

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

UNSEWERED COMMUNITIES CONSTRUCTION GRANT PROGRAM (UCCGP)

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DETAILED INFORMATION

A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to advise potential applicants of the availability of grant funds through the Unsewered Communities Construction Grant Program (UCCGP). The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) is seeking proposals for projects which will provide wastewater collection and/or treatment facility for areas where there are currently no wastewater collection and/or treatment facility.

Applicants must be Local Government Units that have pre-qualified through the GATA Grantee Portal. For areas where wastewater collection and/or treatment facilities are currently nonexistent, grant funding for design engineering, construction engineering, and construction related activities will be provided. Applications for the UCCGP will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. (CST) on **November 15, 2022**. All completed UCCGP applications shall undergo a comprehensive review and be scored to determine priority. Successful applicants will be notified within 21 days of the application deadline. Grant awards will be given in the range of \$500,000 - \$5,000,000 per project.

For projects to be viable, it is anticipated applicants will require supplemental funding in addition to the funds being offered through this grant program. Applicants may request supplemental funding in the form of a low interest loan through the IEPA's Water Pollution Control Loan Program (WPCLP). To enquire about funding through the WPCLP, please call 217-782-2027 and ask to speak with the Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section Project Manager on call.

IEPA will prioritize and select projects, according to the ranking criteria outlined in Section E.2 of this NOFO.

B. FUNDING INFORMATION

The UCCGP utilizes funds distributed by the State of Illinois generated under the Build Illinois Bond Fund and Anti-Pollution Bond Fund. IEPA expects to award a total of **\$20,000,000** and anticipates distributing this amount across four (4) to ten (10) awards. Funding will be limited to a **maximum of \$5,000,000 per project**.

An individual grant will be for a maximum percentage of the construction costs based upon the Median Household Income (MHI) of the applicant's service population as a percentage of the state average MHI as follows:

APPLICANT MHI VS STATE AVERAGE MHI	MAXIMUM GRANT AMOUNT % OF CONSTRUCTION COST
Below the state average	100%
100-109.99% of state average MHI	90%
110-119.99% of state average MHI	80%
120-129.99% of state average MHI	70%
130-139.99% of state average MHI	60%
140-149.99% of state average MHI	50%
Above 150% of state average MHI	NOT ELIGIBLE

HOW GRANT FUNDS WILL BE DISBURSED:

The grantee must perform the work and submit an UCCGP Invoice Disbursement Request with supporting documentation before the IEPA will disburse funds to the grantee for any approved eligible costs. IEPA shall only make disbursements to the grantee and shall pay the grantee no more frequently than monthly.

NOTE: COSTS OF REPORTING EFFORTS RELATED TO ANY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE UNIFORM INTERGOVERNMENTAL GRANT AGREEMENT (U-IGA) CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE THIRD-PARTY CONTRACT.

The IEPA may elect to partially fund an application by funding discrete portions or phases of the project scope of work. This could be due to ineligible project components identified in the application or not enough UCCGP funds being available to fully fund the entire project.

C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Applicants must be in good standing with the Secretary of the State. Eligible proposals will come from a local government unit within the State of Illinois, as defined in Title 35 of the Illinois Administrative Code Part 662 as follows:

***Local Government Unit** – A county, municipality, township, municipal or county sewerage or utility authority, sanitary district, public water district, improvement authority or any other political subdivision whose primary purpose is to construct, own, operate and maintain wastewater treatment facilities, including storm water treatment systems, or public water supply facilities or both. [415 ILCS 5/19.2(g)]*

An entity shall not apply for a grant until the entity has registered and pre-qualified through the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal, www.grants.illinois.gov/portal. Registration and pre-qualification are required **annually**. During GATA pre-qualification, verifications are performed including a check of the federal Debarred and Suspended list and status on the Illinois Stop Payment List. An automated email notification from the GATA Portal to the entity alerts them of ‘qualified’ status or informs how to remediate a negative verification (e.g., inactive Unique Entity ID (UEI), not in good standing with the Secretary of State). A federal Debarred and Suspended status cannot be remediated.

