Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes

Tips for Writing Award Winning Grant Applications

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BACKGROUND
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR TRIBES

• In 1999, Congress granted EPA the authority to provide financial assistance to federally-recognized Tribal governments for the development and implementation of programs to manage hazardous waste through Appropriations Act - P.L. 105-276. These programs must improve the applicant’s ability to properly identify, manage, or dispose of hazardous waste.

• The Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery (ORCR) conducts an annual grant competition to select projects for funding. Selected projects are awarded and managed through EPA regional offices.
BACKGROUND (Continuation)
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR TRIBES

• Objective of the Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes:

  - To provide financial assistance to Tribal governments and Tribal Consortia for the development and implementation of hazardous waste programs; for building capacity to improve and maintain regulatory compliance; and developing solutions to address the improper management of hazardous waste on Tribal lands.

• Funding available to support hazardous waste grants:

  - Approximately $300,000 (annually)

• Timeframe for posting the competitive announcement on grants.gov:

  - Between February and March (each calendar year)
EXAMPLES OF FUNDED PROJECTS
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR TRIBES

The following activities are suggestive and do not limit the range of activities considered eligible under this grant program. These activities are eligible when they are performed in support of developing and implementing a tribal program to manage hazardous waste:

• Develop and implement codes, regulations, ordinances, policies, and/or guidance to regulate hazardous waste management;

• Identify and assess hazardous waste generation;

• Develop and implement tribal integrated hazardous waste management plans (including source reduction/recycling);

• Develop and implement used oil collection events and/or programs;

• Develop and implement household hazardous waste collection events and/or programs; and

• Develop and implement universal waste collection events and/or programs.
GRANT WRITING TIPS
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR TRIBES

A successful grant application depends on how well it is written and the amount of available funds.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

• A successful grant application is one that is well thought out, clear, concise and compelling.

• Prepare early – do not rush! Rushing may cause mistakes that impact the application score.

• Carefully read the competitive announcement and follow all guidelines. Note: In order for your application to be considered, you must meet the Threshold Criteria (see page 9 of the competitive announcement).
GRANT WRITING TIPS (Continuation)
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR TRIBES

• Make sure that the project is to develop and implement hazardous waste management activities.

• Carefully review the evaluation criteria. Each criterion should be addressed.

For Example - Project Description:

✓ Provide a clear statement of the problem and, when possible, provide sufficient data to support the problem.

✓ Identify milestones and attainable goals and objectives.

✓ Address how the project will be developed in compliance with applicable federal regulations (i.e., used oil collection – 40 CFR Part 279 or universal waste collection – 40 CFR Part 273).

✓ Clearly define how the project will lead to a comprehensive and sustainable waste management program.
GRANT WRITING TIPS (Continuation)
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR TRIBES

• Clearly define environmental outcomes and outputs. An outcome is the result, effect or consequence that will occur from carrying out an environmental program or activity. An output is an environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work product.

SAMPLE PROJECT: Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Outcome:
✓ A decrease in household health threats as demonstrated by an increase in the amount of household hazardous waste collected.

Output:
✓ An inventory of the type and amount of household hazardous waste collected.

• Carefully describe the measures of success. Define how success will be tracked and measured.

Measures of Success:
✓ Amount of material collected from the community in pounds and/or gallons.
✓ Number of people/households participating in the event.
✓ Number of outreach events and participation levels.
GRANT WRITING TIPS (Continuation)
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR TRIBES

• Develop a budget that is realistic and appropriate for accomplishing the goals of the project.

Sample Budget – See Attached Handout

• Clearly describe how information and lessons learned during the project will be shared with others.

For Example – **Technical Assistance/Transferability:**

- Disseminating education and outreach materials at RTOCs and other national/local meetings.
- Developing electronic educational materials.
- Presenting lessons learned at conferences, workshops, and other venues.
UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENCES
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR TRIBES

What is the difference between “leveraging” and “in-kind” resources?

**Leveraging** is the coordination of all resources (federal and/or non-federal) that are used by the grantee to support grant activities and outcomes.

For Example - **Leveraging**:

- Working with another federal agency to secure the funds to pay for disposal of waste that is collected at the household hazardous waste collection event

**In-kind Resources** may consist of charges for real property and equipment or the value of goods and services directly benefitting the EPA funded project.

For Example - **In-kind**:

- Office space, supplies, or administrative staff that is used to support the project at no cost to EPA.
UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENCES
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR TRIBES

What are the differences between the solid and hazardous waste grant programs:

Solid Waste Grant Program

- Evaluated and funded through the Tribal Solid Waste Interagency Workgroup;
- Funds only solid waste activities (project total budget may not exceed $500,000);
- Applicants may apply for funding under one of four categories: (1) proposals to characterize/assess open dumps; (2) proposals to develop integrated solid waste management (ISWM) plans and tribal codes and regulations; (3) proposals to develop and implement alternative solid waste management activities/facilities (including equipment acquisition); and (4) proposals to develop and implement cleanup, closure, and post-closure programs for open dumps in Indian Country; and
- Depending on which category the applicant is applying for, there may be a prerequisite (i.e., before a grantee applies for a Category 3 (alternative solid waste management activities/facilities), you must have an approved integrated waste management plan).
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR TRIBES

Hazardous Waste Grant Program

- Funded solely through EPA (limited funding available \( \approx \$300,000 \));
- Evaluation panel consist of EPA headquarters and regional representatives;
- Funds cradle-to-grave hazardous wastes management activities (i.e., generated, transported, treated, stored, and disposed); and
- Depending on the type of project, may have to comply with applicable federal regulations (i.e., used oil collection – 40 CFR Part 279 or universal waste collection – 40 CFR Part 273).
CONTACT INFORMATION
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