  
National Park Service  
  
LWCF-PGL - State and Local Assistance Division   
  
  
  
  
2022  
P22AS00645

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# A. Program Description

This section contains the full program description of the funding opportunity.  It may be as long as needed to communicate to potential applicants the areas in which funding may be provided.  It describes the Federal awarding agency's funding priorities or the technical or focus areas in which the Federal awarding agency intends to provide assistance.  This section also may include other information the Federal awarding agency deems necessary and must include citations for authorizing statutes and regulations for the funding opportunity, at a minimum.  Enter program specific text in the sub-headers of this section.

Authority:

In the text box below, insert complete legislative authority citation(s) for the statute(s) that authorize the program to issue financial assistance awards for the purpose and activities described in this Funding Opportunity.  The statutes listed here must also appear in the program’s [SAM.gov Assistance Listing (CFDA) profile](https://beta.sam.gov/search?index=cfda) (currently at beta.SAM.gov).  If your program has a new authorizing statute that does not appear in the SAM.gov Assistance Listing (CFDA) profile, please contact the Bureau’s CFDA Coordinator (currently michelle\_maher@nps.gov).

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act, as amended (P.L. 88-578, codified at [54 U.S.C. 2003](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid%3AUSC-prelim-title54-chapter2003&edition=prelim) et. seq.); Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 ([P.L. 113-76](https://www.congress.gov/113/plaws/publ76/PLAW-113publ76.htm)) and accompanying Explanatory Statement; The Great American Outdoors Act, P.L. 116-152; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022, P.L. 117-103.

Assistance Listing:

15.916

Select the program’s Assistance Listing (CFDA).

Program Background, Objectives, and Goals:

In the text box below,provide a full programmatic description of the funding opportunity.  Describe program’s funding priorities or technical focus areas in which the program intends to provide assistance.  As appropriate, include any relevant program history (e.g., whether this is a new program or a changed area of program emphasis).  This section may communicate indicators of successful projects (e.g., if the program encourages collaborative efforts) and may include examples of projects that have been funded previously.  All funding opportunities must specifically identify the Department of the Interior Secretarial Priorities addressed by the program or opportunity, and a brief description of how the program or opportunity meets each priority.  The Department does not expect programs to meet *all* of the Department’s FA priorities; list only those clearly supported by the program or opportunity.

**Background: LWCF State and Local Assistance Program and Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program**The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State and Local Assistance program provides grants to states, and through states to local units of government and federally-recognized Indian tribes, for projects that will provide outdoor recreation opportunities to the public through the acquisition of lands and waters for parks and other outdoor recreation areas, as well as through the development of new, or the renovation of existing, outdoor recreation facilities.  It is operated by the National Park Service (NPS) in partnership with designated lead agencies in each of the 50 states as well as American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Congress allocates money from the LWCF for this program, which is then apportioned to the states based on a legislative formula. To be eligible for LWCF grants, states must maintain an approved Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) which are used to assess the supply and demand for outdoor recreation resources and set priorities for the use of LWCF funds.  
  
In 2014, in coordination with Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, State lead agencies, and interest groups, the NPS created the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Program, a competitive grant program administered under the authority of the LWCF Act as a compliment to the formula grant program.  ORLP grants do not count against State apportionment funds.  
  
**Purpose**As designed, the purpose of the ORLP Program is to provide new or significantly improved recreation opportunities in economically-disadvantaged communities~~,~~ consistent with the purposes and requirements of the LWCF Act and LWCF Manual, and that:

* meet recreation goals as identified in, and align with, at least one priority of, the State’s Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
* are located within a city having a population of 30,000 or more, and
* serve the specific needs of a community(ies) that is (are) severely lacking in walkable, publicly accessible, outdoor recreation (“park deserts”), and that has a poverty rate of at least 20% or that is at least 10% higher than that of the project city, county, and state rates).

\* For the purposes of this competition, for a community to be considered a “park desert,” there must be:

* 1. no existing parks within a .5-mile radius of the community(ies) to be served by the park (not the radius of the proposed park); or
  2. one or two small parks within a .5-mile radius of the community(ies) that is/are not large enough to support the size of the population of the service area, or otherwise unable to provide a variety of recreational opportunities; or
  3. one or two existing parks (potentially of adequate size), including the park that is being addressed in this project, that is/are so obsolete or underdeveloped that a major redevelopment or rehabilitation is necessary to be able to significantly increase the number of people or user groups who could be served in a way that would be equivalent to a new park; or
  4. existing parks that are inaccessible to the target community due to physical barriers such as transportation infrastructure, rivers, etc.

Proposed projects must align with the above listed ORLP purposes to be considered for selection.

**Program Information**ORLP projects are selected through an NPS-led national competition of projects solicited and nominated by the LWCF State Lead Agencies. Eligible project sponsors (subgrantees), as described in Section C1, interested in seeking a grant under this program must contact their Land and Water Conservation Fund State Lead Agency to get details about the state’s process for identifying and selecting projects for the state’s submission under this competition. A list of agency contacts can be found at: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/contact-list.htm>. Grants are awarded by NPS to the State Lead Agency, which is responsible for ensuring that allocated funds are used for the purposes of, and in a manner consistent with, the LWCF Act and Manual. The State Lead Agency, in turn, makes a sub-award to the project sponsor, which must be the public entity that submitted the proposal. The decision to award a grant and the amount of funding is not guaranteed until the NPS completes its review of the full application and determines that the project meets all requirements.

States make an initial determination to decide which applications to submit to the NPS for consideration in the national competition.  As a result, state application deadlines to review and select projects will be earlier than the deadline for states to submit applications under this competition. The States will conduct the initial review of proposals for completeness and eligibility requirements; evaluating and prioritizing proposals according to the criteria used for this competition as well as criteria from the State’s Open Project Selection Process (OPSP), if applicable; ensuring that proposals are consistent with outdoor recreation priorities outlined in the state’s SCORP. The state must also work with the project sponsor to prepare the required LWCF application documents for full review by the NPS. Preparation of the full application includes required reviews of the project under the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act.

If a project is selected by NPS, the project cost estimate included in the proposal generally defines the maximum federal share that can be requested, unless the additional amount is nominal, up to the overall ceiling of $10,000,000. Significant changes to the project proposal after the initial submission, whether in terms of the scope of work or the budget, are generally unallowable as they may materially alter the circumstances under which the project was evaluated and selected. Such changes can lead to the federal share of the grant offer being reduced or the grant offer being withdrawn entirely.

**Acquisition and Development Requirements**To be eligible for either an acquisition or a development grant, the project must involve publicly- owned land or the transfer of ownership, by fee simple acquisition or acquisition of lesser rights, to a public entity. The project sponsor must possess sufficient legal title and control of the property to ensure that it can be managed and maintained for outdoor recreation in perpetuity and otherwise remain compliant with the conversion provisions of the LWCF Act (see [54 U.S.C.](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305) [200305(f)(3)](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305)).  
  
Outdoor recreation areas and facilities assisted by the LWCF must be open to the general public and not limited to special groups. Chapter 3 of the [LWCF Manual](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/upload/LWCF-FA-Manual-Vol-71-3-11-2021-final.pdf) describes project eligibility requirements in detail.  
  
Acquisition of land may be in fee simple or a lesser interest (e.g., a perpetual easement) if sufficient rights, including the right for the public to access and recreate on the site and excluding rights for any non-recreation uses, would be  provided.

On the development side, LWCF assistance is available for a wide range of outdoor recreation uses and the facilities needed to support the use and enjoyment of these areas. These include community parks, sports fields and courts, picnic areas, water-based recreation facilities such as swimming pools trails, campgrounds, etc. Indoor recreation and other buildings are not eligible but recreation-supporting facilities, such as restrooms or changing areas, can be eligible.  
 **In Perpetuity Requirement**The LWCF Act requires that any park or other outdoor recreation area benefitting from assistance from the LWCF, whether for acquisition or development purposes, and regardless of the  amount or extent of assistance, not be converted to any use other than public outdoor recreation uses (*see* [54 U.S.C. 200305(f)(3)](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305)).  
  
Therefore, as a condition of the grant, the NPS requires that language be recorded against the deed of the assisted park/recreation property advising that the property was acquired and/or developed with Federal funds from the LWCF and that the property must be preserved for outdoor recreation uses in perpetuity and cannot be converted to any use other than public outdoor recreation use without the written approval of the Secretary of the Interior. This approval is contingent upon the project sponsor replacing the area to be converted with a *new* recreation area involving land of at least equal fair market value and reasonably equivalent recreational utility, and the conversion and its replacement being found consistent with the state’s SCORP.  Before seeking an LWCF grant, project sponsors should carefully consider their ability and willingness to comply with this provision of the law.  
  
The perpetuity requirement is applied to the assisted park or other recreation area *as a  
whole*. Exceptions for boundaries that would apply to a lesser unit of a park will be considered only if the unit is a stand-alone (i.e., its borders do not include other areas of the park) and self- sustaining (i.e., it does not rely on adjoining park area for access, utilities, support facilities, etc.) recreation area. The state and the NPS must agree to any boundary that does not comprise the whole park, and the NPS may eliminate from consideration proposals that are not consistent with this policy.  Applicants who wish to propose a project with a boundary that would not include the whole park are urged to contact the national program office prior to completing an application for a determination on whether the boundary would be accepted.  
  
**ORLP Program Competition Priorities**The competition will prioritize the selection of projects that:

* provide new recreational opportunities, particularly those that will increase access to nature’s benefits, such as green spaces, shady areas (via tree cover), and natural landscapes that help cool the air and reduce urban heat island effects, reduce pollution, and have positive effects on mental and physical health;
* empowered and engaged members of the target community in the project development and design of the plans for the park;
* create or expand public-private partnerships that leverage matching share resources (e.g., money or donations of land, supplies, or services, etc.);
* benefit from a high degree of coordination among the public, multiple levels of government, and the private sector; and
* advance goals of, or meet, priority recreation needs identified in numerous local, regional, state plans and/or initiatives.

**Secretary of the Interior Priorities:**This program supports priorities of the Secretary of the Interior, including “Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030” and “Centering equity and environmental justice” as outlined in Executive Order (EO) 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, and EO 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America’s Workers.

