



HURRICANE STORMWATER AND WASTEWATER ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much funding is available for this grant program?

The Hurricane Stormwater and Wastewater Assistance Grant Program will award \$100 million in grant funds for eligible projects, with a \$10 million limit per project.

What is considered an eligible project?

For the purposes of this rule, an eligible project shall mean a repair to or replacement of a damaged stormwater or wastewater management system in a given location that resolves, temporarily or permanently, the immediate threat posed to public health or the environment. All repairs to such a stormwater or wastewater management system, even if made in discrete phases, shall constitute a single project.

A single project may include a stormwater or wastewater management system's related appurtenances – such as transmission facilities and lift stations – even if sited at separate or distinct geographic locations so long as such repairs are all necessary to resolve the threat posed to public health or the environment.

When will projects be selected?

Applications will be accepted through March 31, 2023. Awards will be announced by May 1, 2023. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection will begin developing cost reimbursement grant agreements as soon as possible once the awards have been made.

If I incurred costs prior to the effective date of this rule, can I have those costs reimbursed?

You must have evidence that the system currently poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment. Actions to address stormwater or wastewater system damages prior to Jan. 30, 2023, are not eligible for financial assistance.

If I incur costs after the effective date of this rule but before I execute a grant agreement with the department, can I have those costs reimbursed?

Yes. The department has the authority to include eligible expenses incurred prior to the execution of a grant agreement in order to effectuate immediate action to address threats. If a grant is awarded, the earliest possible date eligible costs can begin is as of

the effective date of the rule (i.e., Jan. 30, 2023). However, it is only upon full execution of a grant agreement with the department that such eligible costs can actually be reimbursed to a grantee.

Who is eligible to receive this funding?

This funding is available only to counties, municipalities and special taxing districts that operate a stormwater or wastewater management system. Special taxing districts as defined in Chapter 189, Florida Statutes, have the power to levy ad valorem taxes within the district. Homeowners, homeowner associations, and private wastewater or stormwater facility owners are not eligible for this grant.

We made temporary repairs to our system to address the “immediate threat” before the rule was adopted, but a permanent solution remains to be completed. Are we eligible?

Your application should outline the nature of the temporary repairs and why the permanent repairs would alleviate the immediate threat to public health or the environment. While the costs associated with completed temporary repairs would not be eligible for reimbursement, costs associated with the permanent repairs may be.

My community is not within one of the eligible counties for this funding, but we had damage from the storm. Can we still apply?

Only projects within Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Duval, Flagler, Indian River, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Nassau, Palm Beach, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sarasota and Volusia counties are eligible for this funding.

My neighborhood has damages to its stormwater pond. Can I apply for funding through this program?

Homeowners and homeowner associations are not considered eligible applicants. However, if the stormwater pond is operated by an eligible entity (e.g., the pond neither belongs to nor is operated by a homeowner association), we encourage you to contact your local government to see if it may apply for a grant to make needed repairs.

