

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Urban & Community Forestry Funding Opportunities



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. *To what extent is urban and community forestry (UCF) funded through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)?*

The IRA provides up to \$1.5 billion for urban and community forestry investments to foster 1) increased and equitable access to urban tree canopy, 2) broadened community engagement in local urban forest planning, tree planting, and management activities, and 3) improved community and urban forest resilience.

2. *Where can I find the information about the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)?*

- [Urban & Community Forestry \(UCF\) IRA Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\) - Online Grant Portal](#)
- [Urban & Community Forestry \(UCF\) IRA Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\) - PDF](#)
- [Inflation Reduction Act \(IRA\) allocations to state UCF programs](#)
- [US Forest Service UCF Program website](#)

3. *How much money was awarded to the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) Urban and Community Forestry program, and how will this money be spent?*

ODF's allotment for Fiscal Year 2023 is \$3.75 million, which will be used to establish a sub-award/pass-through grant program for disadvantaged communities throughout the state, especially those communities (Tribal, urban, or rural) experiencing low urban tree canopy (UTC), dead and hazardous tree conditions, extreme heat and flooding, and limited access to green jobs.

4. *Who can apply for Direct IRA Grants from the Forest Service? How much money is available?*

\$1 billion nationally is now available for direct grants from the US Forest Service to Tribes and Tribal organizations, non-profit organizations, community-based organizations, local, county, and state government entities, and public institutions of higher education. The minimum Federal grant funding amount for projects is \$100,000. The maximum Federal funding limit is \$50 million.

5. *When is the grant application deadline?*

All application materials must be received by **11:59 pm Eastern Time on June 1, 2023.**

6. *What support is available for the application process?*

The US Forest Service [Urban & Community Forestry \(UCF\) IRA Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\) Online Grant Portal](#) is a great resource.

- Various resources can be found on the [“Forms, Templates, and Resources”](#) tab on the Online Grant Portal, including 1) links to **two webinars** that introduce the UCF Funding Opportunity, application requirements, and a demonstration of how to use the Online Application Grant Portal; 2) templates for the project narrative and budget, and 3) additional forms and guides.
 - [IRA-UCF Grant Introduction and Application Requirements Webinar \(04/18/2023\)](#)
 - [IRA-UCF Grant Introduction and Application Process Webinar Part 2 \(4/25/2023\)](#)
 - [Application Guide](#) – supports all applicants, particularly those who are new to the federal grant application process (note: this document does not replace requirements outlined in the Notice of Funding Opportunity or Detailed Instructions).
 - [Budget and Budget Narrative Instructions with Examples](#)
- ODF’s UCF team will be hosting a virtual meeting/Q&A session on **May 4th from 2-3:30 p.m.** to answer questions about the IRA grant process and to discuss and explore opportunities for collaboration on funding proposals. **This meeting will be recorded and posted to our website.** We want to support effective alignment of the varied talents and capacities of community and organizational partners and stakeholders, to enhance on-the ground expansion and health of our urban and community forests.

7. *Who can I contact at ODF if I have additional questions?*

- **Scott Altenhoff** (*Urban & Community Forestry Assistance Program Manager*) - Scott.R.Altenhoff@odf.oregon.gov
- **Brittany Oxford** (*Urban & Community Assistance Forester*) – Brittany.N.Oxford@odf.oregon.gov
- **Evan Elderbrock** (*Urban & Community Forestry Emerald Ash Borer Coordination Specialist*) – Evan.M.Elderbrock@odf.oregon.gov