# B. Federal Award Information

This section provides sufficient information to help an applicant make an informed decision about whether to submit a proposal. Relevant information could include the total amount of funding that the Federal awarding agency expects to award through the announcement; the anticipated number of Federal awards; the expected amounts of individual Federal awards (which may be a range); the amount of funding per Federal award, on average, experienced in previous years; and the anticipated start dates and periods of performance for new Federal awards. This section also should address whether applications for renewal or supplementation of existing projects are eligible to compete with applications for new Federal awards.

This section also must indicate the type(s) of assistance instrument (e.g., grant, cooperative agreement) that may be awarded if applications are successful.  If cooperative agreements may be awarded, this section either should describe the “substantial involvement” that the Federal awarding agency expects to have or should reference where the potential applicant can find that information (e.g., in the funding opportunity description in A. Program Description—Required or Federal award administration information in Section D. Application and Submission Information).  If procurement contracts also may be awarded, this must be stated.

Enter program specific text in the sub-headers of this section.

## B1. Total Funding

In the numericfield below, enter the total amount of funding that the program expects to award through this funding opportunity.

Estimated Total Funding

$192,000,000

## B2. Expected Award Amount

If the program has established maximum and/or minimum values for individual award amounts, enter those in the fields below.  If either of these values does not apply, enter $0 in the corresponding field(s).  In the text field, enter a description of the expected amounts of individual awards (which may be a range); the amount of funding per award, on average, experienced in previous years; and indicate whether applications for renewal or supplementation of existing projects are eligible to compete with applications for new Federal awards.

Maximum Award

$10,000,000

Minimum Award

$300,000

This sixth round of the ORLP will make available up to $103 million appropriated by Congress in fiscal year 2022, plus unused funds from prior years (up to $89 million). Funds will be awarded in two rounds, Rounds 6A and 6B.

## B3. Anticipated Award Funding and Dates

In the text field below enter information on the expected amounts of individual Federal awards (which may be a range); the amount of funding per Federal award, on average, experienced in previous years; and the anticipated start dates and periods of performance for new Federal awards.

Anticipated Award Date

September 01, 2023, and January 1, 2024

Projects selected under Round 6A have an expected award date of **September 1, 2023**. Projects selected under Round 6B have an expect award date of **January 1, 2024**.

## B4. Number of Awards

In the text field below enter information on the anticipated number of Federal awards.  If the program has established minimum and maximum values for the anticipated total number of awards, enter those values in the maximum and minimum fields below.  If either of these values does not apply, enter “0” in the corresponding field(s) and then enter an alternate description of the anticipated number of awards in the following text field.

Expected Number of Awards

30

## B5. Type of Award

Select the Type of Award below by choosing the appropriate assistance instrument(s) from the drop-down list.

If you are awarding cooperative agreements, you must also enter text in the following text field to describe the substantial involvement the National Park Service (NPS) expects to have in the performance of  the agreement, or reference where the potential applicant can find that information elsewhere in this document (e.g., in section I. Program Description above).  Here is suggested text to use to begin the substantial involvement statement: “The National Park Service (NPS) will be substantially involved in projects under this funding opportunity.  In particular, the NPS will be responsible for the following: [insert list of the specific project-related activities to be performed by NPS staff.]”  
  
If the program may also award procurement contracts related to this announcement, you must state that and provide any available details on contract procedures and/or announcement(s) in the following text field.

Funding Instrument Type

G-Grant

LWCF Awards are given as grants. A Grant is a legal instrument of financial assistance between The National Park Service and a non-Federal entity that, consistent with 31 U.S.C. 6302, 6304:  
  
(1) Is used to enter into a relationship the principal purpose of which is to transfer anything of value from the Federal awarding agency to the non-Federal entity to carry out a public purpose authorized by a law of the United States (see 31 U.S.C. 6101(3)); and not to acquire property or services for the Federal awarding agency’s direct benefit or use;  
  
(2) Is distinguished from a cooperative agreement in that it does not provide for substantial involvement between the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity and the non-Federal entity in carrying out the activity contemplated by the Federal award.  
  
No substantial involvement on the part of the NPS is anticipated for LWCF ORLP grants.

# C. Eligibility Information

This section addresses the considerations or factors that determine applicant or application eligibility.  This includes the eligibility of particular types of applicant organizations, any factors affecting the eligibility of the principal investigator or project director, and any criteria that make particular projects ineligible.  Federal agencies should make clear whether an applicant's failure to meet an eligibility criterion by the time of an application deadline will result in the Federal awarding agency returning the application without review or, even though an application may be reviewed, will preclude the Federal awarding agency from making a Federal award.  Enter program specific text in the sub-headers of this section.

## C1. Eligible Applicants

Identify the types of entities that are eligible to apply by selecting the checkbox for the type of entity. Multiple checkboxes may be selected.   If there are no restrictions on eligibility, you may simply indicate that all potential applicants are eligible.  In the text box below the checkbox selection indicate if there are restrictions on eligibility. It is important to be clear about the specific types of entities that are eligible, not just the types that are ineligible.  For example, if the program is limited to nonprofit organizations subject to 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) of the tax code (26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)), the announcement should say so.  Similarly, it is better to state explicitly that Native American tribal organizations are eligible than to assume that they can unambiguously infer that from a statement that nonprofit organizations may apply.  Programs may also express eligibility by exception (e.g., open to all types of domestic applicants other than individuals).  In the textbox specifically reference any documentation applicants must submit to support an eligibility determination (e.g., if the program limits eligibility to only non-profits with a specific IRS status, state in the field below that proof of 501(c)(3) status as determined by the Internal Revenue Service or an authorizing tribal resolution is required).  To the extent that any program funding restriction could affect the eligibility of an applicant or project, the announcement must either restate that restriction in the textbox in this section or provide a cross-reference to its description as it appears elsewhere in this template.

If checkbox 25-Others is selected you must complete the text box, Additional Information on Eligibility for clarification.

Eligible Applicants

00 – State governments

Additional Information on Eligibility

Explanation required if “Others” is selected.Explanation required if “Others” is selected.

In accordance with [54 U.S.C. 200305(a)](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305), each state has a lead agency designated by the State’s Governor or by state legislation for the purposes of implementing LWCF in that state, and only the lead agency can be an applicant for an LWCF grant. Therefore, only the state lead agencies are eligible to submit applications for ORLP grants. The lead agency may submit on behalf of themselves or another eligible subrecipient.  
  
**Applications submitted directly by entities other than the State Lead Agency for LWCF, will be eliminated without consideration. Individuals, nonprofit organizations, and other private entities are not eligible as applicants or sub-recipients.  
  
Eligible sub-recipients (aka project sponsors)** include state agencies, local units of government (state political subdivisions such as cities, counties, and special purpose districts such as park districts), and federally-recognized Indian Tribes.  
  
For a project to be eligible the sub-recipient must represent a project within, or abutting, a city with a population of at least 30,000 people.

## C2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Select the appropriate value from the list to indicate if recipient cost sharing or matching is required.  If the program has a cost sharing, cost matching, or cost participation requirement, you must also enter a complete description of the cost sharing or matching requirement in the following text field.  Required cost sharing may be a certain percentage or amount or may be in the form of contributions of specified items or activities (e.g., provision of equipment).  It is important to be clear about any restrictions on the types of cost (e.g., in-kind contributions) that are acceptable as cost sharing or match.  Cost sharing as an eligibility criterion includes requirements based in statute or regulation as described, in 2 CFR §200.306 or those imposed by administrative decision of the funding bureau or office.  Include specific reference to the appropriate section(s) of this announcement stating any pre-award requirements for submission of letters or other documentation to verify commitments to meet cost-sharing requirements if a Federal award is made.  Programs without a required cost sharing or matching requirement may enter clarifications regarding voluntary committed cost sharing or other related information in the following text field, as applicable.

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement

Yes

In accordance with the LWCF Act ([54 U.S.C. 200305(c)](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305)), ORLP grant projects must be cost- shared with non-federal funds at a minimum ratio of 1:1. Matching funds may be derived from state, local, non-governmental, or private sources in the form of cash or in-kind contributions of land, services, materials, etc.  
  
Matching share meeting the 1:1 minimum required must be secure or *firmly committed* at the time of application and be supported by a signed letter from the donor confirming the type (cash, in-kind, etc.) and amount/value of the contribution. If the project match exceeds the 1:1 requirement, the budget must indicate how the additional funds/in-kind contributions will be used. Further information about eligible costs, sources of match, and other cost-sharing requirements can be found in Chapter 5 of the [LWCF](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/upload/LWCF-FA-Manual-Vol-71-3-11-2021-final.pdf) [Manual](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/upload/LWCF-FA-Manual-Vol-71-3-11-2021-final.pdf) and in [2 C.F.R. 200.306](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=6f6f94fa753026efdd8fe3d112929f25&mc=true&node=se2.1.200_1306&rgn=div8).  
  
The following costs may not be counted toward the non-Federal matching share (not inclusive):

* Any project costs incurred before the grant start date, unless they are an eligible pre- award cost as defined in the LWCF Manual or unless the sponsor gets prior written approval from the State Lead Agency and the NPS (i.e., waiver of retroactivity).
* Any funds or in-kind contributions such as land or services that have been used previously or will be used in the future to satisfy the matching requirements of another LWCF grant or other Federal grant.
* Any funds or in-kind contributions such as lands or services that were or will be acquired with other Federal funds.  However, there is an exception for funds authorized by their enabling legislation to be treated as non-Federal match. The most common options are HUD’s Community Development Block Grants, DOT-FHWA’s Recreation Trails Program, and Section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act, but there may be others (project sponsors should be prepared to show supporting documentation if seeking to use Federal funds from other sources as match).

## C3. Other

In the text box below, insert a description of any other criteria that have the effect of making an application or project ineligible for Federal awards, as applicable.  If there are other eligibility criteria (i.e., criteria that have the effect of making an application or project ineligible for Federal awards, whether referred to as “responsiveness” criteria, “go-no go” criteria, “threshold” criteria, or in other ways), clearly state those in the following text field.  Include reference(s) to the regulation of requirement that describes the restriction, as applicable.  State any limit on the number of applications an applicant may submit under the announcement and make clear whether the limitation is on the submitting organization, individual investigator/program director, or both.  Specify any eligibility criteria for beneficiaries or for program participants other than Federal award recipients.

