



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Remedial Action Grant and Loan Guidance for the 2021–23 Biennium

*Oversight Remedial Action
Grants and Loans*

*Area-wide Groundwater Investigation
Grants*

Safe Drinking Water Action Grants

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June 2022 revision notes. 1) During the 2022 legislative session, the Washington State Legislature revoked the permit funding condition in MTCA for Remedial Action Grants and therefore Section 4.3 of this guidance no longer applies. See strikeouts pp. 27–29. 2) Updated Northwest Regional Office city and phone number (above). 3) Updated several hyperlinks to reflect Ecology's new server.

April 2020 revision note: In Section 4.5 on p. 31, the error “below the mean income” was removed.

Ecology currently identifies a highly impacted community as one where the population of the census tract exceeds the 80th percentile for one or more of the following five criteria:

- Low income (~~below the mean income~~);
- (etc.)

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**Remedial Action Grant and Loan Guidance for the
2021-23 Biennium**

Oversight Remedial Action Grants and Loans
Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants
Safe Drinking Water Action Grants

Toxics Cleanup Program
Washington State Department of Ecology
Olympia, Washington

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Table of Contents

List of Figures and Tables	4
Figures	4
Tables.....	4
Appendix B Tables (Counties, Cities, Towns).....	5
Acknowledgements	6
Acronyms & Abbreviations	7
Glossary	8
Program Contacts	10
Executive Summary	11
Chapter 1: Purpose and Applicability	13
Chapter 2: Cleanup Program	17
2.1 Program Background.....	17
2.2 What is a cleanup?	17
2.3 Formal MTCA Cleanup Process	18
Chapter 3: Funding Cycle	21
3.1 Application Submittal	21
3.2 Project Evaluation and Ranking	22
3.3 Ecology’s Budget Request and Appropriation.....	23
3.4 Agreement Development	23
3.5 Reapplying	23
Chapter 4: Funding Policies and Criteria	25
4.1 Cash Management.....	25
4.2 Other Funding Sources.....	25
4.3 Permit Eligibility Requirement (New).....	27
4.4 Cultural Resources Eligibility Requirement	29
4.5 Environmental Justice Evaluation Criteria.....	30
4.6 Climate Change in Cleanup Criteria.....	32

Chapter 5: Grant and Loan Management	34
5.1 Roles and Responsibilities	34
5.2 Remedial Action Spending Plans	35
5.3 Technical Reports	36
5.4 Quarterly Grant Progress Reports & Payment Requests	36
5.5 Amendments	36
5.6 Close Out	37
5.7 Audits	37
Chapter 6: Cost Eligibility	38
6.1 Proper Documentation	40
6.2 Eligible Costs	42
6.3 Conditionally Eligible Costs	45
6.4 Ineligible Costs.....	48
Chapter 7: Oversight Remedial Action Grants	50
7.1 Project Eligibility	50
7.2 Grant Funding	51
7.3 Eligible Costs	52
7.4 Evaluation Criteria.....	53
Chapter 8: Oversight Remedial Action Loans	62
8.1 Project Eligibility	62
8.2 Grant Funding	63
Chapter 9: Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants	64
9.1 Project Eligibility	65
9.2 Grant Funding	65
9.3 Eligible Costs	65
9.4 Evaluation Criteria.....	66
Chapter 10: Safe Drinking Water Action Grants	72
10.1 Project Eligibility	72
10.2 Grant Funding	74
10.3 Eligible Costs	74
10.4 Evaluation Criteria.....	75
Chapter 11.0 References and Resources	80

Appendix A: Chapter 173-322A WAC, Remedial Action Grants and Loans	A-1
173-322A-010 Purpose and authority.	A-1
173-322A-020 Relation to other laws and rules.	A-2
173-322A-100 Definitions.	A-2
173-322A-200 Funding cycle.	A-6
173-322A-210 Funding priorities.	A-7
173-322A-220 Fiscal controls.	A-8
173-322A-320 Oversight remedial action grants.	A-10
173-322A-325 Oversight remedial action loans.	A-14
173-322A-340 Area-wide groundwater investigation grants.	A-17
173-322A-350 Safe drinking water action grants.	A-20
Appendix B: Economically Disadvantaged Cities, Towns, and Counties in Washington State.....	B-1
Economically Disadvantaged Counties	B-2
Economically Disadvantaged Cities and Towns	B-4

List of Figures and Tables

Figures

Figure 1: Steps in the formal MTCA cleanup process (publication no. 19-09-166).....20

Tables

Table 1: Toxics Cleanup Program’s Section Managers by region.....10

Table 2: Toxics Cleanup Program’s Grant Financial Managers by region.....10

Table 3: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 1: Faster Cleanup.....54

Table 4: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 2: Improve Human Health.....56

Table 5: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 3: Improve the Environment.....57

Table 6: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 4: Equitable Distribution.....58

Table 7: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 5: Redevelopment and Reuse in Cleanups.....59

Table 8: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 6: Meaningful Community Investment.....60

Table 9: Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants – Category 1: Faster Cleanup.....67

Table 10: Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants – Category 2: Improve Human Health and the Environment.....68

Table 11: Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants – Category 3: Equitable Distribution69

Table 12: Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants – Category 4: Redevelopment and Reuse in Cleanups.....70

Table 13: Safe Drinking Water Action Grants Evaluation Criteria – Category 1: Faster Cleanup.....76

Table 14: Safe Drinking Water Action Grants Evaluation Criteria – Category 2: Improve Human Health.....77

Table 15: Safe Drinking Water Action Grant Evaluation Criteria – Category 3: Equitable Distribution.....78

Table 16: Grant, loan, and EAGL resources mentioned in this guidance.....80

Table 17: Environmental and technical resources mentioned in this guidance.....82

Table 18: Environmental justice, climate change, and cultural resources mentioned in this guidance.....84

Table 19: Cleanup laws, regulations, and Legislative bills mentioned in this guidance.....85

Appendix B Tables (Counties, Cities, Towns)

Appendix B Table 1: Economically disadvantaged counties for purposes of Oversight RAG funding as of July 1, 2019.....	2
Appendix B Table 2: Counties not considered economically disadvantaged for purposes of Oversight RAG funding as of July 1, 2019.	3
Appendix B Table 3: Cities and towns at or below Washington's median income of \$25,835 and therefore considered economically disadvantaged for the purposes of Oversight RAG funding as of July 1, 2019.....	4
Appendix B Table 4: Cities and towns above Washington's median income of \$25,835 and therefore not considered economically disadvantaged for the purposes of Oversight RAG funding as of July 1, 2019.....	8

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Acronyms & Abbreviations

Acronym or Abbreviation	Definition
ARARs	applicable, relevant and appropriate requirements
CAP	Cleanup Action Plan
CPM	cleanup project manager
EAGL	Ecology’s Administration of Grants and Loans
Ecology	Washington State Department of Ecology
EIM	Environmental Information Management
FS	Feasibility Study
IDP	Inadvertent Discovery Plan
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MTCA	Model Toxics Control Act
NRDA	Natural Resource Damage Assessment
NRD	Natural Resource Damage
PFAS	per- or polyfluoroalkyl substances
PLP	potentially liable person
PRP	potentially responsible party
Pub. No.	Ecology publication number
RAG	remedial action grants and loans
RCW	Revised Code of Washington (Statute)
ROZ	Redevelopment Opportunity Zone
RI	Remedial Investigation
SAW	Secure Access Washington
TCP	Toxics Cleanup Program
U.S. EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
VCP	Voluntary Cleanup Program
VIN	Vehicle Identification Number
WAC	Washington Administrative Code (Rule)

Glossary

Term	Definition
Applicant	A term that applies before receipt of the grant vs. “Recipient” that applies after the grant has been awarded.
Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grant	Provides funding to facilitate redevelopment within a local government’s jurisdiction by conducting a study of the groundwater in a limited geographic area known or suspected to be contaminated by multiple sites.
biennium	A period of two years. The state of Washington operates on a two year (biennial) budget cycle that starts July 1 st of each odd-numbered year, and ends June 30 th of the next odd-numbered year. The 2021–23 biennium starts July 1, 2021, and ends June 30, 2023.
cleanup actions	Also known as cleanups or remedial actions. The collective planning, investigative, and technical work needed to clean up contaminated sites.
cleanup site	Also known as a contaminated site or hazardous waste site. A site or property where Ecology has confirmed one or more releases (or threatened release) of a hazardous substance. Ecology has identified 13,300-plus cleanup sites in Washington state.
consent decree or decree	A legal document issued under Chapter 70.105D RCW or the federal cleanup law.
contaminated site	Also known as a cleanup site or hazardous waste site.
EAGL	A comprehensive web-based grant and loan management system that allows Applicants and Recipients to complete grant applications, submit payment requests with progress reports, submit close out and equipment purchase reports, and request amendments online.
Extended Grant Agreements	A subset of Oversight Remedial Action Grants and are intended for cleanup projects that cost more than \$20 million and extend over several years.
fiscal year	A period of one year named for the year it ends. For example, Fiscal Year 2021 starts July 1, 2020, and ends June 30, 2021.
hazardous waste site	Also known as a cleanup site or contaminated site. Defined in MTCA as any site that Ecology has confirmed a release or a threatened release of a hazardous substance requiring remedial action (WAC 173-340-200).
Independent Remedial Action Grant	Grants to local governments that investigate and clean up contaminated sites independently under Ecology’s Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). Currently, Ecology only provides such grants after the local government has completed the cleanup and has obtained a No Further Action determination.
Integrated Planning Grant (IPG)	Grants to local governments to assess and develop an integrated plan for cleaning up and redeveloping a contaminated site or group of sites.

Term	Definition
Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA statute)	Washington’s environmental cleanup law, Chapter 170.105D RCW
Model Toxics Control Act Regulations (MTCA Cleanup Rule)	Washington’s regulations that set standards and procedures for cleaning up contaminated sites (Chapter 173-340 WAC). The MTCA Cleanup Rule is one of two cleanup rules in Washington adopted under the Model Toxics Control Act, Chapter 170.105D RCW . The other cleanup rule is the Sediment Management Standards (Chapter 173-204 WAC) known as the SMS Cleanup Rule.
MTCA Ten-Year Financing Report	Ecology’s financial report produced every even-numbered year that describes cleanup financing needs over the next ten fiscal years.
order	A legal document that includes enforcement orders and agreed orders issued under MTCA, and unilateral administrative orders and administrative orders on consent issued under the federal cleanup law.
Oversight Remedial Action Grant	Provides funding to local governments that investigate and clean up contaminated sites under an order or decree overseen by Ecology under MTCA or the EPA under the federal cleanup law
Oversight Remedial Action Loans	Allows Ecology to provide low interest loans to local governments with an Oversight Remedial Action Grant to help fulfill their local match requirement.
RAG Program	Ecology’s Remedial Action Grant program that provides grants and loans to local governments for site investigation and cleanup.
RAG Rule	Washington’s regulations that govern the issuance of remedial action grants and loans to local governments (Chapter 173-322A WAC).
Recipient	A term that applies after the grant has been awarded vs. “Applicant” that applies after the grant has been awarded.
remedial actions	Also known as cleanups or cleanup actions. The collective planning, investigative, and technical work needed to clean up contaminated sites.
Safe Drinking Water Action Grant	Provides funding to local governments to ensure safe drinking water is available to communities where the source of drinking water has been polluted by the release of a hazardous substance.
Secure Access Washington	A single sign-on application gateway created by Washington State Department of Information Services.
sediment site	A contaminated site in riverbeds and seabeds where aquatic animals such as crabs and clams live. Sediment can include silt, sand, cobble, and beaches.
upland site	A contaminated site on land or in groundwater.
Yellow Book	Ecology’s administrative requirements common to all Ecology grants and loans that have an agreement effective date of August 11, 2017, or later (publication no. 17-01-004)

Program Contacts

For questions about remedial action grant availability, contact the Toxics Cleanup Program Section Manager for the region where the contaminated site is located (Table 1).

For questions about the remedial actions funded under a grant agreement, contact the Ecology Cleanup Project Manager (CPM) assigned to the project. This person is specified in the grant agreement or associated correspondence with the site.

For questions related to project solicitation, grant application, grant agreement, eligible costs, EAGL database, and general grant administration, contact the Ecology Grant Financial Manager assigned to the region where the contaminated site is located (Table 2).

Table 1: Toxics Cleanup Program’s Section Managers by region.