2. ELIGIBLE FUNDING COSTS

Funding will be provided for design engineering, construction engineering, and construction related activities only. If a portion of the project includes the abandonment of old septic systems, the applicant may include those associated costs within construction.

3. INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES, TASKS, AND/OR COMPONENTS

Examples of ineligible activities, tasks, and components that shall not be funded through the UCCGP are provided below. The list is not all-inclusive:

- a. Land acquisition Costs
- b. Project Planning Costs
- c. Rehabilitation of existing wastewater collection and/or treatment facilities
- d. Future growth or development projects

NOTE: Costs incurred prior to the executed contract date of the grant agreement or after the grant agreement term ends are ineligible for reimbursement.

4. PROJECT MATCH

The UCCGP does not require a match, but additional funds may be necessary to complete the project as UCCGP amounts may not be sufficient to complete the project. See **Section B** of this NOFO.

The applicant may apply for Water Pollution Control Loan Program (WPCLP) Funds to help pay for the project. Further information regarding the WPCLP can be found on the IEPA website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving-fund/Pages/default.aspx>

5. INDIRECT COST

The grant **WILL NOT** compensate for the indirect costs, overhead, or administrative expenses directly incurred by the applicant associated with applying for this funding opportunity or the completion of the project.

D. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Applicants shall not apply to the UCCGP until the applicant has pre-qualified through the GATA Grantee Portal, www.grants.illinois.gov.

Applicable forms available on the IEPA website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/unsewered-communities/Pages/UCCGP.aspx>

1. CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION

A complete UCCGP application must include the following:

- a. **Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance**

b. **Unsewered Communities Construction Grant Program Uniform Grant Budget Template**

- i. The entire budget for all design engineering, construction activity, and construction observation/engineering should be provided, with all worksheets completed even if the worksheets are not relevant to the project.

c. A **Project Plan**, meeting the requirements of 35 Ill. Adm Code 365.320 (guidance below) or an equivalent planning document or engineering study which, at a minimum:

- i. Identifies a project which provides a solution to an identified need for wastewater collection and/or treatment facilities where currently collection and/or treatment facilities do not exist.
- ii. Provides an **analysis of various alternatives** which will identify the **most cost-effective solution** to the need identified in (i) above. The alternatives considered must include, where applicable;
 - 1. Construction of wastewater collection facilities for properties within the project area;
 - 2. Connection of properties within the project area to an existing wastewater treatment facility;
 - 3. Connection of properties within the project area to a new wastewater treatment facility; and
 - 4. Land application of wastewater treatment facility effluent.

NOTE: In regard to the UCCGP, the term “properties” refers to previously existing residential, commercial, and/or industrial establishments, NOT anticipated future developments.

- iii. Details the existing (if applicable) and proposed user charge system(s) as a result of the project. The **cost estimate for the chosen alternative** and associated user charge system(s) must support the operational, maintenance and replacement costs of all wastewater collection and/or treatment facilities.
- iv. At minimum, a **draft ordinance** detailing the proposed user charge system shall be provided with the UCCGP grant application. **The final adoption of the ordinance shall be completed prior to the first disbursement of grant funds.** Example user charge ordinances can be found on the IEPA UCCGP webpage: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/unsewered-communities/Pages/UCCGP.aspx>
- v. An inventory of environmental impacts of selected alternative, a discussion of the required mitigation measures and a completed **IEPA Loan Applicant Environmental Checklist** form with consultation documentation. Checklist can be found at the following link: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving->

[fund/Documents/Environmental%20Checklist%20121620%20%28003%29.pdf](https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/unsewered-communities/Documents/Environmental%20Checklist%20121620%20%28003%29.pdf)

- d. An **Unsewered Communities Construction Grant Program Evaluation Criteria Information Sheet**. The information provided within this sheet, along with other submitted application materials, will be used by the Agency's Evaluation Panel to rank and prioritize applications in accordance with the scoring system contained within Section E(2) of this NOFO. The form can be found on our website at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/unsewered-communities/Pages/UCCGP.aspx>
- e. The **Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment Questionnaire** must be completed prior to the application submittal. This Questionnaire is located within the GATA Portal. The applicant must complete the Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment Questionnaire in the GATA Portal for **Fiscal Year 2023**.
- f. The **Programmatic Risk Assessment Questionnaire (PRAQ)**, found on the IEPA Unsewered Communities Grant Website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/unsewered-communities/Documents/UCCGP%20PROGRAMMATIC%20ASSESSMENT%20QUESTIONAIRE.docx>, also must be completed and submitted along with the application documents. This Risk Assessment evaluates the applicant's ability to successfully carry out the terms of UCCGP and assesses four risk categories: 1) quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards; 2) history of performance; 3) reports and findings from audits performed on prior awards; and 4) the applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on a grantee.

