readiness, and the logical sequencing of activities.

How information is logged in WebGrants

Project Phase*:	
	50 character(s) left
Task / Milestone Description*:	
	250 word(s) left
Person or group responsible for completion*:	
	50 character(s) left
Estimated Start Date*:	
Estimated Completion Date*:	
Milestone*:	Yes No

Project Workplan

Each application requires a workplan to provide projects details, timelines, and milestones

WebGrants Instructions

1. Select “Save Multi-List” to begin editing

Question 4.1: Project Workplan - Edit

Project Phase	Task / Milestone Description	Person or group responsible for completion	Estimated Start Date	Estimated Completion Date	Milestone
No Data for Table					

Save Multi-List

Save Multi-List

2. Select “Add Row” to add your next project phase. Once completed, select “Save”

Question 4.1: Project Workplan - Multi-List

Mark as Complete + Add Row Edit All Rows

Project Phase	Task / Milestone Description	Person or group responsible for completion	Estimated Start Date	Estimated Completion Date	Milestone
Test	Test	Test	09/30/2026	09/01/2027	Yes

Last Edited By: Testing Tester - Sep 30, 2026 9:37 AM

+ Add Row

3. Select “Edit All Rows” to make any further changes

Question 4.1: Project Workplan - Multi-List

Mark as Complete + Add Row Edit All Rows

Project Phase	Task / Milestone Description	Person or group responsible for completion	Estimated Start Date	Estimated Completion Date	Milestone
Test	Test	Test	09/30/2026	09/01/2027	Yes

Last Edited By: Testing Tester - Sep 30, 2026 9:37 AM

+ Add Row

You must repeat this process for every project phase, milestone, or task

Category 3: Technical Feasibility and Readiness (cont.)

Total available points under Evaluation Category 3: 45 points

Q3.2a: Technical Understanding (Max points: 5)

Describe the applicant's experience with composting and operating within Oregon's solid waste system, and the approach the applicant will take to execute the project.

The response should:

- Demonstrate understanding of the technical requirements (e.g., processes, technology, equipment) necessary to implement the project

Q3.2b: Permit and Preparations (Max points: 5 Points)

Describe the applicant's experience with composting and operating within Oregon's solid waste system, and the approach the applicant will take to execute the project.

The response should:

- Describe how permit compliance will be maintained throughout the project and demonstrate a comprehensive timeline needed for any remaining permitting or regulatory steps (including land-use compatibility statement) needed prior to project launch.
- Responses should reference current permit standing and describe any additional approvals, modifications, or compliance activities necessary for the project.

Q3.2c: Risk Mitigation Strategy (Max points: 5 Points)

Describe the applicant's experience with composting and operating within Oregon's solid waste system, and the approach the applicant will take to execute the project.

The response should:

- Identify the risks most likely to prevent or delay realization of the project's benefits (3 to 5) and the proposed risk management approach in response to each risk.

Category 3: Technical Feasibility and Readiness (cont.)

Total available points under Evaluation Category 3: 45 points

Q3.3: Feedstock Availability (Max points: 20)

Identify feedstock sources by generator type and expected quantities, if known. Explain how the two required letters support confidence in sufficient feedstock to use the new capacity.

Describe how the applicant organization will secure sufficient feedstock to utilize the proposed processing capacity upon project completion. In the response:

- Identify the anticipated sources of feedstock by generator type (e.g., commercial, residential, industrial)
- Describe the quantity of feedstock expected from each generator type, if known
- Explain how the required letters of support demonstrate the applicant's confidence in the availability of feedstock.

The narrative should be supported by the information included in the two letters of support provided.

Letters Of Support

Upload two letters of support from groups involved with or supporting the proposed project. The two required letters of support must be from two unique sources, with one coming from a local or tribal government.

Other potential sources for the remaining letter may include:

- Collection service providers
- Elected officials
- Community interest groups / groups that will be impacted by the project
- Large food waste generators

Category 4: Budget and Cost Effectiveness

Total available points under Evaluation Category 4: 30 points

Q4.1: Budget Worksheet and Narrative

(Max points: 10)

Complete the attached cost worksheet and provide a budget narrative that explains the major proposed costs, how estimates were developed, and why each cost is necessary to successfully implement the project and achieve the outcomes described in the application.

For each major budget category, describe:

- The purpose of the proposed cost
- Why the cost is necessary for successful project implementation
- How the cost estimate was developed
- How the cost contributes to the outcomes described elsewhere in the application

Category 4: Budget and Cost Effectiveness

Total available points under Evaluation Category 4: 30 points

Q4.2: Cost Effectiveness (Max points: 20)

To help evaluate the anticipated return on grant funding, OR DEQ will calculate a Cost Effectiveness Ratio for each application using the projected additional food waste processed as a result of the project and the amount of grant funding requested.