Recipients with an active ORLP grant may apply for one additional grant to supplement the existing active project or another project at the same park. A recipient who has been awarded an ORLP grant for a project at one park may also submit additional applications for ORLP projects at different parks. However, either scenario is contingent on each state’s Open Project Selection Process (*see Section D2- Content and Form of Application Submission for explanation of full application process*). For example, some states do not permit a project sponsor to apply for additional funding when they have a currently active grant. Contact your state’s lead agency for  
information (<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/contact-list.htm>).  
  
In the interest of ensuring a wide distribution of LWCF-ORLP funds and addressing the needs of communities that are under-served due in part to financial constraints, parks that are currently receiving or received an LWCF formula grant that closed within the last seven years may not apply for an ORLP grant  at the same park, even if the scope of the project is different. Additionally, ORLP project that were awarded and terminated during the grant period may not reapply for funds.

Excluded Parties:

NPS conducts a review of the SAM.gov Exclusions database for all applicant entities and their key project personnel prior to award.  The NPS cannot award funds to entities or their key project personnel identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or otherwise excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal assistance and benefits, as their ineligibility condition applies to this Federal program.

Foreign Entities or Projects

Select the applicable option from the list of values to indicate if the program provides funding for entities or projects in foreign countries.

This program does not provide funding to foreign entities or for projects conducted outside the United States.

# D. Application and Submission Information

This section informs potential applicants how to get application forms, kits, or other materials needed to apply.  Enter program specific text in the sub-headers of this section.

## D1. Address to Request Application Package

In the following text field,specify if applicants must go elsewhere to complete all documentation requirements, such as an Internet address where additional materials are available. Applicants should also be able to request paper copies of application materials by contacting the Awarding Agency using the information provided in Section G of this announcement.

The full NOFO and application materials are available on Grants.gov. LWCF-specific forms are noted in the list of required elements and can be obtained from the State lead agency. Project sponsors should check with their state’s lead agency to determine if the state has any other requirements for submitting proposals at the state level. You may also contact the NPS LWCF-ORLP program leads for assistance (see Section G).

## D2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Project Narrative

In this section provide the description of the program-specific requirements for project narrative statements, and should specifically address content and form or format requirements for:

- Pre-applications, letters of intent, or white papers required or encouraged (see Section D.4), including any limitations on the number of pages or other formatting requirements similar to those for full applications.

- The application as a whole. For all submissions, this would include any limitations on the number of pages, font size and typeface, margins, paper size, number of copies, and sequence or assembly requirements. If electronic submission is permitted or required, this could include special requirements for formatting or signatures.

- Component pieces of the application (e.g., if all copies of the application must bear original signatures on the face page or the program narrative may not exceed 10 pages). This includes any pieces that may be submitted separately by third parties (e.g., references or letters confirming commitments from third parties that will be contributing a portion of any required cost sharing).

- Information that successful applicants must submit after notification of intent to make a Federal award, but prior to a Federal award. This could include evidence of compliance with requirements relating to human subjects or information needed to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321-4370h)

**Required Proposal Elements** - (Page limits for specific elements are noted with the form. Information beyond the page limit will not be reviewed.)  
  
A complete proposal must include the following elements listed below. The Standard Forms 424, 424C, SF424D, and Project Abstract Summary must be completed using the on-line forms within the funding opportunity on Grants.gov. All other documents, including the SF-429 if applicable, should be attached as individual documents. To assist applicants in ensuring that required information is included, suggested formats for the Project and Budget Narratives, an application checklist, and a photos form are included under the “Related Documents” tab of the Grants.gov opportunity.

1. Standard Form SF424, Application for Federal Assistance
2. Standard Form 424C, Budget Information for Construction Programs
3. Standard Form SF424D, Assurances for Construction Programs
4. Standard Form 429B, Real Property Status Report, Request to Acquire, Improve, or Furnish (for acquisition or acquisition & development projects only)
5. Standard Form - Project Abstract Summary
6. Pre-award Onsite Inspection Report – (State’s form)
7. Project Narrative (**max 10 pages**) – must include information detailed under “Project Narrative” in this section.
8. Budget Narrative (**max 5 pages**, including tables) – must include information detailed under “Budget Narrative” in this section.
9. Project Timeline (**max 1 page**) to complete the tasks/activities under the proposal.
10. Photos provide context such as current site conditions, the surrounding environment, etc.
11. Recreation Area Map showing the location of the project and identifying all existing recreation resources (if any) within a .5-mile vicinity of the economically disadvantaged community(ies) that will be served by the project.
12. Map (or Aerial Photo) Delineating Project Area and Proposed Boundary - must clearly indicate area to be acquired and/or developed, as well as the proposed boundary of the larger park/recreation area that would be subject to the perpetual protection provisions of the LWCF Act ([54 U.S.C. 200305(f)(3)](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305)), all known outstanding rights and interests in the area held by others, total acres withing the boundary(ies), and a north arrow.
13. Plan or Sketch of the Site Features identifying location of planned recreational improvements and other features such as where the public will access the site, parking, etc.
14. Letters of Support Documenting Secured Contributions of Matching Share clearly stating the amount and type of contribution, or Co-Sponsor/Ownership Agreements if project sponsor is not title holder.
15. General Letters of Support (must be submitted with the Grants.gov application to be considered. **Letters of support from Congress must be addressed to the Project Sponsor** and included with the application to Grants.gov).
16. Letter of Intent to Sell, Purchase, or Donate Property (acquisition projects only).
17. Application and Revision Form (A&R - LWCF form available from the state)
18. Description and Notification Form (DNF - LWCF form available from the state)
19. Copy of an Approved Waiver of Retroactivity (submitted by state, if applicable)
20. Conflict of Interest Disclosure (described within NOFO)
21. Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement (described within NOFO)
22. Copy of the Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Required Proposal Elements Instructions

SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance

Applicants must submit the appropriate Standard Form (SF)-424, Application for Federal Assistance.  Individuals applying as a private citizen (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own or operate in your name), must complete the SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance-Individual form.  All other applicants must complete the standard SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance.  The required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov.  The SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance must be complete, signed, and dated. Do not include any proprietary or personally identifiable information.  Please note: Enter only the amount requested from this Federal program in the “Federal” funding box on the SF-424 Application form.  Include any other Federal sources of funding in the “Other” box and provide details on those Federal source(s) and funding amount(s) in the required Budget Narrative (see the “Budget Narrative” section below).

1. Authors may need to provide additional applicant instructions if multiple SF 424 forms are included in the application kit for different applicant types.  Instructions should be entered in the program specific language in this section to require the appropriate SF 424 type required to be submitted by applicant type.
2. The following header will display if this checkbox is selected: **SF 424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs**
3. The following header will display if this checkbox is selected: **SF-424C, Budget Information for Construction Programs**

Applicants must submit the appropriate SF-424 Budget Information form and Budget Narrative.  For construction programs or projects, applicants must complete and submit the SF-424C, “Budget Information for Construction Programs”.  All of the required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in 2 CFR 200.

The SF424C is used for acquisition, development or combination projects; however, if the state is requesting indirect expenses, this must be reflected in the detailed budget narrative. Alternately, the state can separately attach an SF-424A, reflecting the direct and indirect expenses.

1. The following header will display if this checkbox is selected: **SF 424B, Assurances for Non-Construction Programs**
2. The following header will display if this checkbox is selected: **SF 424D, Assurances for Construction Programs**
3. The following header will display if this checkbox is selected: **Request to Acquire, Improve, or Furnish Real Property**

Applicants seeking approval to acquire real property under an award must complete and submit the SF-429, “Real Property Status Report (Cover Page)” and the SF-429-B, “Real Property Status Report Attachment B (Request to Acquire, Improve, or Furnish)”.  These forms are required if the real property is acquired with Federal funds, with recipient cost share or matching funds, or as an in-kind contribution under the award.

Project Abstract Summary

Please complete and submit with your application package the Project Abstract Summary form with the following information:

* Funding Opportunity Number;
* Goals and Objectives of your proposed project;
* Summary of Project Activities;
* Performance Goals including milestones and expected outcomes;
* Who will benefit from your project.

This information will be transmitted to USASpending.gov and be viewable by the public.

**Project Narrative Contents –** (10-page limit 12-point font)  
The Project Narrative consists of the following three sections, each detailed below:

* Project Data Page,
* Project Overview, and
* Responses to the Project Criteria.

**Project Data Page** (1-page limit):  
Provide the following information:

* 1. Project Sponsor Name
  2. Name of Park/Property
  3. Project Title
  4. Name of Property Title Holder
  5. Project Property Address/Location
  6. 2020 Census City Population (must be over 30,000)
  7. Poverty rate of target community(ies) listed by Census Tract Numbers and must be at least 20% or at least 10% greater than the city, county and state (information can be found at <https://censusreporter.org/locate> by typing in the address and selecting the “Census Tract” option that appears in a left-hand column.  Tract number and poverty level are now displayed as you scroll down.)
  8. Statement of Project Type: Acquisition, New Development, Renovation, or Combination (acquisition with development)
  9. Statement that project Creates a New Park, Expands an Existing Park or Neither
  10. Statement clarifying if this park/resource previously benefitted from LWCF or Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) funding and/or if the park/resource was obtained through the Federal Lands to Parks Program. If yes, state which program and the date the grant was awarded, or lands were transferred. (Applications misrepresenting this information may be eliminated from further competition.)
  11. Brief statement (aka Project Summary) explaining project specific work, and a second statement explaining overall project (if larger than proposed work). (250-word max.)