Guidance on the information required within a Project Plan can be obtained online by clicking on the "Project Plan Submittal Checklist (Wastewater)" on the following webpage; <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving-fund/Pages/state-revolving-fund-forms.aspx>

Note: The term "loan" as shown in the Project Plan Submittal Checklist (Wastewater) should be considered as applying for a UCCGP Grant. Some items in the checklist may not be applicable to the information needed for a UCCGP Project.

Please direct questions regarding the content and completion of a Project Plan to the Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section Project Manager on call at (217)782-2027.

The IEPA requires the UCCGP applicants to use the forms provided in the GATA Portal. These forms are designed to allow the IEPA to obtain adequate information to properly evaluate the proposed project.

All UCCGP forms that require a signature must be signed by persons authorized by the applicant organization to enter into formal contractual agreements.

Application submissions can be made either:

- a. By email using the EPA.LoanMgmt@illinois.gov. Include the phrase "Unsewered Communities Construction Grant Program", project title and applicant name in the email

subject line. (If application submittal materials require multiple emails, please label emails accordingly. For example: 1 of 2, 2 of 4, etc.) Contact the Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section at (217)782-2027 regarding potential firewall issues.

OR

- b. By mailing or delivering the application on a CD, USB, or paper copy directly to:

US Postal Service Mailing Address: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Bureau of Water, #15 P.O. Box 19276 Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276 Attention: Lanina Clark	Delivery Address: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Bureau of Water, #15 P.O. Box 19276 Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276 Attention: Lanina Clark
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6. UNIQUE ENTITY ID (UEI) NUMBER AND SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM)

Each applicant (unless the applicant is an individual or federal or State awarding agency that is exempt from those requirements under 2 C.F.R. § 25.110(b) or (c), or has an exception approved by the federal or State awarding agency under 2 C.F.R. § 25.110(d)) is required to:

- a. Be registered in SAM before submitting its application (Register at: <https://www.sam.gov/>);
- b. Provide a valid UEI number in its application; and
- c. Maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active federal, federal pass-through, or State award or an application or plan under consideration by a federal or State awarding agency.

The IEPA shall not make a State award to an applicant unless the applicant has complied with all applicable UEI and SAM requirements. If an applicant has not fully complied with these requirements by the application deadline, the IEPA shall determine the applicant as not qualified to receive a State award. The IEPA shall use that determination as a basis to make a State award to another qualified applicant.

7. SUBMISSION DATES AND TIMES

UCCGP applications are accepted by IEPA **until 12:00 p.m. (CST) on November 15, 2022**. The complete application must be received at IEPA's Springfield office by **12:00 p.m. (CST) on November 15, 2022** to be considered for funding under the UCCGP.

The IEPA shall NOT extend the application deadline date. Incomplete and late applications shall:

- a. **NOT be considered for funding,**
- b. **NOT be returned to the applicant, and**
- c. **Preclude the IEPA from making an award to the applicant.**

The IEPA shall use the date of the email submittal, or the date-stamp applied by IEPA to mailed or hand-delivered applications when received, to determine whether an application has been

submitted on or before the deadline.

E. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

1. APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY

If the answer to **any** of the following Administrative Criterion or GATA Pre-Qualification Criterion questions is **NO**, the application shall **NOT** be considered for funding.

NOTE: The table below is the exact scoring rubric the IEPA IFAS staff will be utilizing to review and score the application submittals.