Region	Counties	Section Manager
Central	Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan, and Yakima	Valerie Bound 509-454-7886 Valerie.Bound@ecy.wa.gov
Eastern	Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, and Whitman	Kathy Falconer 509-329-3568 Kathy.Falconer@ecy.wa.gov
Northwest	Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom	Bob Warren 425-649-7054 Bob.Warren@ecy.wa.gov
Southwest	Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, and Wahkiakum	Rebecca Lawson 360-407-6241 Rebecca.Lawson@ecy.wa.gov

Table 2: Toxics Cleanup Program’s Grant Financial Managers by region.

Region	Counties	Grant Financial Manager
Central and Eastern	Adams, Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Yakima, Walla Walla, and Whitman	Shanyese Trujillo 360-407-7199 Shanyese.Trujillo@ecy.wa.gov
Northwest	Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom	Lydia Lindwall 360-407-6210 Lydia.Lindwall@ecy.wa.gov
Southwest	Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, and Wahkiakum	Dan Koroma 360-407-7187 Dan.Koroma@ecy.wa.gov

Executive Summary

In 1988, Washington voters passed Initiative 97 and in 1989, the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) was adopted as our state’s environmental cleanup law. The main purpose of MTCA is raising “sufficient funds to clean up all hazardous waste sites and to prevent the creation of future hazards due to improper disposal of toxic wastes into the state’s lands and waters” ([RCW 70.105D.010](#)). One mechanism Ecology uses to help advance cleanups is the Remedial Action Grant Program (RAG). Remedial actions are the collective planning, investigative, and technical work needed to clean up contaminated sites.

In February of even-numbered years, Ecology solicits applications for the following remedial action grants and loans:

- **Oversight Remedial Action Grants and Loans:** Provides funding to local governments that investigate and clean up contaminated sites under an order¹ or decree.²
- **Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants:** Provides funding to local governments that investigate known or suspected areas of groundwater contamination caused by multiple releases of hazardous substances.
- **Safe Drinking Water Action Grants:** Provides funding to local governments to ensure safe drinking water is available to communities where the source of drinking water has been polluted by the release of a hazardous substance.

Ecology uses the applications to develop its budget request for the next biennium and update its ten-year financing plan for remedial action grants and loans. Ecology must submit both its budget request to the Governor and its [MTCA ten-year financing report](#) to the Legislature in September of even-numbered years. A final budget is usually effective and enacted on July 1 of the following odd-numbered year.

This Guidance details the policies and expectations when applying for grants, meeting Toxics Cleanup Program requirements, and managing funded projects.

¹ As defined in WAC [173-322A-100](#)(33), the term “order” includes enforcement orders and agreed orders issued under MTCA, and unilateral administrative orders and administrative orders on consent issued under the federal cleanup law.

² As defined in [WAC 173-322A-100](#)(11), the term “decree” or “consent decree” means a consent decree issued under chapter 70.105D RCW or the federal cleanup law.

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Chapter 1: Purpose and Applicability

The Washington State Department of Ecology’s (Ecology’s) Toxics Cleanup Program (TCP) administers the Remedial Action Grant and Loan (RAG) Program for local governments under the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), Chapter [70.105D](#) RCW. The purpose of the RAG Program is to expedite the cleanup³ and redevelopment of contaminated sites⁴ while lessening the impact of cleanup costs on local ratepayers and taxpayers. Remedial action grants and loans supplement local government funding and other sources of funding.

This document provides guidance on how to apply, meet program requirements, and manage funded projects for specific remedial action grants and loans. Ecology is soliciting applications for the following types of remedial action grants and loans for the 2021–23 Biennium:

- **[Oversight Remedial Action Grants](#)**: Provides funding to local governments that investigate and clean up contaminated sites under an order⁵ or decree⁶ overseen by Ecology under MTCA, or by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) under the federal cleanup law.⁷
- **[Oversight Remedial Action Loans](#)**: Allows Ecology to provide low interest loans to local governments with an Oversight Remedial Action Grant to help fulfill their local match requirement.
- **[Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants](#)**: Provides funding to facilitate redevelopment within a local government’s jurisdiction by conducting a study of the groundwater in a limited geographic area known or suspected to be contaminated by multiple sites.

³ As used in this Guidance, the term “cleanup” means the same as “remedial action” under Chapters [173-322A](#) and [173-340](#) WAC and includes both investigations and cleanup actions.

⁴ As used in this Guidance, the terms “contaminated site” and “site” mean the same as “hazardous waste site” under Chapters [173-322A](#) and [173-340](#) WAC.

⁵ As defined in WAC [173-322A-100](#)(33), the term “order” includes enforcement orders and agreed orders issued under MTCA and unilateral administrative orders and administrative orders on consent issued under the federal cleanup law.

⁶ As defined in [WAC 173-322A-100](#)(11), the term “decree” or “consent decree” means a consent decree issued under chapter 70.105D RCW or the federal cleanup law.

⁷ As defined in WAC [173-322A-100](#)(20), the “federal cleanup law” is the “Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.”

- **Safe Drinking Water Action Grants**: Provides funding to local governments to ensure safe drinking water is available to communities where the source of drinking water has been polluted by the release of a hazardous substance.

Projects submitted during the 2020 project solicitation (February and March 2020) will be considered for funding during the 2021–23 biennium—that is, if funding is awarded, it would become available 1.5 years later beginning (approximately) July 1, 2021.

For the 2019–21 biennium that ends June 30, 2021, Ecology is soliciting applications for two remedial action grants **on an ongoing basis**. For guidance on how to apply, meet program requirements, and manage funded projects for these grants, please refer to [Remedial Action Grants for Local Governments: 2018-2021 Guidance](#). Ecology plans to release updated guidance for these grants prior to the beginning of the 2021–23 biennium.

- **Independent Remedial Action Grants**: Provides grants to local governments that investigate and clean up contaminated sites independently under Ecology’s Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). Currently, Ecology only provides such grants after the local government has completed the cleanup and has obtained a No Further Action determination.
 - **Integrated Planning Grants**: Provides grants to local governments to assess and develop an integrated plan for cleaning up and redeveloping a contaminated site or group of sites.
-

For the 2021–23 biennium, Ecology is **not offering or soliciting** the following types of remedial action grants:

- **Site Assessment Grants**: This grant program has been discontinued.
 - **Extended Grant Agreements**: Extended Grant Agreements are a subset of Oversight Remedial Action Grants and are intended for cleanup projects that cost more than \$20 million and extend over several years.
-

The rules governing the Remedial Action Grant and Loan Program are found in Chapter [173-322A](#) WAC. A copy of the rules is included in Appendix A: Chapter 173-322A WAC, Remedial Action Grants and Loans of this Guidance. Definitions of terms used in this Guidance can be found in that Appendix and in Chapter [173-340](#) WAC, Model Toxics Control Act Cleanup Regulations.

This Guidance summarizes and explains the rule requirements. If any part of this Guidance is found to be in conflict with the rule language in Chapters [173-322A](#) or [173-340](#) WAC, the rule language governs.

Applicants and Recipients⁸ should read and understand this Guidance, the applicable rules, and the applicable version of Ecology’s “[Yellow Book](#)” also known as *Administrative Requirements for Recipients of Ecology Grants and Loans* (2017).

Applicants and Recipients are also responsible for understanding the scope of work in their grant agreements or order or decree; program requirements; cost eligibility; and any general and special terms and conditions in their grant agreements.

⁸ As used in this Guidance, the term “Applicant” applies before receipt of the grant, and “Recipient” applies after the grant has been awarded.

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Chapter 2: Cleanup Program

This chapter provides background on the cleanup program established under the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), Chapter 70.105D RCW, and an overview of the steps used to investigate and clean up contaminated sites in Washington state.

2.1 Program Background

In 1988, Washington voters passed Initiative 97 and in 1989, the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) was adopted as our state’s environmental cleanup law. The main purpose of MTCA is raising “sufficient funds to clean up all hazardous waste sites and to prevent the creation of future hazards due to improper disposal of toxic wastes into the state’s lands and waters” (RCW 70.105D.010). The law grants Ecology authority to develop rules and oversee cleanups conducted by public and private parties across the state.

To do this work, voters authorized a tax on hazardous materials, including petroleum products, pesticides, and certain chemicals. MTCA dedicated the funding raised by the tax to a broad range of toxic pollution prevention; hazardous and solid waste management; water and environmental health protection and monitoring; and toxic cleanup purposes.

MTCA continues to have a powerful impact on our state. Since it became law 30 years ago in 1989, more than 7,100 toxic sites have been cleaned up either with MTCA funds paying for state-led cleanups, or with Ecology oversight of privately funded cleanups. That averages 239 completed cleanups per year, or 1 completed cleanup project every 1.5 days. Ecology continues to take steps to leverage our resources to meet the demands of a growing number of sites, including through the Remedial Action Grant Program.

2.2 What is a cleanup?

Cleanups are often considered construction projects that remove or immobilize contamination and put properties back into use. The phrases *cleanup*, *cleanup site*, *contaminated site*, and *hazardous waste site* are used interchangeably. MTCA’s regulations defines a hazardous waste site as any site that Ecology has confirmed a release or a threatened release of a hazardous substance requiring remedial action ([WAC 173-340-200](#)).

Cleanup sites are defined by the nature and extent of contamination associated with one or more releases of hazardous substances. A complex site, for instance, requires more time and money to clean up. One such example is a co-mingled plume of chemicals at a former dry cleaners, where chemicals have seeped into soil and groundwater, then vaporize through cracks of nearby buildings—a complex problem known as vapor intrusion.

A routine site takes less time and money, such as a leaking underground storage tank where only petroleum has impacted soil or groundwater. Sites can be small like a petroleum spill at a gas station, or enormous like those in Tacoma and Everett that span thousands of acres as a result of untreated smelter deposits of arsenic and lead for nearly 100 years.

Contamination found on land (called upland sites) can affect more than one parcel of real property and impact soil and groundwater for miles. Contamination along our waterways (called sediment sites) can damage the fragile aquatic environment, including vegetation, biota, and water quality. Cleanup actions (also called cleanups or remedial actions) are the collective planning, investigative, and technical work needed to clean up these contaminated sites.

Cleanups can be loud, dirty, and costly, but they are always worth it. They protect our health, facilitate habitat restoration, and help transform formerly unusable properties into thriving economic centers.

2.3 Formal MTCA Cleanup Process

Formal cleanups are those conducted by a potentially liable person under an order or decree that are supervised by Ecology, or those conducted by Ecology through contracted private companies. These local government sites are eligible for Oversight Remedial Action Grants and Loans. The cleanup process, steps, and requirements, which are set forth in the MTCA Cleanup Rule ([Chapter 173-340 WAC](#)), are summarized below and illustrated in Figure 1.

1. **Site Discovery & Initial Investigation.** Sites can be discovered through reports from property owners, employees, neighbors, or other agencies. Ecology conducts an Initial Investigation to determine if the site needs further investigation. Property or tank owners may clean up the site at this stage. If not, Ecology adds it to the [Confirmed & Suspected Contaminated Sites List](#).
2. **Hazard Assessment.** Ecology will rank the site's hazard by comparing it to known sites. If it's a threat, it goes on Ecology's [Hazardous Sites List](#).
3. **Remedial Investigation (RI).** After a detailed work plan is prepared that describes how the investigation will be done, an RI is conducted to define the nature, extent, and magnitude of pollution at the site.
4. **Feasibility Study (FS).** This study uses information from the RI and identifies and analyzes cleanup alternatives.
5. **Cleanup Action Plan (CAP).** Ecology collaborates with property owners and other parties to develop a cleanup action plan that specifies cleanup standards and methods.

The plan describes the steps to be taken, the schedule, and any environmental monitoring that will be required during and after the cleanup.