**Project Narrative - Project Overview** (2-page limit):  
Provide the following information:  
  
*All Projects:*

* Describe and quantify the types of resources and features of or on the property (e.g., 50 acres of forested area, 2,000 feet of waterfront, scenic views, unique or special features, recreation amenities, historic/cultural resources)
* Describe the current uses (if any) or disposition of the property to be acquired or developed, if uses will need to be discontinued, or the site rehabilitated. If there are any existing non-outdoor recreation or other non-public uses that are intended to continue on the property on an interim or permanent basis and/or proposed in the future, these should be explained.
* Describe constraints of the property (e.g., existing development; hazardous materials/contamination history; and restrictions such as institutional controls, easements, rights-of-way, reversionary interests, above ground/underground utilities; etc.).

*Development Only*:

* Describe the planned physical improvements and/or facilities, and the reason(s) such development is needed. Explain whether the work involves new development or rehabilitation or replacement of existing recreation facilities.

*Acquisition Only*:

* Provide a description of the property (including the current ownership) and an explanation of the need for its acquisition.
* State whether the acquisition would create a new public park/recreation area or if it will expand an existing site, and if so, by how much.
* Describe the plans for developing the property for recreation purposes after acquisition and the timeframe for the start and completion of development and when it will be open for public use.
* Describe the status of the acquisition, including negotiations with the landowner and development of due diligence materials such as title work and appraisal.

*Combination Projects*

* Provide information requested under all “All Projects”, “Development Only” and “Acquisition Only”.

**Project Narrative - Project Criteria Information** (remaining pages):  
Provide information required by in Criteria 1-5 as detailed in Section E-Application Review Criteria.

Authors may need to provide additional instructions if the acquisition of real property is anticipated under the resulting federal financial assistance agreement. Provide additional instructions within the text box below if applicable.

Detailed Budget Narrative

In addition to the following standard statement, provide any additional program specific budget narrative instructions in the text field after the standard statement. To assist applicants with a detailed a budget, a sample detailed budget worksheet may be attached and referenced within the below text field.

The project budget shall include detailed information on all cost categories and must clearly identify all estimated project costs. Unit costs shall be provided for all budget items including the cost of work to be provided by contractors or sub-recipients. In addition, applicants shall include a narrative description of the items included in the project budget, including the value of in-kind contributions of goods and services provided to complete the project when cost share is identified to be included (reference section C of this announcement). Cost categories can include, but are not limited to, those costs items included on the SF424A or SF424C.

**Detailed Budget Narrative**Budget information should reflect only costs related to work/acquisition that will completed under an ORLP grant if selected. A total budget for the entire project (including work beyond what would be funded under a grant) may be provided separately.

Provide a budget breakdown that includes the following information:

* + Detailed breakdown of *each cost item*included under each of the SF424C, Construction Budget Categories and for indirect costs if being charged.
  + Clearly indicate which costs are covered by federal funds and which are covered by matching funds.
  + Clearly indicate any proposed pre-agreement costs and the timeframe during which the associated work cost was performed.

Provide information required by in Criteria 6 as detailed in Section E-Application Review Criteria.

ORLP projects are limited to using a maximum of 25% of the total budget for costs not directly attributable to physical development/rehabilitation activities, supplies, equipment, or cost of land. Additionally, the LWCF Act specifically excludes acquisition support costs (such as title research and appraisals)*.* (See “Program Funding Restrictions” under Section D6 for detailed explanation.)

If the LWCF ORLP grant-funded project is part of a larger project, please be sure the LWCF-related components of the budget can be clearly discerned. It can be difficult for reviewers to evaluate and score a budget when it’s not clear how the grant funds will be used or what specific costs are being provided as match, and project sponsors risk having the requested federal share reduced if it appears ineligible costs are proposed to be charged to the grant or used as part of the 1:1 match share. Note that the LWCF ORLP and match-funded element(s) of the project must still result in a viable recreation opportunity that is not reliant on other funding even in the context of a larger planned project.

**LWCF-ORLP Specific Funding Restrictions:**

*See section D6 for specific funding restrictions for the ORLP program under “Program Funding Restrictions”*

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.112](https://ecfr.federalregister.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-B/chapter-XIV/part-1402/subpart-B), applicants must state in their application if any actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission.

*(a) Applicability*.

     (1) This section intends to ensure that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements.

     (2) In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by sub recipients, the conflict of interest provisions in [2 CFR §200.318](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?node=sp2.1.200.d&rgn=div6#se2.1.200_1318) apply.

*(b) Notification*.

     (1) Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with [2 CFR §200.112](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?node=pt2.1.200&rgn=div5#se2.1.200_1112).

     (2) Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by sub recipients.

*(c) Restrictions on lobbying*. Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under a grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to [43 CFR §18](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?node=pt43.1.18&rgn=div5) and [prelim@title31](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/%3ca%20href=)/subtitle2/chapter13&edition=prelim">31 USC §1352.

(d) *Review procedures*. The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict of interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement, and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it.

(e) Enforcement. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in [2 CFR §200.339](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?node=sp2.1.200.d&rgn=div6#se2.1.200_1339), Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also [2 CFR §180](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr180_main_02.tpl)).

Uniform Audit Reporting Statement

All U.S. states, local governments, federally recognized Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, and non- profit organizations expending $750,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in the applicant’s fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse’s Internet Data Entry System](https://harvester.census.gov/facides/Account/Login.aspx), in accordance with 2 CFR 200 subpart F. U.S. state, local government, federally recognized Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, and non-profit applicants must state  if your organization was or was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year. If your organization was required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year, provide the EIN associated with that report and state if it is available through the [Federal Audit Clearinghouse](https://harvester.census.gov/facdissem/Main.aspx) website.Authors may need to provide additional instructions pertaining to single audit reporting based on legislative or program requirements. If applicable, provide the additional instructions within the text box below. Text field can be left blank if additional instructions are not needed.

Certification Regarding Lobbying

Applicants requesting more than $100,000 in Federal funding must certify to the statements in [43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=683823273fc0da6a1060883eda593fb8&mc=true&node=pt43.1.18&rgn=div5). If this application requests more than $100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Official’s signature on the appropriate SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance form also represents the entity’s certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Applicants and recipients must not use any federally appropriated funds (annually appropriated or continuing appropriations) or matching funds under a Federal award to pay any person for lobbying in connection with the award.  Lobbying is influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any U.S. agency, a Member of the U.S. Congress, an officer or employee of the U.S. Congress, or an employee of a Member of the U.S. Congress connection with the award.  Applicants and recipients must complete and submit the [SF-LLL, “Disclosure of Lobbying Activities”](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/post-award-reporting-forms.html) form if the Federal share of the proposal or award is more than $100,000 and the applicant or recipient has made or has agreed to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with the application or award.  The SF-LLL form is available with this Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov. See 43 CFR, Subpart 18.100 and 31 USC 1352 for more information on when additional submission of this form is required.Authors may need to provide additional instructions pertaining to disclosure of lobbying activities based on legislative or program requirements. If applicable, provide the additional instructions within the text box below. Text field can be left blank if additional instructions are not needed

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

If the project proposed in this application is funded through another Federal financial assistance award, in part or in whole, the applicant must provide a statement detailing the potential funding overlap in regards to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel.  Provide a copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity and identify when that proposal was submitted or copy of Federal financial assistance award covering activities covered under this proposal. The statement and the description of overlap or duplication, when applicable, may be provided within the proposal or as a separate attachment to the application. Any overlap or duplication of funding between the proposed project and other active or anticipated projects may impact selection and/or funding amount. If no such overlap or duplication exists, state, “There are no overlaps or duplication between this application and any of our other Federal applications or funded projects”

## D3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

**Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration:** This requirement does not apply to individuals applying for funds as an individual (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own, operate, or work within), or any entity with an exception to bypass SAM.gov registration with prior approval from the funding bureau or office in accordance with bureau or office policy. All other applicants are required to register in SAM.gov prior to submitting a Federal award application and obtain a [Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)](https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/organization/federal-acquisition-service/office-of-systems-management/integrated-award-environment-iae/iae-systems-information-kit/unique-entity-identifier-update) which replaces the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number from Dun & Bradstreet in April 2022.  A Federal award may not be made to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the program is ready to make an award, the program may determine the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. Federal award recipients must also continue to maintain an active SAM.gov registration with current information through the life of their Federal award(s).

**Register with the System for Award Management (SAM)**

Applicants can register on the [SAM.gov](http://www.sam.gov) website. The “Help” tab on the website contains User Guides and other information to assist you with registration. The Grants.gov “[Register with SAM](https://www.grants.gov/help/html/help/Register/RegisterWithSAM.htm)” page also provides detailed instructions. Applicants can contact the supporting Federal Service Desk for help registering in SAM. Once registered in SAM, entities will be assigned a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). Entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least once every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly encouraged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure their information is up to date and reflects changes that may have been made to the entity’s IRS information.  There is no cost to register with SAM.gov. There are third-party vendors who will charge a fee in exchange for registering entities with SAM.gov; please be aware you can register and request help for free.  If applicable, foreign entities who want to receive payment directly to a U.S. bank account must enter and maintain valid, current banking information in SAM.

Enter any program specific language regarding DUNS/SAM.

## D4. Submission Dates and Times

Funding Opportunities must identify due dates and times for all submissions in accordance with [2 CFR 200, Appendix I, section D (4)](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=218f645087dd2472c433c6c29ca0362f&mc=true&node=pt2.1.200&rgn=div5#ap2.1.200_1521.i).  Review and address all of the 2 CFR 200-Appendix I requirements in the following text field.  Clearly state deadlines in terms of date and local time (Please Note: Grants.gov uses Eastern Time); what the deadline means and if submission method affects it; and the effect of missing a deadline.  If the funding opportunity is a rolling announcement that is open for a period of time with no specific due dates for applications, this section should say so. Format the information in this section so that it is easy to understand and use.  A tabular format or checklist may be more helpful than narrative paragraphs.  
  
This includes not only submission dates and times for full applications but also any preliminary submission requirements (e.g., letters of intent, white papers, or pre-applications).  Describe any other submissions of information before Federal award that are separate from the full application.

Due Date for Applications

01/31/2023 and 05/31/2023

Application Due Date Explanation

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM, ET, on the listed application due date. and must be submitted by the state LWCF lead agency via Grants.gov. Round 6 will consist of two rounds: 6A and 6B. Applications submitted under Round 6A will only compete against other applications submitted under that round. Applications eliminated in Round 6A due to technical issues may be resubmitted in Round 6B. Due dates for each round are as follows:

* Round 6A: applications due by 11:59 pm ET, Tuesday, **January 31, 2023**
* Round 6B: applications due by 11:59 pm ET, Wednesday, **May 31, 2023**.