GATA PRE-QUALIFICATION CRITERION		YES	NO	PTS
1.	Did the applicant meet all of the following pre-qualification requirements through the GATA Grantee Portal, www.grants.illinois.gov , by 12 p.m. November 15, 2022 ?			-
A.	Has a valid UEI number			-
B.	Has current SAM.gov account			-
C.	NOT on the Federal Excluded Parties List			-
D.	Good standing with Illinois Secretary of State			-
E.	NOT listed on Illinois Stop Payment List			-
F.	NOT listed on Department of Healthcare and Family Services Provider Sanctions list			-
G.	Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment Completed for Fiscal Year 2023			-
ADMINISTRATIVE CRITERION		YES	NO	PTS
2.	Application meets all Administrative Criterion below and is eligible for Merit-Based Review			-
A.	All application fields completed with the information requested and boxes checked, as applicable.			-
B.	Application was received by the IEPA by 12 p.m. November 15, 2022 .			-
C.	Included a Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance with completed signature block.			-
D.	Included an Unsewered Communities Construction Grant Program Uniform Grant Budget Template with all pages and completed signature block.			-
E.	Included a Project Plan, meeting the requirements 35 Ill. Adm Code 365.320 or an equivalent planning document or engineering study			-
i.	Identifies a need for WW collection/treatment:			-
ii.	Alternatives analysis:			-
iii.	Chosen Alternative/Project Type:			-
iv.	Total project cost estimate: DESIGN ENGINEERING: \$ _____ CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING: \$ _____ CONSTRUCTION: \$ _____ CONTINGENCY (10%): \$ _____ TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$ _____			-
v.	User charge ordinance status: <input type="checkbox"/> DRAFTED <input type="checkbox"/> ADOPTED			-
vi.	Environmental Checklist & Sign-offs:			-
vii.	Total service population:			-
viii.	Address of central point of proposed project (street address or latitude/longitude):			-
ix.	Map of project area clearly showing the geographical area to be served by the project:			-
F.	Unsewered Communities Construction Grant Program Evaluation Criteria Information Sheet			-

G.	Environmental Justice Area			
H.	Programmatic Risk Assessment Questionnaire (PRAQ) Completed and Submitted			-
TOTAL POINTS:				

2. CRITERIA, REVIEW, AND SELECTION

All UCCGP applications shall be reviewed for completeness, technical merit, cost effectiveness, and adherence to the competitive grant evaluation criteria described in this NOFO. Applications found to be complete shall undergo a comprehensive, merit-based review performed in compliance with GATA Legislation 30 ILCS 708 and 2 CFR 200 Uniform Requirements. The merit-based review must evaluate the applications against the following criteria:

EVALUATION CRITERIA, PRIORITIZATION SCORING SYSTEM AND SELECTION PROCESS

Complete applications shall be reviewed by an Evaluation Panel consisting of IEPA, BOW, Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section staff who will rank and prioritize applications in accordance with the scoring system below:

NOTE: In regards to the UCCGP, the term “properties” refers to previously existing residential, commercial, and/or industrial establishments, NOT anticipated future developments. Furthermore, the term “community” refers to a Local Government Unit as defined in Section C(1) of the UCCGP NOFO.

- a. **250 POINTS** – Project will eliminate a current situation where untreated or partially treated wastewater is entering waters of the state.
NOTE: Supporting documentation must be attached in order for these points to be awarded. Examples include correspondence from public health, photos, etc.

- b. **200 POINTS** – The proposed project will provide wastewater collection and/or treatment to any area within IEPA Areas of Environmental Justice Concern

“Environmental Justice” is based on the principle that all people should be protected from environmental pollution and have the right to a clean and healthy environment. Environmental justice is the protection of the health of the people of Illinois and its environment, equity in the administration of the State’s environmental programs, and the provision of adequate opportunities for meaningful involvement of all people with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

- c. **200 POINTS** – Project will connect properties from multiple communities, currently without a wastewater central collection facility, to an existing wastewater treatment facility.
- d. **175 POINTS** – Project will connect properties from multiple communities, currently without a wastewater central collection facility, to a new wastewater treatment facility.
- e. **150 POINTS** – Project will connect properties from a single community, currently without a wastewater central collection facility, to an existing wastewater treatment facility.