OR DEQ will calculate the Cost Effectiveness Ratio using the following formula:

Cost Effectiveness Ratio = Grant Funds Requested (\$) ÷ Projected Additional Food Waste Processed by December 31, 2030 (tons/year)

- The **projected additional food waste processed** by December 31, 2030, will be taken from the estimate provided in Table 2 under Question 1.2.
- **Grant funds requested** will be taken from the applicant's cost worksheet (**Exhibit D or E**). This ratio reflects the estimated annual amount of additional food waste expected to be processed per dollar of grant funding requested.

Applications will be scored relative to one another based on their Cost Effectiveness Ratio. The application with the lowest Cost Effectiveness Ratio will receive the maximum points available for this criterion.

All other applications will receive a proportionate score calculated using the following formula:

(Lowest Cost Effectiveness Ratio ÷ Applicant's proposed Cost Effectiveness Ratio) X Max Points = Applicant's Score

Category 5: Long-Term Sustainability

Total available points under Evaluation Category 5: 25 points

Q5.1: Operations Beyond The Grant Period

(Max points: 15)

Describe the applicant organization's ability to operate and maintain the proposed facility beyond the grant period.

The response should include:

- The organizational structure and staffing that will support ongoing operations
 - Technical expertise available to operate and maintain the facility
 - How operational and maintenance costs will be funded after grant funds have been expended
-

Q5.2: End Markets and Beneficial Uses

(Max points: 10)

Describe the anticipated end markets or beneficial uses for compost, digestate, or other recovered materials generated through the project.

In the response:

- Identify the primary end users or end markets at the sector level (i.e. agriculture, industrial infrastructure, government, retail, or unsold)
- Describe how materials will be distributed, sold, or otherwise utilized
- Explain how the end use(s) align with the expected increase in tonnage of compost product as a result of the project
- Describe any existing relationships, evidence of demand that support the proposed approach

Evaluation Information

Review and Award Process

The evaluation process includes four steps, from eligibility review through award finalization.

Eligibility Review

OR DEQ screens applications for eligibility and completeness.

Technical Review

Reviewers score eligible applications using Exhibit C.

Funding Decisions

OR DEQ considers scores and available funding, then notifies applicants.

Award Finalization

Selected applicants complete pre-award requirements and agreements.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements

- 01** Request funding only for eligible project costs.
- 02** Expand or improve food waste recovery infrastructure through equipment purchases, site improvements, capacity expansions, or other eligible investments.
- 03** Increase statewide food waste recovery capacity, for food waste that has previously gone to landfill.
- 04** Propose a project budget within \$50,000–\$2,000,000.
- 05** Demonstrate compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws.

Award Limitations

Actual award amounts may vary based on:

- Available funding
- Application quality
- Project readiness
- Cost reasonableness
- Project scale and scope
- OR DEQ funding priorities

OR DEQ reserves the right to:

- Award all, part, or none of the funding requested
- Negotiate project scope, budget, and award amount prior to award
- Fund projects through either a Subgrant or PSC funding instrument, as appropriate
- Make fewer or more awards than anticipated, depending on available funding and application quality

Evaluation and Scoring



Total Points: 150

Scoring Methodology

0%	No Response	Missing or does not address the criterion.
20%	Far Below Expectations	Minimal detail, significant deficiencies.
40%	Below Expectations	Partial response, important gaps.
60%	Meets Expectations	Adequate detail and support, no significant deficiencies.
80%	Exceeds Expectations	Detailed, well-supported, project-specific response.
100%	Far Exceeds Expectations	Exceptionally clear, comprehensive, compelling evidence.

Thank You!

**Application Deadline: November 30, 2026
5:00 p.m. PT**

Appendix

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 \(DEQ\)](#)

CERTA and DEQ Resources and Reports

OR CERTA Website
[Department of Environmental Quality: State of Oregon's CERTA Welcome Page](#)

OR CERTA Measure 11 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](#)

PSCs vs. Subawards

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

Participant Support Costs (PSC)

- Has clear proof-of-completion requirements and documentation
- Can be fully completed before being reimbursed
- Involves costs that are easily reimbursed after project completion
- Involves a specific purchase of piece(s) of equipment and its installation
- Does not require the broader administrative structure of a Subgrant

Subawards

- Includes multiple phases, activities, or milestones
- Requires reimbursement over an extended implementation period
- Includes personnel, contractual, or operating activities
- Includes expenditures that are not equipment and installation costs
- Requires a more complex agreement structure