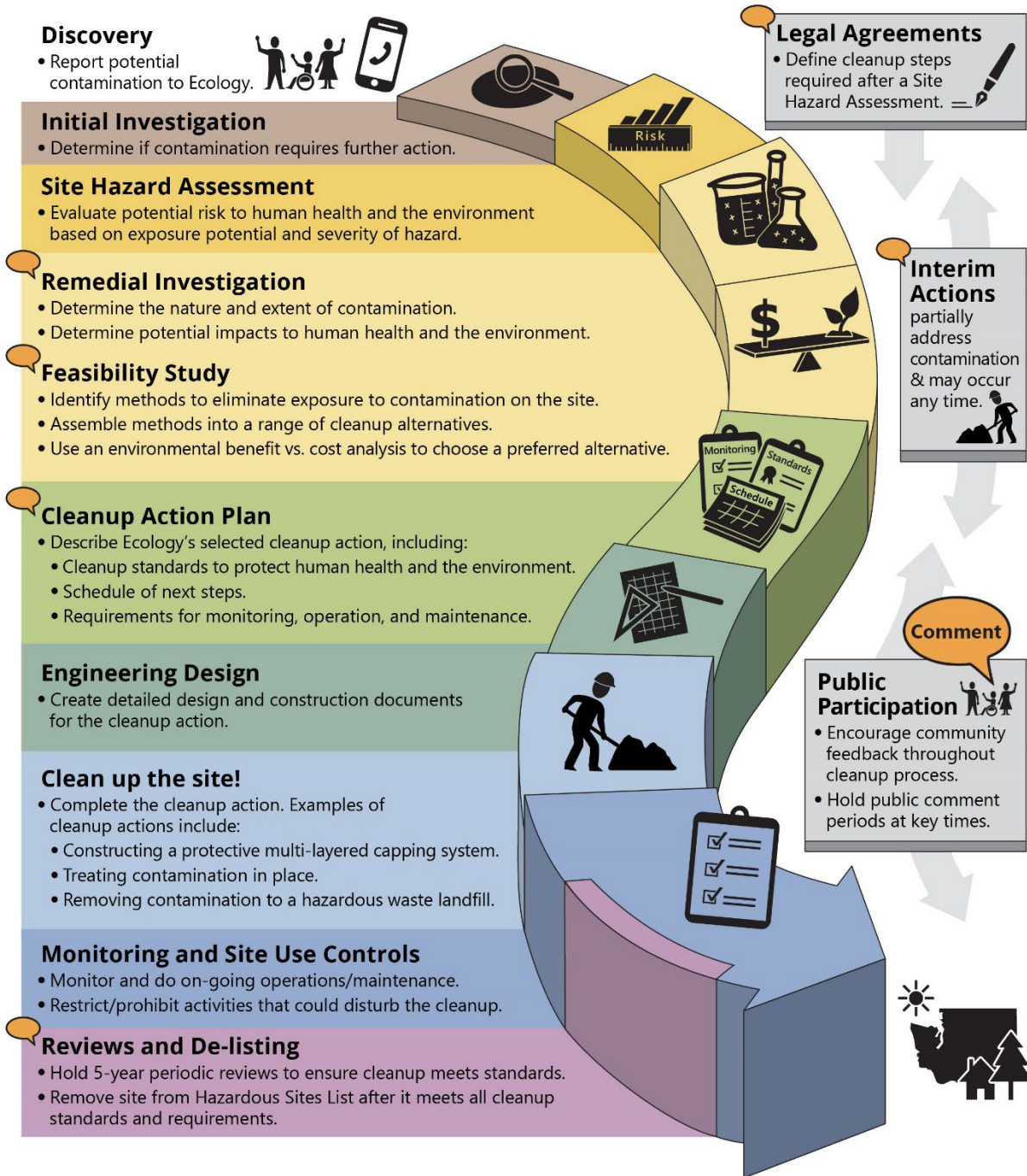
6. **Cleanup Construction.** Ecology will work with the people responsible to clean up and remove sources of pollution. Engineering Design Reports developed during this step define the cleanup activities themselves, such as removal method for a leaking underground storage tank. The cleanup efforts to remove or isolate hazardous waste from the environment can be dirty, costly, and take years to complete.
7. **De-list the Site.** Ecology removes the site from the Hazardous Sites List after it meets all cleanup standards and requirements.
8. **Interim Actions.** At any time during the cleanup process, Ecology may take legal measures and extra steps to reduce the risk to human health and the environment, and partially clean up the contamination.

An example of an interim action might be referring cleanup emergencies to Ecology's Spills Program for immediate action. Ecology may also conduct monitoring, Five-Year Periodic Reviews, and ongoing operations and maintenance to ensure cleanups meet MTCA standards and protect human health. Ecology may use institutional controls, such as environmental covenants, that prohibit certain activities that could expose people to hazardous waste remaining at a site, or impact a cleanup's integrity over time.

For more information about the MTCA cleanup process, visit Ecology's webpage, [How the cleanup process works](#).



Washington's Formal Cleanup Process



Washington's Cleanup Law
 Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA)

MTCA defines the cleanup process. This public-initiated environmental law directs upland cleanups (on land or in groundwater) and sediment cleanups (in freshwater or marine environments). Ecology enacts MTCA and regulates the cleanup process.

September 2019
 Ecology Publication 19-09-166

Figure 1: Steps in the formal MTCA cleanup process ([publication no. 19-09-166](#)).

Chapter 3: Funding Cycle

This chapter describes the major steps of Ecology’s two-year funding cycle. Washington state’s budget operates on a biennium, or two-year funding cycle. A biennium begins on July 1 of each odd-numbered year and ends on June 30 of the next odd-numbered year.

In February of even-numbered years, Ecology solicits applications for the following remedial action grants and loans:

- Oversight Remedial Action Grants and Loans;
- Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants;
- Safe Drinking Water Action Grants.

Ecology uses the applications to develop its budget request for the next biennium and update its ten-year financing plan for remedial action grants and loans. Ecology must submit both its budget request to the Governor and its [MTCA ten-year financing report](#) to the Legislature in September of even-numbered years. The report estimates the amount of public financing needed to help Ecology and local governments investigate and clean up contaminated sites in the next biennium and over the next ten years. The report is required under RCW [70.105D.030\(4\)](#).

3.1 Application Submittal

All Ecology grants and loans are administered through Ecology’s Administration of Grants and Loans (EAGL) online system. EAGL is a comprehensive web-based grant and loan management system that allows Applicants and Recipients to complete grant applications, submit payment requests with progress reports, submit closeout and equipment reports, and request amendments online.

To gain access to the EAGL system, an Applicant must first create a [Secure Access Washington \(SAW\) account](#). Once a SAW account has been set up, Applicants can log in and request access to EAGL. The EAGL account approval process can take up to three business days. Once the account has been authorized, Applicants and Recipients can log in and use EAGL to apply for and manage their grants. Only grant programs that are accepting applications will be displayed in EAGL.

SAW and EAGL video tutorials:

- [How to obtain a Secure Access Washington \(SAW\) account](#)
- [Applying for Ecology grants](#)

EAGL instructions with screenshots and helpful tips:

- [EAGL Instructions for 2021–23 Remedial Action Grant & Loan Applications](#) (2020)
- [EAGL External Users' Manual](#) (2017)

For help using EAGL or completing an application:

- Contact the appropriate Ecology Grant Financial Manager listed in the Program Contacts at the beginning of this Guidance.

3.2 Project Evaluation and Ranking

Projects submitted during the 2020 project solicitation (February and March 2020) will be considered for funding during the 2021–23 biennium—that is, if funding is awarded in the biennial budget, it would become available 1.5 years later beginning (approximately) July 1, 2021. Read more about this timing in Section 3.3, “Ecology’s Budget Request and Appropriation.”

The “Eligibility and Criteria Form” in EAGL that Applicants complete gives Ecology answers about the project’s eligibility and scored criteria. Ecology staff will update answers as needed and answer additional scored criteria that are more technical, such as the nature of the contaminants. When answering the criteria originally scored by Ecology staff, previous project-specific information available to Ecology, as well as additional information provided in the application’s “Eligibility and Criteria Form,” will be considered. The finalized answers generate the application’s final score that is used as part of the project ranking and funding decision process. Criteria vary by grant type and are specified in Chapter 173-322A WAC. The grant-specific chapters in this Guidance include sections that explain the scoring for each grant type. The corresponding WAC is provided in Appendix A of this document.

The final scores are used to rank the projects for each grant type and determine funding priority. The subsequent project list is used by Ecology to provide a funding request as seems reasonable with available monetary resources.

3.3 Ecology’s Budget Request and Appropriation

In September of even-numbered years, Ecology submits a prioritized budget request for remedial action grants and loans to the Governor’s Office, and submits the MTCA Ten-Year Financing Report to the Legislature.

Before the end of each even-numbered calendar year, the Governor’s office releases their budget proposal. That budget is used as the starting point for the Legislature when session begins in January of an odd-numbered year. The Legislature will pass a final budget, which is usually effective and enacted on July 1 of the odd-numbered year. The length of this process results in an approximate 1.5 year delay between when projects are solicited and when funding for those projects becomes available to successful Applicants.

3.4 Agreement Development

After the biennial budget is enacted, Ecology notifies Applicants if their project received funding. For funded projects, Ecology will work to accurately capture the scope of work for the grant. With the exception of the Grant Administration task, Oversight Remedial Action Grants and Loans defer to the scope of work defined in the order or decree. Safe Drinking Water Action Grants and Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants will be assigned an Ecology Grant Financial Manager and Ecology Cleanup Project Manager. Ecology staff will then work with the Recipient to ensure the grant scope of work matches the needs of the remedial cleanup and program requirements.

3.5 Reapplying

Unfunded projects will be moved to the “Unfunded” status in EAGL. Ecology may request funding of additional projects in a supplemental budget request. However, the legislative session for the first supplemental budget overlaps with the biennial solicitation for the following biennium. Due to this overlap, any project that did not initially receive funding should be resubmitted during the next project solicitation.

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Chapter 4: Funding Policies and Criteria

This chapter highlights general funding policies and updates related to implementing the Remedial Action Grant and Loan Program. For questions about these policies, please contact the appropriate Ecology Grant Financial Manager.

4.1 Cash Management

Ecology generally funds remedial action grants by each major phase of remedial action (remedial investigation, feasibility study, and cleanup). To better manage cash flow and provide the most grant funds possible to Applicants who are ready to proceed with cleanups, the RAG rule prohibits Ecology from:

- Awarding more funds for a project each biennium than estimated to be necessary to complete the scope of work for that biennium; or
- Awarding more funds for a project until the Recipient substantially spends or commits the funds awarded during the previous biennium (WAC [173-322A-220\(5\)](#)).

4.2 Other Funding Sources

When applying and developing a budget for a remedial action grant, the local government must identify all actual and potential sources of public and private financing for the project. These sources may include:

- Other grants;
- Local matching funds;
- Agreements with other public and private Potentially Liable Persons (PLPs) or Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) to help pay for remedial action costs;
- Insurance policies and claims made against those policies; or
- Lawsuits filed to pursue a contribution claim or cost recovery claim under MTCA or the federal cleanup law.

An Applicant should conduct a thorough search for other PLPs or PRPs and relevant insurance policies, and initiate contact with these persons to try to reduce the public's share of cleanup costs. Ecology may condition a remedial action grant on a requirement to have exhausted all means, including litigation if appropriate, to recover funds from these other sources.

4.2.1 Allowed use of other proceeds

A Recipient may use the proceeds from another grant source (not from Ecology), a settlement of an insurance claim, contribution claim, or cost recovery claim for the following cleanup-related costs:

- The Recipient’s grant match;
- The legal costs incurred by the Recipient to pursue the claim or action, which are not grant-eligible;
- The remedial action costs incurred by the Recipient at the site that were not grant-eligible, such as long term operation and maintenance or monitoring costs and certain retroactive costs; or
- With Ecology’s approval, remedial action costs incurred by the Recipient at another contaminated site that was not the basis of the remedial action grant, insurance claim, contribution claim, or cost recovery claim for remedial action costs at the site.

4.2.2 Using other proceeds as grant match

Provided certain conditions are met, a Recipient may use proceeds from other grants (that aren’t from Ecology), an insurance claim, a contribution claim, or a cost recovery claim under MTCA or the federal cleanup law to meet the match requirements for a remedial action grant. All other funding sources, including from grants and litigation, must be identified in the remedial action grant application. Once the grant is awarded and active, the following conditions must be met if additional funding is allocated to the project from other sources:

- Upon application for another grant, filing a lawsuit, or insurance claim to recover remedial action costs at the contaminated site, the Recipient must notify Ecology of the application or filing within 30 days;
- Upon successful grant application, legal action, or insurance claim, the Recipient must notify Ecology within 30 days of the total amount of funds received to date for remedial action costs at the contaminated site. Additional funds must also be reported in the next quarterly Progress Report submitted with the next Payment Request. The report should include:
 - The date of grant award, successful legal action, or insurance claim;
 - The specific amount of proceeds (or anticipated proceeds) received and the portion attributable to eligible costs; and

- A copy of the grant agreement, settlement, judgment, or other document resolving the lawsuit or claim that details the funds received.