- f. **150 POINTS** – The proposed project is the most cost-effective, long-term solution.
- g. **150 POINTS** – Applicant has a current user charge ordinance in place detailing the necessary fees to be collected from customers for the operation, maintenance and replacement of the wastewater collection and treatment facilities related to the proposed project.
- h. **100 POINTS** – Project will connect a portion of the community, currently without a wastewater central collection facility, to an existing wastewater treatment facility.
- i. **100 POINTS** – Project design is complete, and applicant has investigated and ascertained the location of all necessary sites with all rights-of-way and easements obtained.
- j. **100 POINTS** – All necessary NPDES and construction permits are obtained.
- k. **100 POINTS** – Applicant has a completed Fiscal Sustainability Plan, Asset Management Plan or similar document(s) addressing the long-term plan for maintaining, repairing, funding and as necessary, replacing the project treatment works.
- l. **100 POINTS** – Project will NOT require a new NPDES permitted discharge.
- m. **100 POINTS** – Applicant has NOT previously received grant funds from the IEPA Unsewered Communities Construction Grant Program.
- n. **75 POINTS** – Project will connect properties from a single community, currently without a wastewater central collection facilities, to a new wastewater treatment facility.

The UCCGP Evaluation Criteria Information Sheet can be found on the IEPA UCCGP webpage: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/unsewered-communities/Pages/UCCGP.aspx>

UCCGP funds will be awarded per this NOFO starting with the highest ranked (most points) applicant first. Available funds will be awarded to the next ranked project on the list until all available funds have been exhausted. If two, or more, projects receive the same amount of points, the project(s) serving a higher population will be ranked above any project serving a lower population.

3. APPEAL PROCESS

An appeal process is available to applicants and other interested parties; however, appeals are limited to the IEPA evaluation process. Evaluation scores may not be protested. An appeal must be submitted in writing to the following address: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Attn: Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section, Bureau of Water, 1021 N. Grand Avenue, Mail Code #15, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276 and must be received within 14 calendar days after the date that the grant award notice has been published by the IEPA on Grants.Illinois.gov. The written appeal shall include, at a minimum, the following: the name and address of the appealing party, identification of the grant, and a statement of reasons for the appeal. IEPA shall acknowledge receipt of an appeal within fourteen (14) calendar days from the date the appeal was received.

When an appeal is received, the execution of all grant agreements that IEPA intends to make under this NOFO shall be stayed until the appeal is resolved, unless the IEPA determines the needs of the State require moving forward with execution of the remaining grant agreements. The State need determination and rationale shall be documented in writing.

IEPA shall respond to the appeal within 60 days or supply a written explanation to the appealing party as to why additional time is required. The appealing party must supply any additional information requested by IEPA within the time period set in the request. The Director of the IEPA may appoint one or more Appeal Review Officers (ARO) to consider the grant-related appeal and make a recommendation to the Director of the IEPA or designee for resolution. The ARO shall make a recommendation to the Director of the IEPA or designee as expeditiously as possible after receiving all relevant, requested information. In determining the appropriate recommendation, the ARO shall consider the integrity of the competitive grant process and the impact of the recommendation on the IEPA. The IEPA shall resolve the appeal by means of written determination, which shall include, but not be limited to: review of the appeal, appeal determination, and rationale for the determination.

4. ANTICIPATED ANNOUNCEMENT AND STATE AWARD DATES

IEPA’s Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section shall present a summary of all applications received to the Chief of the Bureau of Water and the Director of the IEPA. This summary shall confirm that the NOFO was followed and will include the findings and recommendations of the Evaluation Panel, including application rank and funding recommendations.

ACTION BY IEPA	ANTICIPATED DATE
Notify applicants that their application was received.	Within 21 days of application deadline
Notify unsuccessful applicants their application was not selected for funding.	Within 60 days of application deadline
Send a "Notice of State Award" to selected applicants for signature.	February 15, 2023
Send a grant agreement to selected applicants for signature.	March 15, 2023
Provide a fully executed grant agreement to the grantee.	April 14, 2023

The IEPA shall send an e-mail to the applicant acknowledging receipt of the application. Applicants shall be notified, at this time, if their application was not considered for funding due to an incomplete or late application submittal or if they were not pre-qualified in the GATA Grantee Portal by the application deadline.

F. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. NOTICE OF STATE AWARD (NOSA)

The IEPA shall issue a Notice of State Award (NOSA) to the successful grant applicants. The NOSA shall specify the funding terms and specific conditions resulting from the Fiscal and Administrative and Programmatic Risk Assessments. The NOSA must be accepted by an authorized representative before a grant agreement can be sent to the applicant. A NOSA is not an

authorization to begin project activities or incur costs.

NOTE: No costs can be incurred by the applicant until the U-IGA is signed by both the Grantor and Grantee.

Once all the final requirements have been completed, the grant agreement between the IEPA and the applicant shall be sent to the applicant to sign and return. Once the agreement is fully executed by the IEPA, a copy shall be returned to the applicant.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE, STATE, AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

The terms and conditions of the award shall be specified in the NOSA and the grant agreement.

No grantee shall receive a grant or any other State or federal assistance that would provide more than 100% or more of the eligible project costs.

If the grantee of a UCCGP grant is at any time offered any State, federal, or local grant or any other funding source, to assist in the payment of expenses for which the UCCGP grant payment has been issued, the recipient shall reimburse the State of Illinois for any UCCGP grant funds used to pay expenses or offered to be paid under another grant or funding source.

Each grantee must agree to comply with all applicable federal and State requirements. **This includes Uniform Administrative Requirements, 2 C.F.R. § 200 and GATA.** These can have a significant impact on the costs and complexity of a project. UCCGP grantees will be expected to submit signed assurances that they will comply with all State and federal mandates, including:

- a. THE INTERAGENCY WETLAND POLICY ACT OF 1989; 20 ILCS 830/: In accordance with the Interagency Wetland Policy Act of 1989, a grantee whose proposed project site is located on or within 250 feet of a wetland site listed on the National Wetlands Inventory will be required to comply with the requirements of the Act. This includes developing a plan to minimize adverse impacts on wetlands or providing written evidence that the proposed project will not have an adverse impact on a wetland. Project must also comply with Federal Wetlands Protection regulations at 24 C.F.R. § 58.5(b)(2), which may require preparation of an Eight-Step Wetlands Review.
- b. ILLINOIS ENDANGERED SPECIES PROTECTION ACT; 520 ILCS 10/ AND THE ILLINOIS NATURAL AREA PRESERVATION ACT; 525 ILCS 30: Compliance requires consultation with the Endangered Species Consultation Program of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to assure compliance. The consultation process must be implemented to avoid or minimize adverse impacts to State-listed species and their essential habitats that may result from the actions of State and local units of government. Grantees must certify the completion of the consultation process.
- c. ILLINOIS PREVAILING WAGE ACT; 820 ILCS 130/: The Illinois Prevailing Wage Act requires the payment of prevailing wages for all construction funded in whole or in part with State funds, including funds passed through to private firms. Grantees shall comply with all requirements of the Prevailing Wage Act, including but not limited to, inserting into all contracts for construction a stipulation to the effect that not less than the prevailing rate of wages as applicable to the project shall be paid to all laborers, workers, and mechanics

performing work under the award and requiring all bonds of contractors to include a provision as will guarantee the faithful performance of such prevailing wage clause as provided by contract. Grantees will be required to report on Prevailing Wage Act compliance. If your project involves construction and/or equipment installation, go to <https://www2.illinois.gov/idol/Laws-Rules/CONMED/Pages/prevailing-wage-act.aspx> for more information.