The state LWCF lead agencies may establish earlier deadlines for project sponsors to submit their proposals for their review for nomination to the national competition. Applications sent by facsimile, email, or mail delivery will not be accepted. Applications that are not received by the deadline will not be considered. The NPS will accept applications that: 1) were accepted in Grants.gov by the stipulated time, based on the time/date stamp in Grants.gov and 2) have been validated in Grants.gov, even if they are not forwarded to the DOI’s grant management system before the deadline.  
  
You are encouraged to submit your application well before the deadline and not wait until the last minute. The uploading and transfer process can take a while, especially when Grants.gov is getting heavy use. In addition, after the application is submitted it gets validated before it is forwarded to the NPS. Normally this happens within a few minutes to a couple of hours, but it can take Grants.gov up to a day or two to validate or reject an application. You can monitor your application’s status by using “Track My Application” on Grants.gov.  Be sure to record the Grants.gov tracking number which will displayed on the confirmation page in Grants.gov immediately after you successfully submit to Grants.gov as you will need it for tracking. Sometimes there are glitches that prevent actual transmission, for example, applications that exceed 200MB in size do not get forwarded to the DOI system. Technical difficulties with application submittal should be directed to the Grants.gov help desk. NPS staff can confirm receipt of submission but cannot resolve issues with Grants.gov or extend the application deadline due to difficulties with submission via Grants.gov.

## D5. Intergovernmental Review

An intergovernmental review may be required for applications submissions from a U.S. state or local government prior to submission. Applicants must contact their State’s Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to comply with the state’s process under [Executive Order 12372](https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/codification/executive-order/12372.html)).

## D6. Funding Restrictions

You must include information on funding restrictions in order to allow an applicant to develop an application and budget consistent with program requirements.  Examples are whether construction is an allowable activity, if there are any limitations on direct costs such as foreign travel or equipment purchases, and if there are any legislatively authorized limits on indirect costs (or facilities and administrative costs).  There may also be funding restrictions listed in the program’s SAM.gov Assistance Listing (CFDA) profile.  You must also state if the award will or will not allow reimbursement of pre-Federal award costs.  Any program that anticipates issuing cooperative agreements to Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Network partners that will qualify as CESU projects and therefore will be subject to the CESU indirect cost rate cap (currently 17.5%), MUST clearly state so in the Funding Opportunity.  Programs cannot cap indirect costs to successful CESU partner university applicants if the Funding Opportunity does not explicitly state that awards to such universities will be subject to the CESU indirect cost rate cap.  
  
In addition to program specific text for Funding Restrictions, the following text on Indirect Costs will be included on all NOFOs.

The following header will display if this checkbox is selected: **Indirect Costs: Individuals**

The following header will display if this checkbox is selected: **Indirect Costs: Organizations**

The Federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency for indirect costs, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior is your organization’s cognizant agency, the Interior Business Center will negotiate your indirect cost rate. Contact the Interior Business Center by phone 916-930-3803 or using the [IBC Email Submission Form](https://www.doi.gov/ibc/contactus/icsfeedback). See the [IBC Website](https://www.doi.gov/ibc/services/finance/indirect-cost-services) for more information.  
  
Organizations must have an active Federal award before they can submit an indirect cost rate proposal to their cognizant agency.  Failure to establish an approved rate during the award period renders all costs otherwise allocable as indirect costs unallowable under the award. Recipients must have prior written approval from the Service to use amounts budgeted for direct costs to satisfy cost-share or match requirements or to cover unallowable indirect costs. Recipients shall not shift unallowable indirect costs to another Federal award unless specifically authorized to do so by legislation.

**Program Funding Restrictions:**

LWCF ORLP grants may only be used for costs needed to support the acquisition or development (or a combination) of lands and facilities that will provide outdoor recreation opportunities to the public. LWCF ORLP funds may not be used for (not inclusive):

* Grant administration expenses for state lead offices,
* Incidental costs related to land acquisition such as appraisals or title work,
* Operation and maintenance activities,
* Facilities that support semi-professional or professional athletics such as baseball stadiums or soccer arenas,
* Indoor facilities such as recreation centers or facilities that support primarily non-outdoor purposes like dining facilities or overnight accommodation (such as a lodge or hotel), or
* Acquisition of lands, or interests in lands, that completely restrict access to specific persons (e.g., non-residents of a community).

The ORLP Grant Program places a total budget (federal plus matching share) limitation of 25% on project costs not directly attributable to physical development/rehabilitation, supplies, equipment, or cost of land. The 25% cap includes, but is not limited to:

* the overall management of activities directly related to finance (accounting, auditing, budgeting, contracting),
* general grant administration cost (wages for grant administration, personnel, property management, equal opportunity),
* architectural and engineering services (design fees, cost estimates), construction oversight, and
* contingency fees.

Indirect costs are allowable above and beyond the 25% limit on the above costs; however, if included, they may not increase the project budget above the overall grant award maximum of $10 million

The LWCF Act specifically excludes acquisition support costs from eligibility (see [54](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305)  [U.S.C. 200305(e)(2)(A)](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305)) so such costs should not be proposed to be part of the ORLP grant share or to meet the match share. *Such ineligible costs will be removed from the proposal and the award reduced if selected for funding.*

Land acquisition costs must be based on the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisition (aka yellow book) estimate of fair market value. Be sure to explain the basis for the value estimate if an appraisal has not yet been performed.  
  
If the budget proposal includes indirect costs, the rate as proposed must meet the requirements of 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Section 200.414 and Appendix VII. A copy of the negotiated indirect cost rate agreement that covers the initial performance period or if that’s not available, the current agreement (expired agreements are not acceptable) must be provided with the application. The  
costs must also be described/shown in the detailed budget narrative or on an SF424A. Applications that fail to document indirect costs will not be reimbursed for them.  
  
In accordance with [54](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305) [U.S.C. 200305(f)(1)](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305) projects seeking LWCF ORLP grants may not include funds from other Federal sources in the project’s budget, including LWCF formula funds, even if all programs’ match requirements are met. *Projects including other federal funds within the proposed budget, unless they are serving as authorized match, will be eliminated from the competition without consideration.*Project sponsors are not permitted to also seek LWCF formula funding to support the proposed project (except as an alternate grant source if not selected for an ORLP grant).

Authors may need to provide additional instructions pertaining to indirect costs for organizations based on legislative or program requirements. If applicable, provide the additional instructions within the text box below. Text field can be left blank if additional instructions are not needed.

**Required Indirect Cost Statement to be submitted with Application.**All organizations must include the applicable statement from the following list in their application, and attach to their application any documentation identified in the applicable statement:

We are:

* A U.S. state or local government entity receiving more than $35 million in direct Federal funding each year with an indirect cost rate of [insert rate].  We submit our indirect cost rate proposals to our cognizant agency.  Attached is a copy of our most recently approved rate agreement/certification.
* A U.S. state or local government entity receiving less than $35 million in direct Federal funding with an indirect cost rate of [insert rate].  We have prepared and will retain for audit an indirect cost rate proposal and related documentation.
* A [insert your organization type; U.S. states and local governments, do not use this statement] that has previously negotiated or currently has an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency.  Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate].  [Insert either: “Attached is a copy of our most recently approved but expired rate agreement.  In the event an award is made, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award is made.” *or* “Attached is a copy of our current negotiated indirect cost rate agreement.”]
* A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency.  Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate].  If we receive an award, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award date.
* A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency and has an indirect cost rate that is lower than 10%.  Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate; must be lower than 10%].  However, if we receive an award we will not be able to meet the requirement to submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after award.  We request as a condition of award to charge a flat indirect cost rate of [insert rate; must be lower than 10%] against [insert a clear description of the direct cost base against which your rate is charged (e.g., salaries; salaries and fringe benefits; or modified total direct costs). However, please note that your organization cannot charge indirect costs in excess of the indirect costs that would be recovered if applied against modified total direct costs as defined in §[2 CFR 200.68](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=0bb1f5386f36f965f85dc05b2ad8a804&mc=true&node=pt2.1.200&rgn=div5#se2.1.200_168)].  We understand that we must notify the Service in writing if we establish an approved rate with our cognizant agency at any point during the award period.
* A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency and has an indirect cost rate that is 10% or higher.  Our indirect cost rate is [insert your organization’s indirect rate; must be 10% or higher].  However, if we receive an award we will not be able to meet the requirement to submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after award.  We request as a condition of award to charge a flat *de minimis* indirect cost rate of 10% to be charged against modified total direct project costs as defined in [2 CFR §200.68](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=0bb1f5386f36f965f85dc05b2ad8a804&mc=true&node=pt2.1.200&rgn=div5#se2.1.200_168).  We understand that we must notify the Service in writing if we establish a negotiated rate with our cognizant agency at any point during the award period.  We understand that additional Federal funds may not be available to support an unexpected increase in indirect costs during the project period and that such changes are subject to review, negotiation, and prior approval by the Service.
* A [insert your organization type] that is submitting this proposal for consideration under the “Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network”,  which has a Department of the Interior-approved indirect cost rate cap of 17.5%.  If we have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that we must apply this reduced rate against the same direct cost base as identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement per [2 CFR §1402.414](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=1bfd0da1190f850482e94794cca23a5d&mc=true&node=20190830y1.1). If we do not have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that we must charge indirect costs against the modified total direct cost base defined in 2 CFR §200.68 “Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC)”.  We understand that we must request prior approval from the Service to use the 2 CFR 200 MTDC base instead of the base identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement.  We understand that Service approval of such a request will be based on: 1) a determination that our approved base is only a subset of the MTDC (such as salaries and wages); and 2) that use of the MTDC base will still result in a reduction of the total indirect costs to be charged to the award.  In accordance with 2 CFR §200.405, we understand that indirect costs not recovered due to a voluntary reduction to our federally negotiated rate are not allowable for recovery via any other means.