4.2.3 Repayment of excess proceeds

When the proceeds from all other grant awards and settlements of all insurance claims, contribution claims, and cost recovery claims at a contaminated site exceed the allowed uses of the proceeds described above, the following may occur:

- If the remedial action grant has not yet been issued, Ecology will typically reduce the amount of the remedial action grant by the excess proceeds;
- If the remedial grant has been issued and spent, Ecology will typically require repayment of the remedial action grant up to the amount of the excess proceeds.

4.3 Permit Eligibility Requirement (New)

In 2019, the Washington State Legislature added the following condition for remedial action grants and loans in Sec. 203(5) of [ESSB 5993](#), which reformed the MTCA financing structure:

[Ecology] may not award a grant or loan for a remedial action unless the local government has obtained all of the required permits for the action within one year of the effective date of the enacted budget (RCW [70.105D.200\(5\)](#)).

During the 2022 legislative session, the Legislature passed Senate Bill [5895](#),⁹ which removes the permit funding condition in the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) for Remedial Action Grants. The rest of section 4.3 has been retracted because of Senate Bill 5895.

~~4.3.1 Project solicitation~~

~~Local governments may apply for these grants and loans only during the biennial project solicitation period. As part of the application, local governments provide information about the project's readiness to proceed, including whether any permits are required and when such permits are expected to be obtained.~~

~~Based on these applications, Ecology will determine the project's eligibility and priority, and develop a project list for the budget request to the Governor's office for that biennium. The~~

⁹ [https://lawfilesexxt.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2021-22/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/Senate/5895.SL.pdf?q=20220427121117:HAZARDOUS WASTE SITES—LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMEDIATION GRANTS—TIMING](https://lawfilesexxt.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2021-22/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/Senate/5895.SL.pdf?q=20220427121117:HAZARDOUS%20WASTE%20SITES—LOCAL%20GOVERNMENT%20REMEDIATION%20GRANTS—TIMING), Senate Bill 5895, Chapter 102, Laws of 2022

project list is also published in the biennial [Model Toxics Control Accounts Ten-Year Financing Report](#). The project list is only considered for funding during that biennium.

4.3.2 Supplemental budget requests

In the biennial and supplemental budgets for that biennium, Ecology may request funding for projects on the list. Ecology will request funding for projects in the order in which they are ranked on the project list.

4.3.3 Updating project status

Upon enactment of Washington State's budget, Ecology will ask Applicants whose projects were funded to update their project's permitting status. Applicants must specify whether:

- ~~All permits required for the project have been obtained; **or**~~
- ~~All permits required for the project are expected within one year of the effective date of the enacted budget; **or**~~
- ~~All permits required for the project are not expected within one year of the effective date of the enacted budget.~~

~~If all permits required for the project have not been obtained, Applicants must also specify:~~

- ~~Whether some remedial actions may proceed in the absence of the permits (such as engineering design); **and**~~
- ~~Whether grant funding is needed for those remedial actions (funding may not be needed if previously awarded funds are sufficient).~~

~~When deciding whether to award a grant or loan for a project, Ecology may consider each remedial action within a project separately. For example, Ecology may consider engineering design separate from construction. For projects where some, but not all, remedial actions meet the permit condition, Ecology may phase project funding, or defer awarding a grant or loan until all required permits have been obtained for the project. Based on whether permits are required for a remedial action, and the status of obtaining those permits, Ecology will take the following steps:~~

- ~~**No permits required or all required permits have been obtained:** For a remedial action where no permits are required or where all required permits have been obtained, Ecology may award the grant or loan.~~

- ~~●—All permits expected within one year of effective date of the enacted budget:~~ For a remedial action where all permits are expected within one year of the enacted budget, Ecology will defer awarding a grant or loan until all required permits for the remedial action are obtained. However, if all required permits are not obtained within that year, Ecology will:

 - ~~○ De-obligate funding for the remedial action; **and**~~
 - ~~○ Remove the project from the biennial project list, making the remedial action ineligible for funding during the remainder of the biennium; **and**~~
 - ~~○ Grant de-obligated funds to the next project on the list.~~

- ~~●—One or more permits not expected within one year of effective date of the enacted budget:~~ For a remedial action where one or more permits are not expected within one year of the effective date of the enacted budget, Ecology will:

 - ~~○ De-obligate funding for the remedial action; **and**~~
 - ~~○ Remove the project from the biennial project list, making the remedial action ineligible for funding during the remainder of the biennium; **and**~~
 - ~~○ Grant de-obligated funds to the next project on the list.~~

4.3.4 Re-applying for de-obligated funds

~~If Ecology de-obligates funding for a remedial action during a biennium, the remedial action is ineligible for funding during the remainder of the biennium. Ecology will not request funding for the remedial action in a supplemental budget.~~

~~To obtain funding for the remedial action in the next biennium, the local government must re-apply during the specified project solicitation period. Ecology will evaluate the application along with all other applications when prioritizing projects for funding in the next biennium.~~

4.4 Cultural Resources Eligibility Requirement

Projects funded by a remedial action grant or loan require a review for potential impacts to cultural resources. Examples of cultural resources might include archaeological sites or objects; buildings older than 50 years that are on the historic register or eligible for the historic register; or locations of significant events or pre-historic or historic occupation of activity, such as trails, petroglyphs, village sites, or battlefields.

State and local regulatory standards vary by project type, type of funding, and location. The goal of the review is to identify any cultural resources potentially affected by the proposed action, assess the effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse impacts on historic properties and cultural resources.

4.4.1 Cultural resource consultation

Ecology will need to review all remedial action grant and loan projects for potential impacts to cultural resources and historic places. Ecology will consult with the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and tribes. Applicants will need to complete our [Executive Order 05-05 Section 106 NHPA Project Review Form](#) to initiate this consultation.

For all projects involving potentially ground-disturbing activities, Applicants will also need to complete a [Public Inadvertent Discovery Plan \(IDP\)](#) in the event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, or historic or prehistoric resources. The plan is required to be onsite, at all times. Applicants may use the Ecology-approved IDP form or draft your own. If you draft your own plan, please make sure it includes all necessary and relevant information.

Local governments are encouraged to request a cultural resources consultation from Ecology as soon as possible. Ecology may not reimburse otherwise grant-eligible costs if a cultural resources consultation was not completed prior to ground-disturbing activity.

4.5 Environmental Justice Evaluation Criteria

Providing equitable environmental protection to all residents in our state is important to Ecology and the State of Washington. This principle is often referred to as “environmental equity” or “environmental justice.” Ecology defines environmental equity or justice as:

The proportionate and equitable distribution of environmental benefits and risks among diverse economic and cultural communities. It ensures that the policies, activities, and the responses of government do not differently impact diverse social and economic groups. Environmental equity promotes a safe and healthy environment for all people (Ecology Executive Policy 1-12, available upon request).

This principle is consistent with MTCA’s key policy that:

Each person has a fundamental and inalienable right to a healthful environment, and each person has a responsibility to preserve and enhance that right (RCW [70.105D.010\(1\)](#)).

This principle is further reflected in the RAG rule, which requires Ecology to consider the following factor when prioritizing projects for funding:

Whether the [contaminated] site is located within a highly impacted community (see, for example, WAC [173-322A-320](#)(3)(d)).

A “highly impacted community” is defined in the RAG rule as:

[A] community that [Ecology] has determined is likely to bear a disproportionate burden of public health risks from environmental pollution (WAC [173-322A-100\(24\)](#)).

Ecology currently identifies a highly impacted community as one where the population of the census tract exceeds the 80th percentile for one or more of the following five criteria:

- Low income (below the mean income);
- Less than a high school education;
- Minority;
- Under 5 years of age;
- Over 65 years of age.

Ecology also considers a community as highly impacted if it is linguistically isolated. Ecology considers a community as linguistically isolated if more than 5% or 1,000 people within the census tract speak English “less than very well.” This approach mirrors the recommendations from the U.S. EPA for including environmental justice concerns into environmental work.

More data on the public health aspects of environmental justice can be found on the [Department of Health’s webpage](#). The Department of Health also maintains the [Washington Tracking Network](#), which is a map-based tool used to facilitate searching for and displaying health concerns that have links to environmental health. The U.S. EPA has other information on their [environmental justice website](#).

4.6 Climate Change in Cleanup Criteria

Planning for adaptation (identifying and preparing for climate change impacts) and mitigation (reducing future climate change) are critical issues for contaminated sites that Ecology must address. Improving our ability to anticipate and prepare for climate change impacts will help protect human health and the environment, protect the substantial investment in cleaning up contaminated sites, and ensure the long-term effectiveness of cleanup remedies. In Washington state, relatively modest observed climate trends are projected to accelerate in the decades ahead, contributing to an increase in sea level rise, extreme precipitation events, wildfires, and flooding.

According to the U.S. EPA, green remediation is the “practice of considering all environmental effects of remedy implementation and incorporating options to maximize net environmental

benefit of cleanup actions.”¹⁰ The goals of green remediation are to increase the environmental benefit and reduce the environmental impacts throughout the cleanup process. Implementing green remediation best management practices can result in:

1. **Benefits to human health and the environment.** Reducing nitrogen/sulfur oxides and diesel particulate matter emissions benefits air quality; and reducing greenhouse gas emissions decreases contributions to carbon in the atmosphere.
2. **Cost savings.** Conserving energy reduces fuel and electricity costs, and minimizing waste material reduces transportation costs and landfill tipping fees.
3. **Benefits to the local economy.** Using local goods and services can generate revenue and jobs for the community and limit the mileage from transporting people and materials. This, in turn, conserves energy and fuel and reduces air pollutant emissions.

For more information on incorporating climate change considerations in cleanup, please review Ecology’s climate change guidance, [*Adaptation Strategies for Resilient Cleanup Remedies: A guide for cleanup project managers to increase the resilience of toxic cleanup sites to the impacts from climate change*](#) (2017).

¹⁰ U.S. EPA Definition taken from <https://www.epa.gov/remedytech/green-remediation-incorporating-sustainable-environmental-practices-remediation>

Chapter 5: Grant and Loan Management

This chapter describes the financial and administrative aspects of managing a remedial action grant or loan and is intended to address some common questions that frequently arise during agreement execution. The information in this chapter supplements the following:

- Information contained in the applicable version of Ecology’s “[Yellow Book](#),” the *Administrative Requirements for Recipients of Ecology Grants and Loans*;
- The project-specific terms and conditions specified in the grant agreement;
- The General Terms and Conditions for Ecology grants and loans. This document is included in each grant or loan agreement. Contact the appropriate Ecology Financial Grant Manager for the latest version. If the General Terms and Conditions are amended during the biennium, the version in effect on the date the agreement was signed or date of the most recent amendment applies. The General Terms and Conditions are not negotiable;
- The scope of work or other requirements specified in an order, decree, or the grant agreement. For Oversight Remedial Action Grants and Loans, the order or decree contains the scope of work and determines eligible costs. For Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants and Safe Drinking Water Action Grants, the grant agreement outlines the scope of work and determines eligible costs.

5.1 Roles and Responsibilities

The remedial action grant process that supports cleanup work involves several key individuals: the grant Applicant or Recipient, the Ecology Grant Financial Manager, the Ecology Cleanup Project Manager, and the Ecology Toxics Cleanup Program Section Manager.

5.1.1 Grant Applicant or Recipient

The local government that applies for the grant is responsible for managing the work funded by the grant, including compliance with both cleanup and grant administration requirements. Remedial actions must be consistent with applicable rules, the order or decree, and the approved work plan. Remedial actions must also be completed within reasonable costs. The Recipient is responsible for ensuring that contractors or consultants are procured and act in accordance with all applicable federal and state laws.

Applicants are responsible for submitting accurate application materials including all elements of the grant application. Once the grant is executed the Recipient is responsible for updating the spending plan, quarterly payment request and progress reports, and timely notification to

Ecology staff of any changes to the scope of work, work schedule, or other changes to the grant budget.

5.1.2 Ecology Grant Financial Manager

The Ecology Grant Financial Manager is the Recipient’s contact for questions or concerns regarding cost eligibility, EAGL assistance, amendments, and grant administration. Once the grant is awarded, the Grant Financial Manager will work with the Recipient to ensure the grant description, budget, and scope of work appropriately reflect the work to be funded by the grant. Once the grant is activated, the Grant Financial Manager will facilitate amendments, review each payment request, and ensure proper grant close out. The Grant Financial Manager reviews each payment request to ensure proper documentation, accuracy of records, and cost eligibility.