- d. ILLINOIS WORKS JOBS PROGRAM ACT; 30 ILCS 559/: Grantees must comply with requirements in the Illinois Works Jobs Program Act. For grants with an estimated total project cost of \$500,000 or more, the grantee will be required to comply with the Illinois Works Apprenticeship Initiative; 30 ILCS 559/20-20 to 559/20-25 and all applicable administrative rules. The “estimated total project cost” is a good faith approximation, at the time an applicant submits a grant application, of the costs of an entire project being paid for in whole or in part by appropriated capital funds to construct a public work. The goal of the Illinois Works Apprenticeship Initiative is that apprentices will perform either 10% of the total labor hours actually worked in each prevailing wage classification or 10% of the estimated labor hours in each prevailing wage classification, whichever is less. Grantees will be permitted to seek a waiver or reduction of this goal in certain circumstances pursuant to 30 ILCS 559/20-20(b). The grantee must ensure compliance for the life of the entire project, including during the term of the grant and after the term ends, if applicable, and will be required to report on and certify its compliance. The required reporting forms should be submitted with BID documents for the project.
- e. BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM FOR MINORITIES, FEMALES, AND PERSON WITH DISABILITIES ACT; 30 ILCS 575/: For grant awards of \$250,000 or more, the grantee will be required to comply with the Business Enterprise Program for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Act, which establishes a goal for contracting with businesses that have been certified as owned and controlled by persons who are minority, female, or who have disabilities. The grantee must document a plan for compliance prior to the establishment of the grant agreement and ensure compliance through the life of the grant.
- f. THE NATIONAL EMISSION STANDARDS FOR HAZARDOUS AIR POLLUTANTS FOR SOURCE CATEGORIES; 40 C.F.R. § 63: These standards assure that, when existing buildings are demolished and/or renovated, people outside of those buildings (i.e., passers-by or neighborhood residents) are protected from airborne asbestos. If asbestos materials are involved in the rehabilitation work, the grantee must contact the Field Operations Section, Bureau of Air of the Illinois EPA to ensure compliance with Asbestos NESHAP.
- g. In the grant agreement the grantee shall be required to:
 - i. Certify that it does and shall comply with all provisions of the federal Internal Revenue Code (26 USC 1), the Illinois Income Tax Act; 35 ILCS 5/, and all rules promulgated thereunder, including withholding provisions and timely deposits of employee taxes and unemployment insurance taxes.
 - ii. Certify that it shall adhere to the applicable Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements; 2 C.F.R. 200.

- iii. Certify that it and its sub-grantees shall: (i) be registered with the federal SAM if seeking an Award that is partially or fully paid by federal funds and registered with the State equivalent of SAM; (ii) be in good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State; and (iii) have a valid UEI number. It is Grantee’s responsibility to remain current with these registrations and requirements. If Grantee’s status with regard to any of these requirements change, or the certifications made in and information provided in the Uniform Grant Application changes, Grantee’s must notify the Grantor in accordance with ARTICLE XVIII.
- iv. Grantees shall use procurement procedures that reflect applicable local and State of Illinois laws and regulations relating to any sub agreements for the performance of grant projects.

3. REPORTING

All projects require quarterly reporting of progress and a final project evaluation and report. Quarterly progress reports shall include both a Periodic Financial Report and a Periodic Performance Report. These reports need to be sent to the IEPA’s Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section staff at:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water, #15
1021 North Grand Avenue East
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
Email: lanina.clark@illinois.gov
Phone: (217) 782-2027 (Lanina Clark)

All projects require a final project report. The grantee shall submit to the IEPA, by the date specified in the grant agreement, a report explaining the execution of the project and evaluating the project’s success. The report shall document the project tasks and summarize the findings, costs, and benefits of the project. Examples of these reports are on the IEPA Unsewered Grant Program’s webpage: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/unsewered-communities/Pages/UCCGP.aspx>

G. STATE AWARDING AGENCY CONTACT(S)

If you have any programmatic questions regarding the UCCGP, this NOFO, or the UCCGP application, contact the IEPA’s Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section staff at:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water, #15
1021 North Grand Avenue East
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
Email: lanina.clark@illinois.gov
Phone: (217) 782-2027 (Lanina Clark)

If you have fiscal and administrative questions regarding the Uniform Grant Application, the Unsewered

Communities Construction Grant Program Uniform Grant Budget Template, Internal Controls Questionnaire (ICQ), or pre-qualifying through the GATA Grantee Portal, contact the IEPA's Fiscal staff at:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Fiscal
1021 North Grand Avenue East
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
Email: max.paller@illinois.gov
Phone: (217) 558-3386

H. OTHER INFORMATION

Additional information about UCCGP can be found on IEPA's website:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/unsewered-communities/Pages/UCCGP.aspx>

IEPA is not obligated to make any grant award as a result of this NOFO.

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