A [insert your organization type] that will charge all costs directly.

## D7. Other Submission Requirements

You must provide detailed submission instructions, including the format of submission (i.e., paper or electronic), for each type of required submission.  Do not require applicants to submit in more than one format.  Indicate if applicants have more than one choice for how to submit an application and provide detailed instructions for each option, including where to send the application.  For postal mail submissions, provide a complete mailing address.  For electronic submissions, include the website URL or email address and detail if a password is required, if particular software or other capabilities are required, what to do in the event of system problems, and a point of contact in the event of technical difficulties.  Describe how the receiving program determines timely submission, and whether, when, and in what form applications will be sent acknowledgement of receipt.  State if you are requiring the use of Grants.gov or GrantSolutions for submission of applications.

Please note that since January 1, 2018, Grants.gov has mandated the use of “Workspace” for application development and submission. Workspace will be the mechanism for electronically filling out and submit the standard forms (e.g., SF-424). However, for the other required application elements files can be submitted in PDF or typical word processing programs such as Word, Excel, etc.  
  
Grants.gov will only accept applications from currently authorized organization representatives (AORs) affiliated with a particular agency. If you are not already an AOR you will need to create an account with Grants.gov and identify your agency’s e-business point of contact to be designated as an AOR for your agency. Agency processes vary: some have only a limited number of AORs who can submit applications while others will designate AORs for each program that needs one. Prior to attempting to submit an application, it is a good practice to check to ensure that your agency’s Grants.gov and SAM accounts are current/active, along with the individual Grants.gov account of the AOR who will submit the application. Lastly, please make sure that the DUNS number associated with the Grants.gov account that will be used to submit the application matches the one that has been registered with the NPS for use with the payment system (ASAP), otherwise funds will not transfer to ASAP when the award is approved. In the event you experience technical difficulties with submitting your application, it is best for you to contact the Grants.gov help desk. However, you should also contact your state’s Program Officer to let them know your application may be delayed.  
  
**Application size limitations and file naming:** The electronic application system (Grants.gov) has an overall application size limit of 200MB, above which the application will not be forwarded to the DOI’s grant management system. Check the file sizes of individual attachments and do not submit extraneous material. Additionally, Grants.gov has requirements for naming application documents. Attachments that do not follow these rules may cause the entire application to be rejected or cause issues during processing. Please refer to the Grants.gov site for current requirements at [Applicant https://www.grants.gov/applicants/applicant-faqs.html](https://www.grants.gov/applicants/applicant-faqs.html).

# E. Application Review InformationThis section must address the criteria that the Federal awarding agency will use to evaluate applications. This includes the merit and other review criteria that evaluators will use to judge applications, including any statutory, regulatory, or other preferences (e.g., minority status or Native American tribal preferences) that will be applied in the review process.

## E1. Criteria

All competitive discretionary programs must design formal application evaluation and selection procedures before posting Notices of Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov.  Programs must document these procedures in writing and either describe them in full, or incorporate them by reference, in all Notices of Funding Opportunity.  Describe all criteria and sub-criteria used to evaluate applications, including merit and other criteria used to judge applications.  Include any statutory, regulatory, or other preferences applicable to the process and provide a detailed explanation of those and their effect (e.g., result in additional points).  These criteria are different from eligibility criteria addressed before accepting an application for review and any program policy applied during selection after the review process is complete.  The intent is to be transparent about the process so all applicants have a fair opportunity to address those in their applications.  If cost sharing will be considered in the review (as opposed to being treated as an eligibility criterion), specifically address how it will be considered (e.g., results in additional points, or to break ties between applicants with equivalent scores after evaluation of all other factors).  Clearly state any restrictions on the types of costs that are acceptable as cost sharing.  In the text fields below, clearly describe your criteria used to evaluate applications.

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| --- | --- |
| **Criterion 1 - Extent of Outdoor Recreation and Economic Needs** | **Maximum Points:** 20 |
| This criterion assesses the extent of deficiency (based on quantity or quality) of close-to-home outdoor recreation areas/resources within walking distance of the economically disadvantaged community(ies), and the degree to which the project will serve this community(ies).  **Priority** will go to projects located in neighborhoods: 1) with the least amount of existing, usable, public-accessible outdoor recreation within a .5-mile radius of the economically disadvantage community targeted by the project, or 1-mile if serving multiple communities, and 2) that have the largest number of residents above the minimum poverty level.   * Describe the amount of, and types of, existing recreation resources within a .5 and 1-mile radius of the proposed economically disadvantaged community(ies). * Describe the specific deficiencies as they relate to the lack of, or inadequacy of, local outdoor recreation areas/uses. * Describe how the deficiencies were identified. * State the estimated number of people who live within .5 and 1 mile and the percentage of those who are above the 20% poverty level. * State the census tract number and poverty level of the economically-disadvantaged community targeted by the project (using <http://censusreporter.org/locate>) and poverty level of the city, county and state.  Other relevant economic and demographic information about the target community can be provided as well but *projects not providing a poverty rate, or meeting the minimum poverty level, will be eliminated*. | |
|  | |
| **Criterion 2 - Appropriateness of Project to Meet Identified Community Outdoor Recreation Needs and Increase Access to Nature’s Benefits** | **Maximum Points:** 20 |
| This criterion assesses how well the proposed project meets the need(s) for newly created or significantly enhanced outdoor recreation resources within the target community/population, particularly projects that increase access to nature and other green spaces.  **Priority** will be given to projects: 1) creating the largest impact on the target community by significantly increasing the number of people or user groups who could be served, and 2) providing recreation areas with an emphasis on green spaces, natural landscapes, and tree cover.   * Describe how the proposed project will create or significantly improve access to close- to-home park and recreation opportunities for the project’s target community(ies). * Describe the new or expanded types of outdoor recreation opportunities and/or capacities that will be created as a result of the project. * Estimate the anticipated increase in the number of people and/or types of user groups that will newly be able to recreate as a result of the project and how this impact was determined. * Describe the natural benefits that will be produced by the recreation area such as cooling effects, improved mental and/or physical health, cleaner air, etc. | |

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| **Criterion 3 - Community Involvement in, and Support of, Proposed Project** | **Maximum Points:** 20 |
| This criterion assesses the level of supportive partnership-building involved in the development and implementation of the project among the project sponsor, residents of the target community to be served by the park, government agencies, the private sector, and community and/or conservation organizations.  **Priority** will be given to projects that 1) demonstrate the highest degree of effort or initiative to engage residents of the target neighborhood(s) in the project’s development, and 2) demonstrate the most significant amount of collaboration among the public and private sectors, including multiple levels of government, private/non-profit organizations, and community groups, and 3) demonstrate support for the project through contributions of cash, land, equipment or other resources to the project, allowing for the matching share to be derived from *multiple* resources, particularly non-public resources.   * Describe the process that led to the development of this proposal. Focus on the efforts made to engage the public, especially the target community, and their participation in the project’s design as well as that of other interested/affected entities. Include details such as number of meetings held and number of attendees, number of community members contacted, number of responses received. * Describe the partnerships or other collaborative efforts that have helped, or will help to, facilitate the project. * Describe or provide evidence of local support for the project, particularly from the local community. (*Reference letters of support included with the application.*) * Describe the how project is/will be supported through contributions of matching share in the form of money, land, supplies, services, etc. (*Reference letters confirming match.*) | |
|  | |
| **Criterion 4 - Embracing New Parks and Innovative Project Attributes** | **Maximum Points:** 10 |
| Assesses the degree to which ORLP funds will assist new outdoor recreation resources and the degree to which the project incorporates innovative ideas.  **Priority** will be given to parks and projects that 1) have not received any previous LWCF, Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR), or ORLP assistance, and 2) encompass innovative characteristics.   * On the Project Narrative Data Sheet, provide information about any previous LWCF, UPARR and ORLP assistance. * Describe the ways in which this project incorporates innovative characteristics. These qualities could be related to aspects such as: eco-friendly design; creation of short and/or long-term jobs or stimulation of business in the local community; site features that considers the needs of all demographics; redevelopment of a blighted or distressed properties; involvement of new or non-traditional partners; unusual features in the project design; employment of novel solutions to issues in/challenges to addressing the community’s recreation needs; the ability to affect or advance other complementary and intrinsic benefits beyond providing new or enhancing park or other outdoor recreation spaces; and other similar characteristics. | |

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| **Criterion 5 - Project Alignment with SCORP and Other Applicable Plans** | **Maximum Points:** 10 |
| This criterion assesses the degree to which the project advances or is otherwise tied to the priority recreation needs and/or goals of the applicable State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and other relevant park and recreation plans. Projects can also receive credit for aligning with or advancing priorities of other comprehensive or master plans at the city, regional, and/or state level (such as community revitalization, economic development, or open space plans).  **Priority** will be given to projects that best meet 1) at least 1 goal or need that is clearly identified in the SCORP, *particularly any that are specific to communities that are economically disadvantaged, lacking access to outdoor recreation or that focus on the area in which the project is located*, and 2) at least 4+ additional, applicable, planning documents at different levels of government and/or private sector initiatives.   * State the specific SCORP goals or needs that the proposed project will advance or implement, and support how this project addresses each goal/need. * Describe any other park or outdoor recreation plan (provide date of plan) that the project advances or supports, and state precisely how the proposed project aligns with it/each. * Describe any other relevant city, regional, or state plans or initiatives (provide date of plan) that the project advances or supports, and state precisely how the prosed project aligns with each. | |

