

IV. Eligible Activities

Recipients may use funds for activities to support implementing a program that is consistent with the required performance criteria for grants specified in the document, *National Beach Guidance and Required Performance Criteria for Grants*, (document number: EPA-823-B-02-004).

V. Selection Process

Implementation Grants will be awarded through a non-competitive process by the EPA Regional offices. EPA expects to award grants to all eligible State and Territory applicants that meet requirements of the BEACH Act as described in this notice.

Who Has the Authority To Award BEACH Act Grants?

The Administrator has delegated the authority to award Implementation Grants to the Regional Administrators.

VI. Application Procedure

What Is the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number for the Program Development Implementation BEACH Act Grants?

The number assigned to the BEACH Act Grants is 66.472, Program Code CU.

Can BEACH Act Grant Funds Be Included in a Performance Partnership Grant?

For Fiscal Year 2003, BEACH Act Grants cannot be included in a Performance Partnership Grant.

What Are the Components of the Application Package?

The application package should contain completed EPA SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance, Program Summary, and Data Submission Plan and be submitted to the appropriate EPA Regional Office by June 30, 2003. EPA will review the documentation that is submitted to determine whether the program meets the requirements for implementation grants and make an award based on its determination. The Office of Management and Budget has authorized EPA to collect this information (BEACH Act Grant Information Collection Request, OMB control number 2040-0244). Please contact the appropriate EPA Regional Office for a complete application package. See Section VII for a list of EPA Regional Grant Coordinators or visit the EPA Beach Watch Web site at www.epa.gov/waterscience/beaches/contact.html on the Internet.

The Program Summary submitted with the application must provide sufficient technical detail for EPA to determine whether a State's program meets the requirements for implementation grants listed in section 1 of this notice. Specifically, the Program Summary must describe how the State used BEACH Act Grant funds to develop the beach monitoring and notification program, and how the program has met the nine performance criteria in *National Beach Guidance and Required Performance Criteria for Grants*, (document number: EPA-823-B-02-004).

The Data Submission Plan describes how States will develop their beach monitoring and notification data collection and reporting system. It will also describe the State data infrastructure, and how the State plans to submit beach monitoring and notification data to EPA. More information on both the Program Summary and Data Submission Plan is available at www.epa.gov/waterscience/beaches/grants/.

Will Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) and Other Procedures Be Required for Application?

Yes. Three specific QA/QC requirements must be met to comply with EPA's required performance criteria for grants:

(1) Applicants must submit quality system documentation that describes the quality system implemented by the State, Tribe, or local government. It may be in the form of a Quality Management Plan or equivalent documentation.

(2) Applicants must submit a quality assurance project plan (QAPP) or equivalent documentation.

(3) Applicants are responsible for submitting documentation of the quality system and QAPP for review and approval by the EPA Quality Assurance Officer or his designee before environmental measurements are taken. More information about QA/QC procedures required for application is available in Chapter Four and Appendix H of *National Beach Guidance and Required Performance Criteria for Grants*, (document number: EPA-823-B-02-004).

Will There Be Reporting Requirements?

Recipients must submit annual performance reports and financial reports as required in 40 CFR §§ 31.40 and 31.41. The annual performance report explains changes to the beach monitoring and notification program during the grant year and how the grant funds were used to implement the program to meet the performance

criteria listed in *National Beach Guidance and Required Performance Criteria for Grants*, (document number: EPA-823-B-02-004). The annual performance report required under 40 CFR 31.40 is due no later than 90 days after the grant year. Recipients must also submit annual monitoring and notification reports required under the *National Beach Guidance and Required Performance Criteria for Grants*, (document number: EPA-823-B-02-004). The annual monitoring report requirement is established in sections 2.2.3 and 4.3 of *National Beach Guidance and Required Performance Criteria for Grants*, and the annual notification report requirement is established in sections 2.2.8 and 5.4 of the same document. The monitoring and notification data which should be submitted to EPA to meet these reporting requirements are described in Appendix E of *National Beach Guidance and Required Performance Criteria for Grants*. These reports include data collected as part of a monitoring and notification program and are required to be submitted to EPA by CWA section 406(b)(3)(A). As a condition of award of an implementation grant, EPA is requiring that the monitoring report and the notification report for any beach season be submitted not later than January 31 of the year following the beach season.

What Regulations and OMB Cost Circular Will Apply to the Award and Administration of These Grants?

The regulations at 40 CFR part 31 will govern the award and administration of grants to States, local governments, and Territories under section 406 of the BEACH Act. Allowable costs will be determined in accordance with the cost principles in OMB Cost Circular A-87.

VII. Grant Coordinators

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