5.1.3 Ecology Cleanup Project Manager

The Ecology Cleanup Project Manager is the primary point of contact for site work, and is responsible for managing the cleanup and responding to questions or concerns about remedial actions. Cleanup Project Managers verify Applicant information prior to project ranking and funding decisions by the Toxics Cleanup Program Management Team. Once the grant is active, the Cleanup Project Manager will conduct site visits; review technical documents; and review quarterly progress reports and payment requests. Technical documents are reviewed to ensure compliance with MTCA and other applicable requirements, and for completeness and data quality. When a grant is active, the Cleanup Project Manager will review payment requests and progress reports to ensure technical accuracy, reasonableness of costs, and compliance with the scope of work as defined in the order, decree, or grant agreement.

5.1.4 Ecology Toxics Cleanup Program Section Manager

Ecology’s Toxics Cleanup Program Section Manager supervises Ecology’s Cleanup Project Managers within their geographic area of responsibility. For remedial action grants, their role includes informing potential Applicants of available grants; coordinating ten-year plan submissions; working with other members of the Toxics Cleanup Program Management team to rank and score projects for budget requests; and monitoring grant activity and expenditures.

5.2 Remedial Action Spending Plans

Ecology generally funds remedial action grants by each major phase of remedial action (remedial investigation, feasibility study, and cleanup). This allows Ecology to better manage cash flow and provide the most grant funds possible to Applicants who are ready to proceed with cleanups. Recipients must update spending plans for their grant within EAGL with each payment request. Ecology’s Toxics Cleanup Program Management Team meets quarterly to review the actual

expenditures to date and projected future expenditures. If a project becomes significantly delayed, unspent funds may be allotted to another project.

5.3 Technical Reports

Any technical reports required under the grant or loan should be submitted to the Ecology Cleanup Project Manager for review as specified in the order, decree, or grant agreement. All sampling data generated during remedial actions must be entered into Ecology's Environmental Information Management system (EIM). Payments may be withheld if the data has not been properly entered into EIM or not all technical documents submitted.

5.4 Quarterly Grant Progress Reports & Payment Requests

Remedial action grants are provided on a cost reimbursement basis. This means a cost must be incurred by the Recipient before it is eligible for reimbursement under a remedial action grant. Requests for reimbursement and adequate documentation of eligible costs incurred after the agreement signature date must be submitted to Ecology within 120 days of incurring the costs.

The Recipient must complete progress reports and submit one with each payment request, or at a minimum each quarter, during the lifetime of the grant. Progress reports describe actions and accomplishments in meeting project milestones, and include a certification that sampling results have been submitted to Ecology as required. Ecology's Grant Financial Manager and Cleanup Project Manager review progress reports to learn how the activities are proceeding, the reasons for any delays or cost overruns, and if any changes took place in the project, project staff, or contractors. Quarterly progress reports must include information on the status of pending cost recovery actions and insurance claims.

Ecology's Grant Financial Manager cannot process a payment request without a progress report, proper documentation, or updated spending plan for that billing period.

5.5 Amendments

After Ecology's Grant Financial Manager establishes the grant budget, amendments to change the length of the agreement, or increase or decrease the budget, may be considered. However, Ecology does not promise or guarantee such amendments. Ecology may amend an agreement to change the length of the agreement or the budget for the agreement. Ecology usually does not amend an agreement to increase funding. If additional funding were needed, Ecology would usually award it in a subsequent grant agreement after the successful application in a subsequent project solicitation.

The Ecology Grant Financial Manager may only redistribute funds among the grant tasks or perform other amendments through a formal amendment process. If a change is needed, the Recipient can request an amendment through EAGL or by emailing their project's Ecology Grant Financial Manager. Once approved, the amendment process can begin.

Ecology may allow a Recipient to deviate from the task budget by up to 10% of the total grant budget. At their discretion, the Ecology Grant Financial Manager may require an amendment when the budget is surpassed even if by less than 10%. If a payment request goes over the 10% threshold, the exceeding funds will be withheld until an amendment appropriately adjusts the budget and a new payment request is approved. The exceeding funds will automatically be dispersed along with the approved funds of the new payment request.

5.6 Close Out

When a grant is completely spent, eligible activities are completed, or the grant is otherwise finished, the Recipient will need to submit:

- **Outstanding technical documents.** All technical documents must be provided to the Cleanup Project Manager as outlined in the order, decree, or grant agreement. Final payment and grant close out may be withheld if completed deliverables are not submitted appropriately to Ecology staff.
- **Final Payment Request and Progress Report.** Both of these EAGL forms will require the Recipient to identify it as the final payment request or progress report for the grant. Select “yes” on the final payment request and progress report to enable closing out the grant.
- **Close Out Report.** This is an EAGL form found in the Payment Request Menu where the Recipient summarizes the final achievements of the activities funded by the grant. In most cases, the Close Out Report will be required with the final Payment Request and Progress Report. However if it is not, then the Close Out Report is due within 45 days of grant closure initiation.

5.7 Audits

All grants and loans are subject to audit. Ecology has the right to audit the grant for three years after the grant is officially finished. Ecology may audit grant related documentation at any time during the project. If problems are identified, they must be corrected. If Ecology identifies any problems on invoices, all previous invoices must be reviewed and corrected. This could include repayment of grant funds or adjustments to subsequent billings to reimburse Ecology for overpayments.

Chapter 6: Cost Eligibility

The Recipient is responsible for understanding cost eligibility terms prior to incurring an expense and billing to the grant. Cost eligibility is outlined in the terms of the agreement, the grant rules, Ecology’s [“Yellow Book,”](#) and this Guidance.

Only Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager can determine if a cost is eligible under the grant. Ecology Grant Financial Managers work with Ecology Cleanup Project Managers, who supervise the actual cleanup or investigation related activities, to ensure the costs are reasonable, necessary, and applicable to the project. If there are any questions about whether a specific cost may be billed to the grant, the Recipient must ask the Ecology Grant Financial Manager responsible for the agreement.

The Recipient is fully responsible for paying any cost that Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager does not allow. This remains true even if the Recipient did not understand the cost was not eligible, or a contractor or other representative approved or purchased the item without the Recipient’s knowledge or approval.

If the Ecology Grant Financial Manager decides a cost is not grant-eligible, the item should not be included on any future payment requests. The Recipient is responsible for submitting accurate and properly documented payment requests for eligible expenses.

Only eligible cash expenditures are reimbursable. In general, an eligible cost is:

- **Necessary to complete the scope of work.** The scope of work must be approved by Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager and Ecology’s Cleanup Project Manager. For sites under an order or decree, the scope of work in the grant agreement must be consistent with the required work plan for the order or decree. For Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants and Safe Drinking Water Action Grants, the scope of work is defined only in the grant agreement.
- **Reasonable for the task.** Ecology reserves the right to reject costs as excessive, even when work is fully approved from a technical standpoint. As a result, some expenses may be reimbursed at less than the allowable percentages or not at all. It is important to communicate project needs, especially equipment, with Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager prior to making large expenditures to ensure the expenditure will be reimbursed.
- **Timing.** Costs must be incurred after the effective date of the agreement and before the expiration date of the agreement.

- **Retroactive costs.** Costs incurred prior to the grant being written are at the sole expense of the Recipient, except as specified for the grant type.
 - **Oversight Remedial Action Grants and Loans:**
 - Costs incurred under the order or decree during the period of a prior grant agreement that have not been reimbursed by Ecology;
 - Costs incurred under the order or decree between the effective date of the order or decree and the agreement signature date;
 - Costs incurred negotiating the order or decree, provided that the costs are not legal costs and were incurred within 60 days after starting negotiations for an order, or 120 days after starting negotiations for a decree;
 - Costs incurred before the effective date of the order or decree conducting independent remedial actions, subject to certain conditions and limitations.
 - **Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants and Safe Drinking Water Action Grants:** Only retroactive costs incurred during the period of a prior grant agreement of the same type are eligible.
- **Consistent.** Charged costs must be consistent with the standard business practices of the Recipient, contractor, or consultant. A cost is not eligible if it is computed differently than costs incurred in any other Recipient, contractor, or consultant activity. The Recipient, contractor, or consultant must compute the direct and indirect charges in the same way as those charges would be computed if the costs were related to any other activity. Consistency with standard business practices should be followed, except when grant billing or other requirements necessitate variation.

6.1 Proper Documentation

All remedial action costs must be properly documented to be considered eligible for reimbursement. The Recipient must upload all supporting documentation to EAGL for each payment request and progress report. This includes documentation for all expenses, including the Recipient’s salary and benefits data, contractor and subcontractor invoices and receipts, accounting records or any other form of record that establishes the appropriateness of an expense. Receipts for supplies or meals must be itemized. A charge card receipt with only a total payment amount is not acceptable documentation. Backup documentation requirements are the same for contractors and their subcontractors.

At a minimum, supporting documentation must include:

- Description of the item or services purchased. “Supplies” is not an adequate description. The invoice must include a list of the individual items purchased with the quantity and price;
- Name of vendor;
- Date of cost incurred;
- Invoice number;
- Invoice date;
- Serial, vehicle identification number (VIN), or other identifying number (for equipment or vehicles costing \$5,000 or more);
- Cost and quantity for each line item or service;
- Tax;
- Total cost;
- Notes associating the cost to the grant site can be handwritten on invoice by the Recipient;
- Grant task number that cost is being billed to.

Backup documentation should organizationally follow the receipt or invoice to which it relates. The documentation must be organized and labeled in such a manner that Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager can determine which expenses are being claimed in a reasonable amount of time. If the backup documentation is disorganized to the extent that Ecology’s Grant Financial

Manager cannot locate the appropriate information in a timely manner, the payment request will be returned to the Recipient for modification and reorganization.

Fixed Price or Lump Sum contracts often used in public works contracting also require backup documentation to support charges. This includes trip tickets for contaminated soil disposal, rental receipts for equipment, subcontractor invoices, sampling and analysis bills, and receipts for supplies and direct expenses. Ecology may also require the contract to be uploaded as backup.

Withholding is not billable to the grant until it has been paid to a consultant or contractor and proper documentation can be provided. Costs must have been incurred to be reimbursable. Backup documentation of consultant or contractor payments often includes a) copies of emails or memos from the Recipient to the bank approving the release of the funds, and b) copies of financial transactions or a letter from the bank showing release of funds to the consultant or contractor. An invoice from the consultant or contractor billing for the withholding, and a warrant from the Recipient showing payment of the withholding, are also acceptable documentation.

Recipient salary and benefit costs should document the date work was performed and the hours worked per day. The Recipient may use an Excel spreadsheet, or a printout from their accounting system. All backup documentation must be uploaded into EAGL, along with a statement about where and how the backup information was collected (such as from a time accounting system or manual spreadsheet updates). If Recipient time is entered into an Excel spreadsheet, then a copy of the signed timesheet should be provided as additional backup. Documentation must be presented for each day worked, not only in a summary rolled up into pay periods. The backup documentation must include:

- The name of employee charging to the grant with their actual salary and benefits;
- For each employee, provide the hours worked each day, by date, and by grant task;
- The role each employee fulfills for the project.

Consultant time requires the number of hours worked per day, a brief description of tasks worked each day, and necessary backup from a payroll system or project tracking database. It is understood that consultant time is usually charged at a chargeable rate that includes benefits. However if the rate seems unreasonable, Ecology may not reimburse at the full chargeable rate. The same cost eligibility rules apply to consultants hired directly by the Recipient and the subcontractors hired by any primary consultants or contractors.

6.2 Eligible Costs

For the purposes of this Guidance, “grant-eligible costs” are also called “eligible costs.” While the scope of work will be identified in the order, decree, or grant agreement, there are often specific issues related to eligible costs that may arise during grant implementation. When there is a question about what is an eligible cost, the Recipient should first review the applicable version of Ecology’s “[Yellow Book](#),” *Administrative Requirements for Recipients of Ecology Grants and Loans*.

- **Administrative costs.** Administrative costs that are incurred as part of normal administrative processes for approval of contracts or payment of bills are eligible costs. For example, time spent reviewing invoices, preparing payment requests or progress reports, and other project-related documents, or participating in briefing meetings with elected officials who need to approve a contract related to the grant, are eligible costs.
- **Direct expenses.** Direct costs are eligible costs. These are costs that can be identified specifically with a particular task for the project, such as:
 - Compensation for employee time devoted to the project;
 - Cost of materials used specifically for the project;
 - Cost of goods or services furnished for the project by other entities such as consultants or other agencies or programs.
- **Operation and maintenance or monitoring costs.** Operation and maintenance or monitoring occurs after construction of a cleanup action component is complete. These actions are usually specified in an Operation and Maintenance Plan, required under WAC [173-340-400](#)(4)(c), or a Compliance Monitoring Plan, required under WAC [173-340-410](#). However, these costs are not grant-eligible if they are incurred more than one year after completing construction. See Ineligible Costs later in this chapter.