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| **Criterion 6 - Project Feasibility and Likelihood of Success** | **Maximum Points:** 20 |
| This criterion assesses the probability that the project will be successfully completed within the proposed timeline and budget, the viability of the proposed budget, and the ability of the project sponsor and partners to manage the project and maintain the park/resource in the future.  **Priority** will be given to projects that 1) that show support from non-public sources by leveraging some or all of the required matching share (e.g. money or donations), 2) can break ground within one year and will be complete and open to the public within 2 to 3 years, 2) are managed by project sponsors and partners with proven experience in successfully managing similar projects with no problems, and 3) can demonstrate a clear capacity, and a plan, for successful long-term park management and protection.  Budget costs must be clearly linked to the scope of work and are necessary, reasonable, allowable, and allocable. The matching share must be fully secured or firmly committed and supported by a letter of commitment from the donor. (*The budget will not be scored by the panels; however, it will be considered as a deciding factor in selection if the budget is insufficiently detailed, contains unreasonable, unnecessary, or unallowable costs, and/or does not align with the technical scope of the proposal.*)   * + Describe contributions of match (cash or in-kind donations) from sources other than the sponsor, particularly any non-public sources.   + Describe the status of planning for the grant project, its readiness to be implemented and support the accuracy of the established deadlines and milestones within the attached timeline.   + Describe any issues with the site that would prevent it from being open and available to the public within 2-3 years.   + Describe the relevant experience of those managing the various aspects of this project. If partners are involved, their role(s) should also be described.   + Describe how the park or recreation area will be managed and maintained, physically and financially, to assure permanent use for public outdoor recreation.   + Ensure the LWCF boundary map clearly indicates the project area and the proposed protected boundary separately or indicates that they are the same.   + Within the Budget Narrative:     - Break down, describe, and justify the proposed project costs.     - Clearly indicate which costs (or the amount of each cost) that will be covered by LWCF funds versus matching share.     - List all agencies, organizations or other entities providing matching share under this project.     - State the value and type (cash, donation of equipment etc.) of each matching share contribution.     - Document that the 1:1 required matching share contribution is secure or firmly committed at the time of application. If overmatch is included, state if it has been secured, or when and how it is expended to be secured. (*A letter from each secured matching-share contributor should be included as a letter of support, clearly stating the commitment of match.)* | |

## E2. Review and Selection Process

In the text field below, list any program policy or other factors or elements other than merit criteria that the selecting official may use in selecting applications for Federal award (e.g., geographical dispersion, program balance, or diversity).  Include other details about the program’s review and selection process, as appropriate.  For example, you may indicate who is responsible for evaluation against the merit criteria (e.g., peers external to the Federal awarding agency or Federal awarding agency personnel), or who makes the final award selections.  If there is a multi-phase review process (e.g., an external panel advising internal Federal awarding agency personnel who make final recommendations to the deciding official), the announcement may describe the phases.  It also may detail the number of individuals on evaluation panels, how the panel operates, the way the program qualifies and selects reviewers, and if the program permits applicants to nominate or suggest reviewers for their applications.  Detail if, due to limited funding or for other reasons, the program routinely negotiates selected project scopes of work and budgets prior to award.  If this is the case, make it clear here that those applicants will have to submit revised SF-424 forms and narratives prior to award.  Programs must make awards based on final, approved applications that parallel their awards in scope and funding amount.  Describe the timing, form, and content of notifications to unsuccessful applicants.  In addition to program-specific text, the following standard text will be inserted in all funding opportunities.

Prior to award, the program will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel.  Depending on the circumstances, the program may request modification to the application, other pending applications, or an active award, as needed to eliminate any duplication of effort, or the Bureau may choose not to fund the selected project.

The program may not make a Federal award to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration.  If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the Bureau is ready to make an award, the program may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award.  The program can use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Prior to award, the program will evaluate the risk posed by applicants as required in 2 CFR 200.205.  Programs document applicant risk evaluations using the Bureau’s “Financial Assistance Recipient Risk Assessment” form.  Prior to approving awards for Federal funding in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently $250,000), the Bureau is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System.  The Bureau will consider this information when completing the risk review.  The Bureau uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish monitoring plans, recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more of the specific award conditions in 2 CFR 200.207 should be applied the award.

**Criteria Scoring:**

Criteria valued at 20-points will be rated using the 10-point scale below but weighted at twice the value. This means that a score of 8 in a 20-point Criteria would be valued at 16 points. Total point value of all criteria is 100 points.  
  
**Superior (9-10 points):** Application fully addresses all aspects of the criterion, demonstrates that the project will surpass the criterion’s stated priorities and contains no weaknesses.  
**Good (7-8 points):** Application fully addresses all aspects of the criterion, demonstrates that the project will fully meet the criterion priorities and contains no weaknesses.  
**Satisfactory (5-6 points):** Application addresses all aspects of the criterion to some degree, demonstrates that the project will meet the criterion priorities but/and/or contains a couple of minor weaknesses.  
**Marginal (3-4 points):** Application addresses most aspects of the criterion, does not clearly demonstrate that the project will meet or come close to meeting the criterion priorities, but/and/or contains a moderate weakness and/or a number of minor weaknesses.  
**Poor (1-2 points):** Application does not adequately address the aspects of the criterion, reveals issues in the likelihood of meeting or coming close to meeting, criterion priorities but/and/or contains a significant weakness and/or a number of moderate weaknesses that may outweigh any strengths presented.  
**Not Acceptable (0 point):** Application does not adequately address the aspects of the criterion, reveals issues in the likelihood of meeting criterion priorities to any significant degree but/and/or contains weaknesses that clearly outweigh any strengths presented.

**Proposal Review:**

The application must include all Required Elements, listed in the “Required Elements” in Section D2. *Applications submitted without all the required elements will be eliminated from the competition without consideration.  
  
Information linked within application documents will not be considered in the review.*Within both Round 6A and Round 6B, project proposals will be scored and ranked on a based on an evaluation of how well the project meets the review and selection criteria for the competition and the general requirements of the LWCF Act.

The NPS will conduct an initial screening of each proposal to determine whether it is complete (i.e., at a minimum contains all Required Elements) and meets all Eligibility Requirements (i.e., project is from an eligible applicant and/or sponsor, provides the minimum cost share, and its purpose is consistent with the LWCF Act and the objectives of this competition). Presuming it is found to be eligible for consideration, the proposal will be evaluated and scored by a peer-based merit panel. Each proposal will be reviewed by at least 4 (four) reviewers, but no consensus advice will be given. Both federal and non-federal experts may be used for the merit panel and will have experience in fields related to the competition criterion. Reviewers’ scores will be compiled and averaged as needed to create a final score.

Simultaneous to the merit review panel process, NPS staff will review the project for compliance with federal laws, most notably compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and with the National Historic Preservation Act. If these reviews reveal features of the project that affect its eligibility or viability, the NPS may remove the project from the competition.

Budgets for projects rating high enough to be considered for selection will be evaluated by program staff to validate or confirm the merit ratings of the review panel. Importantly, the budget evaluation provides some initial insight to project-related risk, beyond those dealing with technical uncertainty, which will be considered prior to award.  Deficiencies identified by the technical or merit panel reviews, as well as suggested adjustments, will be noted for possible negotiation purposes.  Although the budget evaluation does not affect the technical score, it can be considered as a deciding factor if the budget does not support the technical aspects of the proposal.  
  
The scores and reviewer evaluations will be used by the competition managers to produce a ranked list of proposals that will be recommended to the competition’s selecting official for final selection. Generally, proposals will be recommended in the ranked order unless there is justification to select out of order based upon:

* Availability of funding
* Geographic distribution of projects and/or funds
* Program objective and priorities (see Section A of this NOFO)
* The applicant’s prior performance in managing LWCF grants and/or assisted sites
* Issues uncovered during the NPS compliance review that cannot be resolved prior to the date of selection of projects

If two or more proposals within a state rank equally in their scores, and a judgment must be made as to which is/are awarded funding, NPS will request that the State make a recommendation as to which best reflects the priorities of the SCORP, is most likely to be successfully completed, and/or will have the highest impact.

When a decision has been made (whether to award or declination of award), summaries of technical and merit reviews will be made available to the State Lead Agency and/or the project sponsor upon request. Declined applications will be held by the NPS for three years, in accordance with the current retention requirements, and then destroyed.

## E3. CFR – Regulatory Information

See the [National Park Service’s](https://www.fws.gov/grants/index.html) Award Terms and Conditions for the general administrative and national policy requirements applicable to Service awards.  The Service will communicate any other program- or project-specific special terms and conditions to recipients in their notices of award.

## E4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

This section is intended to provide applicants with information they can use for planning purposes. If there is a single application deadline followed by the simultaneous review of all applications, the Federal awarding agency can include in this section information about the anticipated dates for announcing or notifying successful and unsuccessful applicants and for having Federal awards in place. If applications are received and evaluated on a “rolling” basis at different times during an extended period, it may be appropriate to give applicants an estimate of the time needed to process an application and notify the applicant of the Federal awarding agency's decision.

The NPS is targeting **September 1, 2023**, for an announcement of selection results in Round 6A, and **January 1, 2024**, for an announcement of selection results for Round 6B.

# F. Federal Award Administration Information

## F1. Federal Award Notices

In the text box below, provide details on what a successful applicant can expect to receive following selection.  If the program will provide a selection notice to the entity before actually issuing the Federal award, this is the place to indicate that the letter is not an authorization to begin project performance (to the extent that the program allows charging of pre-award costs to the award at the entity’s own risk).  This section should indicate that the signed notice of Federal award is the authorizing document and how the program delivers notices of award to recipients (e.g., postal mail, electronic means).  This section may also address the timing, form, and content of notifications to unsuccessful applicants. See also §200.210 Information contained in a Federal award.

Once a final decision is made by the NPS about the award of a grant, a project agreement will be signed by the applicable LWCF Financial Assistance Awarding Officer for the LWCF Region in which the project’s state is located and sent to the State Lead Agency. The State Lead Agency will then, if needed, make a sub-award to the local project sponsor. In no case will the NPS make an award directly to the local project sponsor. Until the project agreement is signed, the sponsor should not begin work on the project that would result in the incurring of expenses desired for reimbursement from the grant or for use as match, unless for eligible pre-award costs or the project has a waiver of retroactivity. A grant agreement signed by a Financial Assistance Awarding Officer is the only authorizing document required to begin performance.  
  
As the primary grantee, the state lead agencies are responsible for managing the day-to-day implementation of the grant and the sub-award supported activities to assure the project’s compliance with the LWCF Act and Manual, other applicable Federal requirements, and that performance goals are being achieved.

## F2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Seethe “[DOI Standard Terms and Conditions](https://www.doi.gov/grants/doi-standard-terms-and-conditions)” for the administrative and national policy requirements applicable to DOI awards.