Ecology may only fund one year of operation and maintenance or monitoring for each funded cleanup action component, including long-term actions such as monitored natural attenuation or monitored natural recovery. Any costs incurred performing such activities after the first year are the sole responsibility of the Recipient.

When it’s not clear whether construction of a cleanup action component has been completed, Ecology uses U.S. EPA’s guidance, “[Closeout Procedures for National Priority Sites](#),” to determine if construction is complete.

- **Overhead.** Overhead costs are those incurred for a common purpose and not readily identifiable with a particular project. Examples of overhead include: utilities for a facility

not specific to the project or support departments such as human resources, fiscal staff, or supervisory personnel.

These costs should be proportioned between the grant and other non-grant related usage. The Recipient may charge overhead to cover costs that are not typically directly billed to the grant. Allowable overhead for remedial action grants is **up to 25%** of salaries and benefits for employees directly billing to the project for remedial action grants. If the normal organizational overhead rate for employees is 20%, then the grant should not be billed for more than 20% overhead. Overhead charges must be reported on the same billing as the connected salaries and benefits on which they are calculated as a separate line item.

- **Fleet costs and mileage.** The billing method for automobile or fleet costs needs to be clearly established and remain consistent throughout the grant. This method also needs to be consistent with how the Recipient typically manages their automobile or fleet expenses. It cannot be created specifically for purposes of the grant. The [state mileage rate](#) in effect at the time the cost was incurred is applicable as a maximum for any mileage billed by the Recipient, consultants, or contractors. Markups may not be applied to mileage unless the final rate is equal to or less than the state mileage rate in effect at the time the travel occurred. It is the Recipient's responsibility to correct mileage billed in excess of the state rate.
- **Parking.** Parking is a grant-eligible expense. Receipts must be provided for reimbursement. Absent a receipt, the cost will not be allowed.
- **Rental cars.** If the Recipient or a Recipient's contractor or consultant leases a rental car, the invoice should include the miles driven and the time period of the rental. Ecology may ask the Recipient to provide the project hours worked by the individual who used the car. If the employee or consultant did not work fulltime on grant activities during the period the car was leased, Ecology's Grant Financial Manager will only approve a prorated share of the rental or lease cost. Original gasoline receipts must be provided for fuel costs when a car is rented, unless otherwise approved by Ecology's Grant Financial Manager.
- **Consultant or contractor list of reimbursable expenses.** For vehicle expenses charged based on a list of their Reimbursable Expenses (example: \$100/day for use of their company vehicle) the grant may reimburse the amount of the per day or week charge for the use of the contractor or consultant vehicle in lieu of a rental vehicle from a rental company. In this case, the gasoline and mileage would not be paid separately. The only eligible cost is the charge for the vehicle usage.

- **Travel – per diem.** When on travel status, a Recipient’s and their consultant or contractor’s travel costs are grant-eligible under certain circumstances. Per diem costs will only be paid at the [state rate](#) determined by the Office of Financial Management. Travel costs are not eligible for markup by a contractor, consultant, or the Recipient, unless the total cost remains at or below the state travel rate in effect at the time of travel. Any markups over the state rate or other disallowed travel costs are the sole responsibility of the Recipient.
 - Itemized receipts are always required for hotels. The room rate cannot be reimbursed in excess of the state rate. This does not include additional room fees and taxes. For example: if the state rate is \$91, the room must cost \$91 or less. However, the reimbursable hotel bill could be higher than \$91 after the addition of taxes and room fees. This does not include room service. Non-traditional lodging, such as Airbnb and VRBO, are subject to approval of the Ecology Grant Financial Manager. In general, nontraditional lodging will be reimbursed at the state rate and further taxes or room fees are likely to be disallowed since they are typically higher for this type of lodging.
 - Exceptions to state-approved hotel rates may be authorized by Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager under limited circumstances. However, the approval must be provided in writing prior to the cost being incurred. Costs in excess of the state rate are not allowed if not requested or approved in advance.
- **Permit fees.** Fees for permits necessary to complete remedial actions are an eligible cost. This includes local, state (including Ecology-issued permits), and federal permits. If remedial actions being conducted under an order or decree are exempt from a local, state, or federal permit, any equivalent fee charged by the permitting agency to identify applicable, relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) are eligible costs (excluding Ecology or the U.S. EPA oversight charges). To complete the work within the biennium, it may be necessary to pay an extra fee for expedited permit review. These expedited fees are also eligible costs. Fees for permits related to redevelopment of a site are not eligible costs.
- **Supplies.** Supplies are tangible personal property other than tools or equipment. Supplies are either direct billed or are considered an overhead expense. Supplies or materials needed to perform the scope of work in the agreement are a grant-eligible cost. Under most grant agreements, these costs are part of overhead expenses but they can be directly billed if they are used only for grant-related activities. Receipts for supplies must be detailed and identify the specific items purchased.

Example: If toner, paper, or ink are purchased for an office printer used by multiple programs or projects, this is an overhead expense. If the Recipient has a project office with a project printer dedicated to use only on the grant funded activities, the printer supplies may be direct billed.

6.3 Conditionally Eligible Costs

Conditionally eligible costs are costs that may be grant-eligible if they meet certain conditions. **All conditionally eligible costs require prior written approval from Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager.** Failure to obtain prior approval may result in the Recipient having to pay for these costs, which also makes them ineligible to count towards the grant match. The following section discusses specific issues related to conditionally eligible costs that often arise during the administration of remedial action grants.

- **Amenity replacement costs.** Costs of replacing amenities on the site such as trash and recycle bins, sidewalks, benches, lighting, turf, picnic tables, and drinking fountains, may be allowed if these amenities were destroyed as a result of cleanup construction. Recipients must provide up-front documentation about why these amenities need to be removed and replaced.
- **Computer purchases.** Computer purchases (and associated software) are a conditionally allowable cost. In some cases—typically long-term cleanups—computers are an allowed direct expense. Recipients must obtain written approval from Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager to purchase computers that will be billed directly to the grant. Any costs incurred for computers or software purchased without Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager’s written approval are the Recipient’s responsibility. To request written approval from Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager for conditionally eligible costs, the Recipient must submit a justification for the purchase in writing, usually by email, that includes:
 - The work tasks to be performed on the computer;
 - A detailed price quote for the system that itemizes the components being requested for the purchase and any requested software or additions;
 - The amount of time the user or users are assigned to grant tasks;
 - The share of the total purchase price requested for grant funding.
- **Equipment.** Equipment means tangible, nonexpendable, personal property that has a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of at least \$5,000 per functional unit or system. Some tools can fall into the equipment category because of their cost.

Once an item exceeds the \$5,000 threshold, additional requirements govern its acquisition, use, and disposition and will require an Equipment Purchase Report in EAGL. Additional information on this topic is available in Ecology’s “[Yellow Book](#).” If a Recipient will want reimbursement for equipment purchases, the Recipient should inform Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager so the purchase can be written into the grant agreement.

- **Tools.** Tools are tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of less than \$5,000 per functional unit. Tools are a conditionally allowable cost. They require written approval from Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager. Considerations typically include the following:
 - Is the tool required to perform the scope of work in the agreement?
 - Is the cost reasonable?
 - Is the price of the tool the most economical means of accomplishing the task or work?
 - Will the Recipient maintain ownership/possession of the tool?

If tools are purchased without approval by Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager prior to the purchase, the Recipient is solely responsible for the full cost. Ecology may purchase tools for Recipients but not for private individuals such as contractors. Ecology expects that contractors or consultants arrive trained and equipped to do the job for which they were hired.

- **Light refreshments.** Light refreshments for public meetings required in the scope of work for the agreement are conditionally allowable costs. The Recipient must request approval to provide light refreshments prior to incurring any expense. Before the meeting, submit the following to Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager:
 - Written request that contains an explanation for the purpose of the meeting;
 - Meeting agenda or description of purpose; and
 - Draft budget (expense itemization) approved by Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager in advance of the event.

After the meeting, submit the following to Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager:

- Sign-in sheet or attendance list; and

- Final vendor receipts or invoices.

The Recipient and consultant or contractor lunches or meeting refreshments are not reimbursable under the grant agreement unless the employees are shown to be on travel status and the costs are approved by the Ecology Grant Financial Manager in advance of the costs being incurred.

- **Groundbreaking and cleanup completion ceremonies.** The costs of hosting a groundbreaking ceremony or one commemorating the completion of a cleanup are generally not grant-eligible costs. If allowed by Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager, the requirements for light refreshments apply.
- **Negotiation costs.** Technical and administrative costs incurred by the Recipient during negotiations on an agreed order or consent decree may be eligible for grant reimbursement (legal costs are not grant-eligible). These costs must be incurred within 60 days of start of negotiations on an agreed order, or within 120 days of start of negotiations on a consent decree. Recipients should receive a notice from Ecology that this time period has begun. If not, the Recipient should request such a notice. The Ecology Cleanup Project Manager must agree the costs incurred were appropriate, reasonable, and necessary to develop the technical aspects of the order or decree (such as the scope of work). Costs related to discussion of an enforcement order are not eligible costs.

Examples of grant-eligible costs: Staff time or consultant costs to develop a scope of work, public participation plan, or sampling and analysis plan to be attached to the order or decree. Legal fees for negotiations are not a grant-eligible cost.

- **Overtime.** If overtime is not requested in advance, the Recipient may not request payment for overtime hours.
- **Overtime differential.** Overtime differential is seldom allowed. It is any increase in pay over the standard pay rate that is provided to compensate an employee for hours worked in excess of the standard work day or week. Overtime differential may be allowable only when one hundred percent (100%) of an employee’s time is spent on grant activities and prior written approval is obtained.
- **Training.** Recipient staff training is a conditionally allowable cost. Recipient training must be directly related to the project and necessary to carry out the scope of work, such as Hazardous Waste Safety training.

Travel associated with approved training for the Recipient is allowable if authorized by Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager in advance. Communicate with Ecology’s Grant

Financial Manager to discuss training and any associated travel needs prior to incurring any expense. Failure to do so could result in the expenses being denied. Training costs may be prorated when a Recipient only works part-time on grant activities.

Remedial action grants will not typically reimburse consultant or contractor training. Consultants or contractors should be prepared to perform the duties for which they are being hired. If the Recipient agrees to fund consultant training, the Recipient is solely responsible for these costs and should not expect to receive reimbursement under the grant.

- **Working lunches.** Recipient working lunches are a conditionally eligible cost and typically requires that the Recipient is on travel status. The Recipient must submit a written request for working lunches prior to incurring expenses. Consultant or contractor working lunches are not grant-eligible unless the Recipient obtains written approval from the Ecology Grant Financial Manager prior to the event. Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager may approve expenses for Recipients consistent with how Ecology approves working lunches for Ecology staff. Please refer to Ecology’s “[Yellow Book](#)” for more information.

6.4 Ineligible Costs

Ineligible costs are costs that are not eligible for reimbursement under the grant and cannot be used for grant match. Invoices or other documentation for these costs should not be submitted for reimbursement. The following section discusses specific issues related to ineligible costs that often come up in administration of remedial action grants.

- **Contingencies, rising costs, and change orders.** Grant agreements are written for a set amount. Any contingencies in separate contracts do not change the amount of the grant agreement.
- **Dispute resolution.** Technical, legal, and administrative expenses incurred by the Recipient to challenge an Ecology decision, such as the costs of dispute resolution under an order or decree or grant agreement.
- **Ecology and U.S. EPA charges.** Costs that Ecology or U.S. EPA charge the Recipient for site management oversight (cost recovery) under the terms of orders or decrees or under the Voluntary Cleanup Program.
- **Grant application development.** Costs of preparing a grant application, including Recipient staff time, consultant, or contractor time.

- **Legal expenses or attorney fees.** Legal costs of any kind, including, but not limited to, the costs of seeking client advice; pursuing cost recovery; contribution or insurance claims administrative hearings; pursuing penalties or civil or criminal actions against persons; penalties incurred by the Recipient; defending actions taken against the Recipient; and any attorney fees incurred by the Recipient.
- **Lobbying.** Any costs for entertaining; attempting to influence dignitaries or elected officials; discussing the project with elected officials who do not have contract approval authority, are not grant-eligible costs. This includes contacts with legislators to urge project funding.
- **Natural Resource Damage Assessment costs and Natural Resource Damages.** Costs related to development of Natural Resource Damage Assessments (NRDA), fees for damages to the environment or work required in lieu of fees under Natural Resource Damage (NRD) settlements, cleanup and habitat restoration work required under a state or federal NRD settlement.
- **Operation and maintenance or monitoring costs.** Operation and maintenance or monitoring costs incurred more than one year after completing construction of a cleanup action component, even if additional activities are necessary.
- **Penalties and late fees.** Penalties or late fees assigned to the Recipient or contractors. For example, the Recipient pays an invoice late and a contractor charges a late fee. This cost is not eligible for reimbursement under a remedial action grant. A penalty issued by Ecology for failure to comply with an order or decree is not a grant-eligible cost.
- **In-kind contributions.** Goods, services, and transactions not involving money.
- **Non-cleanup related activities.** Site development and mitigation costs not required as part of the remedial action.
- **Other party expenses.** The costs incurred under an order or decree by a potentially liable person or a potentially responsible party other than the Recipient except as provided under WAC [173-322A-320\(2\)\(c\)\(iii\)](#).

Chapter 7: Oversight Remedial Action Grants

The purpose of Oversight Remedial Action Grants is to provide funding to local governments that investigate and clean up contaminated sites under an order or decree overseen by Ecology under MTCA or by the U.S. EPA under the federal cleanup law. These grants are intended to expedite the cleanup and redevelopment of high priority contaminated sites and lessen the impact of cleanup costs on local ratepayers and taxpayers.

7.1 Project Eligibility

For Oversight Remedial Action Grants, a project consists of remedial actions conducted under an order or decree at a single contaminated site. Ecology may provide more than one grant for a project. Depending on availability of funding, the number of grant requests, and the pace of remedial actions, a project may have to be funded over multiple biennia.

To be eligible for an Oversight Remedial Action Grant, a project must meet all of the following requirements:

- The Applicant is a local government;
- The Applicant is a potentially liable person under MTCA, a potentially responsible party under the federal cleanup law, or prospective purchaser of a contaminated site;
- An order or decree requires remedial action at the contaminated site, and either:
 - Ecology requires the Applicant to conduct the remedial action under MTCA;
 - The U.S. EPA requires the Applicant to conduct the remedial action under the federal cleanup law, and Ecology either co-signs the order or decree or acknowledges in writing that it is a sufficient basis for grant funding; or
 - Ecology or the U.S. EPA requires another person to conduct the remedial action, and:
 - The Applicant co-signs the order or decree;
 - The Applicant agrees in writing to reimburse the person conducting the remedial actions for at least some of the costs; and

- If the remedial actions are required by U.S. EPA under federal cleanup law, Ecology co-signs the order or decree or acknowledges in writing that it is a sufficient basis for grant funding.¹¹

7.2 Grant Funding

There is no limit on the amount of eligible project costs Ecology may fund. Ecology will limit each grant to the amount expected to be spent within one biennium.

Ecology may provide up to 50% state share of an eligible project cost, except as follows:

- If the Applicant is “economically disadvantaged,” as defined in WAC [173-322A-100](#)(15) and (16), Ecology may fund up to an additional 25% of an eligible project cost. See Appendix B: Economically Disadvantaged .
- If the Applicant uses “innovative technology,” as defined in WAC [173-322A-100](#)(28), Ecology may fund up to an additional 15% of an eligible project cost.
- Ecology may fund up to a total of 90% of an eligible project cost if the total eligible project costs are under \$5 million and the additional funding would either:
 - Prevent or mitigate unfair economic hardship imposed by cleanup liability;
 - Create new substantial economic development, public recreational opportunities, or habitat restoration opportunities that would not otherwise occur; or
 - Create an opportunity for acquisition and redevelopment of brownfield property under RCW [70.105D.040](#)(5) that would not otherwise occur.

Recipients are responsible for the remaining share of eligible project costs (match) and 100% of all non-eligible project costs.

Ecology retains the discretion to not award a grant for an eligible project or to provide less funding for an eligible project than the maximum amount or percentage allowed, based on funding availability or other factors (WAC [173-322A-220](#)(2)).

¹¹ An example of this is a closed landfill that is on land owned by a local government, but was operated by a private company that agrees to take the lead on completing remedial actions. A grant could be awarded to the local government to help pay for their portion of remedial costs.

7.3 Eligible Costs

Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager has final approval authority for all grant-related costs. The grant agreement must be signed by both the Recipient and Ecology for any costs incurred under a new agreement to be eligible for reimbursement. The Recipient can only be reimbursed for costs to implement a work plan previously approved by the Ecology Cleanup Project Manager. The work plan for Oversight Grants and Loans will be in the order or decree. All costs must be properly documented. Conditionally eligible costs must be pre-approved by the Ecology Grant Financial Manager. Examples of eligible activities and related costs for Oversight Remedial Action Grants include:

- Emergency or interim actions;
- Remedial investigations;
- Feasibility studies and selection of the remedy¹²;
- Engineering design and construction of the selected remedy;
- Operation and maintenance or monitoring of a cleanup action component for one year after construction completion of the component;
- Grant administration consistent with the applicable version of Ecology’s “[Yellow Book](#)”;
- The following retroactive costs:
 - Costs incurred under the order or decree during the period of a prior grant agreement that have not been reimbursed by Ecology.
 - Costs incurred under the order or decree between the effective date of the order or decree and the agreement signature date.
 - Costs incurred negotiating the order or decree, provided that the costs are not legal costs and were incurred within 60 days after starting negotiations for an order, or 120 days after starting negotiations for a decree.
 - Costs incurred before the effective date of the order or decree conducting independent remedial actions, subject to certain conditions and limitations.

¹² While preparation of a draft cleanup action plan is a grant-eligible cost, Ecology retains final authority to determine the appropriate cleanup action at a site.

Some costs related to these activities may not be reimbursable under the grant, or may only be eligible under certain conditions. Costs not allowed are the sole responsibility of the Recipient. For more information on cost eligibility, see Chapter 4.

7.4 Evaluation Criteria

Ecology evaluates Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan applications based on several criteria, which score mostly from 0 to 3 points. Those criteria are grouped into six evenly weighted categories. A project's score is determined by adding together the total score for each category. The categories are:

Category 1: Faster Cleanup

Category 2: Improve Human Health

Category 3: Improve the Environment and Natural Resources

Category 4: Equitable Distribution

Category 5: Redevelopment and Reuse in Cleanups

Category 6: Meaningful Investment in Communities

The evaluation criteria for each category are shown below in Table 3 through Table 8. The scorecard identifies each criteria, the maximum possible criteria score, and who provides the original score (that is, the Applicant or Ecology). Some criteria are initially answered by the Applicant when completing the application in EAGL. Ecology may update the Applicant's answers when evaluating the application. The remaining criteria are answered by Ecology only. For criteria answered by Ecology, the Applicant may provide relevant information related to the criteria when completing the application in EAGL.

The evaluation criteria and processes are the same for Oversight Remedial Action Grants as well as Loans.

Table 3: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 1: Faster Cleanup

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
1.1	<p>Prior grant performance (one applies):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 POINTS: Applicant does not have an active grant for the site. • 2 POINTS: Applicant has an active grant for the site, but it is expected to be spent by the beginning of the biennium. • 0 POINTS: Applicant has an active grant and it is unclear that the grant will be spent by the beginning of the biennium. 	Ecology	3
1.2	<p>Applicant’s readiness to proceed sub-criteria (add up for final score for 1.2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 POINT: Contracts are in place to begin the project (such as public works) or environmental consultant is hired (0 points if neither). • 2 POINTS: All required local, state, and federal permits are currently in hand or no permits are required for the work funded by the 2021-2023 request (such as for RI/FS). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 POINT: Identified all permits necessary for requested 2021–2023 funding. ○ 0 POINTS: None of the above apply. • 1 POINT: Matching funds are secured and ready to be spent (0 points if not). • 1 POINT: Local government/staff project manager identified (0 points if not). 	Applicant	5
1.3	<p>Leveraging other funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 POINTS: Applicant has secured additional grants, private funds (including contributions, insurance, public-private partnerships, etc.). • 2 POINTS: Applicant is pursuing grant applications, private funds (including contributions, insurance, public-private partnerships, etc.). • 1 POINT: Applicant has a capital plan for both cleanup and redevelopment or reuse of the site. • 0 POINTS: None of the above apply. 	Applicant	3

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
1.4	<p>Ecology’s readiness to proceed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 POINTS: Order or decree for the work to be funded is effective or under negotiation. • 1 POINT: Ecology Cleanup Project Manager (Site Manager) has been assigned to the site (as reflected in Ecology’s Integrated Site Information System, ISIS). • 0 POINTS: None of the above apply. 	Ecology	3

Table 4: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 2: Improve Human Health

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
2.1	<p>3 POINTS: Presence of Extremely or Very Hazardous Chemicals is confirmed or there is the potential for RI/FS stage projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,1,2-Trichloroethane • 2-Methylnaphthalene • Aldrin • Antimony • Arsenic • Benzene • Benzo(a)pyrene (or cPAH toxic equivalency quotient) • Cadmium • Chromium VI • cis-1,2-Dichloroethene (cis-DCE) • Dieldrin • Dioxins • Lead • Mercury • Methylmercury • Naphthalene • Per- or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)¹³ • Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) • Trichloroethene (TCE) • Vinyl chloride • Other substances identified by Ecology.¹⁴ <p>0 POINTS: Extremely or Very Hazardous chemicals are not present at the site.</p>	Ecology	3

¹³ As of February 2020, Washington’s Department of Health is reviewing five PFAS compounds to establish state action levels for drinking water.

¹⁴ The list is based in part on data from the U.S. EPA, available at: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-chemical-data-matrix-scdm-query>

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
2.2	<p>Potential exposure routes of concern:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil • Groundwater • Surface water • Vapor intrusion • Sediment <p>0 exposure routes = 0 points for criteria. 1 exposure route = 1 point for criteria. 2-3 exposure routes = 2 points for criteria. 4-5 exposure routes = 3 points for criteria.</p>	Ecology	3
2.3	<p>Potential exposure risk to a sensitive population located within or adjacent to the site, such as a daycare, nursing home, or hospital (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).</p>	Ecology	3

Table 5: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 3: Improve the Environment

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
3.1	<p>Potential for contamination to spread (3 points for yes or unknown, 0 points for no).</p>	Ecology	3
3.2	<p>A designated sensitive environment or fishery resource exists within one mile of the site boundary (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).</p>	Ecology	3
3.3	<p>3 POINTS: Potential exposure of sensitive wildlife or plant species that might access the site or be impacted by the contamination spreading (such as redband trout, migratory birds, orcas, salmon, monarch butterflies, and/or endangered species) or potential exposure of priority habitat.</p> <p>0 POINTS: No expected exposure to sensitive wildlife or plant species or priority habitat.</p>	Ecology	3
3.4	<p>The project has the opportunity for significant fish/wildlife habitat restoration and/or other conservation benefits (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).</p>	Applicant	3

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
3.5	<p>3 POINTS: The project evaluates or implements green remediation principles to minimize the environmental impact from cleanup actions (such as minimizing greenhouse gas emissions or implementing water conservation) or a reputable sustainability or green remediation program (such as LEED or Envision). See Section 4.6: Climate Change in Cleanup Criteria for more information.</p> <p>1 POINT: The project incorporates sustainability or green remediation principles to some extent.</p> <p>0 POINTS: The project does not incorporate sustainability or green remediation principles.</p>	Applicant	3

Table 6: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 4: Equitable Distribution

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
4.1	<p>3 POINTS: The site is east of the Cascades or the community is “economically disadvantaged,” as defined in WAC 173-322A-100(15) and (16) and Appendix B of this Guidance.</p> <p>0 POINTS: If the above does not apply.</p>	Ecology	3
4.2	<p>3 POINTS: Community where the contaminated site is located is a “highly impacted community,” as defined in WAC 173-322A-100(24) and Section 4.5: Environmental Justice Evaluation Criteria of this Guidance.</p> <p>0 POINTS: If the above does not apply.</p>	Ecology	3

Table 7: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 5: Redevelopment and Reuse in Cleanups