**Data Availability**Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), [2 CFR §1402.315](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200/subpart-D/subject-group-ECFR8feb98c2e3e5ad2/section-200.315):

(a) All data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, valuation products or other scientific assessments in any medium or form, including textual, numerical, graphic, cartographic, narrative, or audiovisual, resulting from a financial assistance agreement is available for use by the Department of the Interior, including being available in a manner that is sufficient for independent verification.

(b)  The Federal Government has the right to:

(1) Obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, produced under a Federal award; and

(2) Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, for Federal purposes, including to allow for meaningful third-party evaluation.

In the text field below, include any program- or project-specific terms or conditions that will apply to recipients under the program.

The LWCF Grant Assistance Manual, v. 71 (March 11, 2021) establishes the specific eligibility, procedural, and programmatic requirements for LWCF grants. A copy of the Manual can be found at [https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/upload/LWCF-FA-Manual-Vol-71-3-11-2021-](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/upload/LWCF-FA-Manual-Vol-71-3-11-2021-final.pdf) [final.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/upload/LWCF-FA-Manual-Vol-71-3-11-2021-final.pdf). The Manual outlines the criteria and process for eligible states and territories to develop a SCORP, develop projects for nomination to the NPS, submit applications, and implement grants for selected projects. All applications submitted pursuant to this announcement must be consistent with the Manual and are subject to the requirements described therein. Recipients and sub-recipients of LWCF grants are also subject to all Federal laws and agency policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards.  
These are described in the Manual and in the LWCF terms and conditions. The LWCF-specific terms and conditions are integrated into the standard conditions document and are additional conditions that recipients must also agree to in accepting the grant, such as the requirement to record language and a copy of the LWCF boundary map with the land records for the property to acknowledge the LWCF assistance. If there are outstanding issues still requiring resolution at the time the grant is issued, the NPS may include special award conditions on the grant constraining when work on the project may begin or restricting access to the funds until the conditions are satisfied.

## F3. Reporting

Financial Reports

All recipients must use the [SF-425, Federal Financial Report](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/post-award-reporting-forms.html) form for financial reporting. At a minimum, all recipients must submit a **final** financial report. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award. The only exception to the interim financial reporting requirement is if the recipient is required to use the SF 270/271 to request payment and requests payment at least once annually through the entire award period of performance. We will describe all financial reporting requirements in the Notice of Award.

Recipient specific reporting requirements, including the required reports, reporting frequency, and report due dates will be included in all Notices of Award, as applicable.  Only interim financial reporting on awards to ASAP-waived entities using the SF-270/271 and requesting payment at least once annually throughout the entire award period of performance may be waived.  In the text field below enter any program specific reporting requirements.

The FFR (and relevant instructions) can be downloaded from: <https://www.grants.gov/forms/post-award-reporting-forms.html>  
  
The NPS Financial Assistance Awarding Officer will review the report for patterns of cash expenditures and assess whether performance or financial management problems exist. Before submitting the FFR to the NPS Financial Assistance Awarding Officer, recipients must ensure that the information submitted is accurate, complete, and consistent with the recipient’s accounting system. The recipient Authorized Certifying Official’s signature on the FFR certifies that the information in the FFR is correct and complete and that all outlays and obligations are for the purposes set forth in the agreement documents and represents a claim to the Federal Government. Filing a false claim may result in the imposition of civil or criminal penalties.

Performance Reports

Performance reports must contain a comparison of actual accomplishments with the established goals and objectives of the award; a description of reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate; and any other pertinent information relevant to the project results. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award.

In the text below reflect the program’s performance reporting requirements. For awards that include construction, onsite technical inspections and certified percentage of completion data may be relied on to monitor progress for construction.  Additional performance reports for construction activities may be required only when considered necessary. Awards that include both construction and non-construction activities should require performance reporting for the non-construction activities. See [2 CFR 200.329](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=5b780f92f79c2d0136bebc473f65c8a9&mc=true&node=pt2.1.200&rgn=div5#se2.1.200_1329) for more information. We may only waive performance reporting for awards to individuals for which we have another way of assessing and documenting recipient performance at least annually.

In accordance with [2 C.F.R. 200.328](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=6cf2afb55806345010ba424b24d0f4cc&node=2%3A1.1.2.2.1.4.32.29&rgn=div8), the performance reports shall contain brief information on:

1. A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives of the Federal award established for the period. Where the accomplishments of the Federal award can be quantified, a computation of the cost (for example, related to units of accomplishment) may be required if that information will be useful. Where performance trend data and analysis would be informative to the Federal awarding agency program, the Federal awarding agency should include this as a performance reporting requirement;
2. The reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate; and
3. Additional pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs.

Before submitting the performance report to the NPS Financial Assistance Awarding Officer, recipients must ensure that the information submitted is accurate, complete, and consistent with the recipient’s Federal financial report. Filing false information may result in the imposition of civil or criminal penalties.

Significant Development Reports

Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates which have significant impact upon the supported activity.  In such cases, recipients are required to notify the Bureau in writing as soon as the recipient becomes aware of any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the Federal award.  This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.  The recipient should also notify the Service in writing of any favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

Authors may need to provide additional instructions based on legislative or program requirements. If applicable, provide the additional instructions within the text box below. Text field can be left blank if additional instructions are not needed.

Real Property Reports

Recipients and subrecipients are required to submit status reports on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest.  The required frequency of these reports will depend on the anticipated length of the Federal interest period.  The Bureau will include recipient-specific real property reporting requirements, including the required data elements, reporting frequency, and report due dates, in the Notice of Award when applicable.

Authors may need to provide additional instructions based on legislative or program requirements. If applicable, provide the additional instructions within the text box below. Text field can be left blank if additional instructions are not needed.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Recipients must notify the program immediately in writing of any conflict of interest that arise during the life of their Federal award, including those reported to them by any subrecipient under the award. Recipients must notify the program in writing if any employees, including subrecipient and contractor personnel, are related to, married to, or have a close personal relationship with any Federal employee in the Federal funding program or who otherwise may have been involved in the review and selection of the award. The term employee means any individual engaged in the performance of work pursuant to the Federal award.

Other Mandatory Disclosures

The Non-Federal entity or applicant for a Federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Non-Federal entities that receive a Federal award including the terms and conditions outlined in 2 CFR 200, Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters are required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in [2 CFR 200.339](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=4772a9e79baa6af1caafa9c4a7782352&mc=true&node=pt2.1.200&rgn=div5#se2.1.200_1339) Remedies for Noncompliance, including suspension or debarment.

Authors may need to provide additional instructions based on legislative or program requirements. If applicable, provide the additional instructions within the text box below. Text field can be left blank if additional instructions are not needed.

Reporting Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds $10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the System for Award Management (SAM) that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)) about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings in accordance with Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200.Authors may need to provide additional instructions based on legislative or program requirements. If applicable, provide the additional instructions within the text box below. Text field can be left blank if additional instructions are not needed.

# G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

Provide point(s) of contact for answering technical questions or helping with problems while the funding opportunity is open.  The intent is to be as helpful as possible to the public, so give points of contacts that can be reached in multiple ways or provide a fax or email address that multiple people monitor so that someone will respond even if others are absent during critical periods.  If needed, provide different points of contact for distinct types of help, such as a contact for programmatic or technical questions and a second contact for administrative questions.

## G1. Program Technical Contact

For **programmatic technical assistance**, contact:

First and Last Name: Ginger Carter

Address: 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240

Telephone: 202-513-7233

Email: [ginger\_carter@nps.gov](mailto:ginger_carter@nps.gov)

Authors may need to provide additional contact info based on program needs. If applicable, provide the additional instructions within the text box below. Text field can be left blank if additional instructions are not needed.

Questions and issues may also be directed to the assigned NPS program officer for each state or the State Lead Agency.

## G2. Program Administration Contact

For **program administration assistance**, contact:

First and Last Name: Elisabeth Fondriest

Address: 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240

Telephone: 202-354-6916

Email: elisabeth\_fondriest@nps.gov

## G3. Application System Technical Support

**For Grants.gov technical registration and submission, downloading forms and application packages, contact:**Grants.gov Customer Support  
Numeric Input Field: 1-800-518-4726  
[Support@grants.gov](mailto:Support@grants.gov)

**For GrantSolutions technical registration, submission, and other assistance contact:**GrantSolutions Customer Support  
1-866-577-0771  
[Help@grantsolutions.gov](mailto:Help@grantsolutions.gov)

# H. Other Information

Payments

Domestic recipients are required to register in and receive payment through the U.S. Treasury’s Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP), unless approved for a waiver by the Service program.  Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank outside the U.S. are required to receive payment through the U.S. Treasury’s International Treasury Services (ITS) System.  Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank in the U.S. are required to enter and maintain current banking details in their SAM.gov entity profile and receive payment through the Automated Clearing House network by electronic funds transfer (EFT).  The Bureau will include recipient-specific instructions on how to request payment, including identification of any additional information required and where to submit payment requests, as applicable, in all Notices of Award.

Authors may need to provide additional instructions based on legislative or program requirements. If applicable, provide the additional instructions within the text box below. Text field can be left blank if additional instructions are not needed.

Information about the LWCF State and Local Assistance Program, including the LWCF Manual, at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/index.htm>.  This NOFO is available via the grants.gov website: <http://www.grants.gov> (search for LWCF).  Application materials are available via the Grants.gov and LWCF websites or by contacting the program officials identified above.  Project sponsors should also review their state’s LWCF website (if available) and particularly the state’s SCORP.  Links to State LWCF sites can be found at: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/contact-list.htm>.

The $192 million in funding available for this competition includes $103M allocated by Congress in FY2022 plus unused funds from prior years.

Project sponsors are reminded that this competition represents just a portion of the funding allocated for grants through LWCF State and Local Assistance Program in FY2022.  Grants may be available from your state for the regularly apportioned funds as well.  Contact your state’s lead agency for more information.  
  
Neither the NPS nor the Department of the Interior will be responsible for proposal preparation costs or project costs if the proposal fails to receive funding.  Publication of this announcement does not oblige the NPS to make an award to any specific project or to obligate any available funds.