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
5.1	The site contains a vacant, abandoned, or underutilized former industrial or commercial facility (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Applicant	3
5.2	Applicant already identified a purchaser, developer, operator, or lessee for the redeveloped site (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Applicant	3
5.3	<p>3 POINTS: The project evaluates or implements green remediation principles to minimize the environmental impact from cleanup actions (such as minimizing greenhouse gas emissions or implementing water conservation) or using applicable concepts from a reputable sustainability or green remediation program (such as LEED and Envision). See Section 4.6: Climate Change in Cleanup Criteria for more information.</p> <p>1 POINT: The project incorporates or discusses climate change adaptation principles to some extent.</p> <p>0 POINTS: The project does not incorporate climate change adaptation considerations.</p>	Applicant	3
5.4	<p>3 POINTS: If project cannot start without funds, started but cannot be expeditiously completed without funds, or stopped and cannot continue without funds.</p> <p>0 POINTS: None of the above apply.</p>	Applicant	3
5.5	Applicant provided documents or information demonstrating that a lack of local funding or ability to obtain financing is significantly delaying the cleanup and subsequent use, sale, or redevelopment of the site (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Ecology	3

Table 8: Oversight Remedial Action Grant and Loan Evaluation Criteria – Category 6: Meaningful Community Investment

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
6.1	<p>3 POINTS: Site is located within a Redevelopment Opportunity Zone (ROZ) designated under RCW 70.105D.150.</p> <p>2 POINTS: Site is located within an incorporated city, town, or urban growth area designated under RCW 36.70A.110.</p> <p>0 POINTS: None of the above apply.</p>	Applicant	3
6.2	<p>Local infrastructure (such as public transit, roads, water, sewer, utilities) to serve the redeveloped site are:</p> <p>3 POINTS: Already in place.</p> <p>2 POINTS: Under construction.</p> <p>1 POINT: Planned.</p> <p>0 POINTS: None of the above apply.</p>	Applicant	3
6.3	<p>3 POINTS: Redeveloped site will provide additional affordable housing stock when redeveloped.</p> <p>2 POINTS: Redeveloped site will preserve affordable housing stock when redeveloped.</p> <p>0 POINTS: Redeveloped site will not preserve or provide additional affordable housing stock.</p>	Applicant	3
6.4	<p>3 POINTS: Redeveloped site will be primarily for public use (for example, a park, museum, or library).</p> <p>2 POINTS: Redeveloped site will be partially for public use (example, site contains both a public trail and private housing).</p> <p>0 POINTS: Neither of the above apply.</p>	Applicant	3
6.5	<p>Project demonstrates a clear vision for future use of the property (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).</p>	Applicant	3

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Chapter 8: Oversight Remedial Action Loans

The purpose of Oversight Remedial Action Loans is to supplement local government funding and funding from other sources to meet the match requirements for Oversight Remedial Action Grants. The loans are intended to encourage and expedite cleanup of contaminated sites and lessen the impact of cleanup costs on ratepayers and taxpayers.

There are two different types of Oversight Remedial Action Loans:

- **Standard Loans:** A Standard Loan is a below-market rate loan for up to a 20-year repayment period.
- **Extraordinary Financial Hardship Loans:** An Extraordinary Financial Hardship Loan is a below-market rate loan with deferred terms and conditions for repayment. The deferred terms and conditions may not be indefinite and the loan must be approved by the Director of the Department of Ecology or his/her designee.

8.1 Project Eligibility

For the purposes of an Oversight Remedial Action Loan, a project consists of remedial actions conducted under an order or decree at a single site. A project may extend over multiple biennia. Ecology may provide more than one loan for a project.

To be eligible for a loan, a project must meet all of the following requirements:

- The Applicant is a local government.
- The Applicant has been or is being awarded an Oversight Remedial Action Grant and meets the eligibility requirements for the Grant.
- The Applicant demonstrates the following to Ecology's satisfaction:
 - For a Standard Loan, its financial need for the loan and ability to repay the loan.
 - For an Extraordinary Financial Hardship Loan, its financial need for the loan, inability to repay the loan under present circumstances, and ability to repay the loan in the future.

Ecology may require an independent third party financial review to support the demonstration.

8.2 Grant Funding

For both types of loans, Ecology may provide the Recipient a loan for up to 100% of the Recipient's share (match) under the Oversight Remedial Action Grant. Ecology reserves the right to fund less than 100% based on available funding and other factors. If Ecology funds less than 100%, the Recipient is responsible for the remaining share. The Recipient is also responsible for any ineligible costs.

All cost eligibility and evaluation criteria are the same as for Oversight Remedial Action Grants. See Chapter 7: Oversight Remedial Action Grants.

8.2.1 Repayments

Standard Loans

For a Standard Loan, the following terms and conditions will apply:

- If the repayment period is less than or equal to five years, then the interest rate is 30% of the average market rate, as published in the bond buyers index for tax-exempt municipal bonds.
- If the repayment period is more than five years and less than or equal to twenty years, then the interest rate is 60% of the average market rate.
- Interest will begin to accrue on each disbursement as it is paid to the Recipient.
- Other terms and conditions as specified in the loan agreement.

Extraordinary Hardship Loans

For an Extraordinary Financial Hardship Loan, Ecology can adjust the loan terms and conditions for Standard Loans or defer repayment of the loan. This will be based on the Applicant's demonstration of inability to repay the loan under their present financial circumstances and how this situation may change in the future. The loan deferral terms and conditions may change depending on a periodic review of the Recipient's ability to pay. Loan repayment may not be deferred indefinitely.

Chapter 9: Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants

The purpose of Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants is to provide funding to local governments to investigate known or suspected areas of groundwater contamination caused by multiple releases of hazardous substances.¹⁵ These grants are intended to facilitate the cleanup and redevelopment of multiple properties located within the impacted areas by addressing issues that would be difficult to resolve on a site-by-site basis.

An example of where an Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grant could be used is a street intersection or block that contains several current and former gas station sites with suspected off-property contamination:

An owner of one of the gas stations within this area wants to redevelop their property, but is reluctant to start a remedial investigation. They are concerned it would lead to an expensive investigation of their property to determine which part of the areal groundwater contamination was a result of their facility, and which part was caused by their neighbors.

The city's comprehensive plan supports this redevelopment as it envisions the area redeveloping from its current automobile-oriented land uses to a mixed-use development. However, the envisioned redevelopment has not moved forward—in part because of uncertainty caused by the area-wide groundwater contamination.

To facilitate this redevelopment, the city applies for a grant. The grant is used to install and test groundwater monitoring wells within public right-of-ways throughout the area to better define the extent of the plumes coming from individual facilities. This information is made available to individual property owners.

In this case, the gas station owner can use this information, along with their own site-specific investigation, to define their cleanup liability, clean up their property, and move ahead with redevelopment.

An Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grant could also be used for projects that investigate concerns regarding the presence of known or suspected persistent chemicals in the groundwater, such as per- or poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

¹⁵ “**Area-wide groundwater contamination**” is defined as “multiple adjacent properties with different ownerships consisting of hazardous substances from multiple sources that have resulted in commingled plumes of contaminated ground water that are not practicable to address separately” (WAC [173-322A-100\(3\)](#)).

9.1 Project Eligibility

For the purposes of Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants, a project consists of an investigation in a single study area. A project may extend over more than one biennium. To be eligible for a grant, a project must meet all of the following requirements:

- The Applicant is a local government;
- The project involves known or suspected area-wide groundwater contamination;
- The investigation is not required by Ecology or the U.S. EPA under an order or decree; and
- The Applicant has or will obtain the necessary access for the investigation. This could involve individual access agreements for private property, public right-of-ways, or publicly owned property within the study area.

9.2 Grant Funding

Ecology may fund up to \$500,000 of the eligible project costs. Ecology reserves the right to fund less than the maximum amount based on funding availability and other factors.

Ecology may fund up to 100% of an eligible project cost. Recipients are responsible for any remaining share of those costs and 100% of all non-eligible project costs.

Ecology retains the discretion to not award a grant for an eligible project or to provide less funding for an eligible project than the maximum amount or percentage allowed, based on funding availability and other factors (WAC [173-322A-220\(2\)](#)).

9.3 Eligible Costs

Ecology's Grant Financial Manager has final approval authority for all grant-related costs. The grant agreement must be signed by both the Recipient and Ecology for any costs incurred under a new agreement to be eligible for reimbursement. The Recipient can only be reimbursed for costs to implement a work plan previously approved by the Ecology Cleanup Project Manager. The approved work plan will be outlined in the grant agreement and must be amended prior to any substantial changes in work for costs to be eligible. All costs must be properly documented. Conditionally eligible costs must be pre-approved by the Ecology Grant Financial Manager.

Eligible costs must be reasonable and necessary to conduct the area-wide groundwater investigation. Examples of eligible activities and related costs include:

- Identifying the sources of the area-wide groundwater contamination.
- Determining the nature and extent of the area-wide groundwater contamination.
- Identifying the preferential groundwater contaminant migration pathways.
- Identifying area-wide geologic and hydrogeologic conditions.
- Establishing area-wide natural groundwater quality, including aquifer classification under WAC [173-340-720](#).
- Grant administration consistent with the applicable version of Ecology’s “[Yellow Book](#)”.
- Retroactive costs for the project incurred during the period of a prior grant agreement.

Some costs related to these activities may not be reimbursable under the grant, or may only be eligible under certain conditions. These conditionally eligible costs must be approved in advance by Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager. Costs not allowed are the responsibility of the Recipient.

9.4 Evaluation Criteria

Ecology evaluates Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants applications based on several criteria, which score mostly from 0 to 3 points. Those criteria are grouped into four evenly weighted categories. A project’s score is determined by adding together the total scores for each category. The categories are:

Category 1: Faster Cleanup

Category 2: Protect Human Health and the Environment

Category 3: Equitable Distribution

Category 4: Redevelopment and Reuse in Cleanups

The evaluation criteria for each category are shown below in Table 9 through Table 12. The scorecard identifies each criteria, the maximum possible criteria score, and who provides the original score (that is, the Applicant or Ecology). Some criteria are initially answered by the Applicant when completing the application in EAGL. Ecology may update Applicant answers when evaluating the application. The remaining criteria are answered by Ecology only. For criteria answered by Ecology, the Applicant may provide relevant information related to the criteria when completing the application in EAGL.

Table 9: Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants – Category 1: Faster Cleanup

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
1.1	<p>Prior grant performance (one applies):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 POINTS: Applicant does not have an active grant for the project. • 2 POINTS: Applicant has an active grant for the area, but it is expected to be spent by the beginning of the biennium. • 0 POINTS: Applicant has an active grant for the area and it is unclear that the grant will be spent by the beginning of the biennium. 	Ecology	3
1.2	<p>Applicant’s readiness to proceed sub-criteria (adds up to final score out of four points):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 POINT: All legal access needed for study obtained (0 points if no). • 1 POINT: Environmental consultant is hired or not needed (0 points if needed, but not hired). • 1 POINT: All potentially liable parties (PLPs) or potentially responsible parties (PRPs) identified and notified (0 points if no). • 1 POINT: Local government/staff project manager identified (0 points if no). 	Applicant	4
1.3	<p>Leveraging other funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 POINTS: Applicant has secured additional grants, private funds (including contributions, insurance, public-private partnerships, etc.). • 2 POINTS: Applicant is pursuing grant applications, private funds (including contributions, insurance, public-private partnerships, etc.). • 1 POINT: Applicant has a capital plan for both cleanup and redevelopment or reuse of the site. • 0 POINTS: None of the above apply. 	Applicant	3

Table 10: Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants – Category 2: Improve Human Health and the Environment

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
2.1	Groundwater contamination is confirmed within study area (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Ecology	3
2.2	<p>3 POINTS: Presence of Extremely or Very Hazardous Chemicals is confirmed or suspected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,1,2-Trichloroethane • 2-Methylnaphthalene • Aldrin • Antimony • Arsenic • Benzene • Benzo(a)pyrene (or cPAH toxic equivalency quotient) • Cadmium • Chromium VI • cis-1,2-Dichloroethene (cis-DCE) • Dieldrin • Dioxins • Lead • Mercury • Methylmercury • Naphthalene • Per- or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)¹⁶ • Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) • Trichloroethene (TCE) • Vinyl chloride • Other substances identified by Ecology.¹⁷ <p>0 POINTS: Extremely or Very Hazardous chemicals are not present at the site.</p>	Ecology	3
2.3	Potential exposure risk to a sensitive population exists within study area, such as a daycare, nursing home, or hospital (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Ecology	3

¹⁶ As of February 2020, the Department of Health is reviewing five PFAS compounds to establish state action levels for drinking water.

¹⁷ The list is based in part on data from the U.S. EPA, available at: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-chemical-data-matrix-scdm-query>.

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
2.4	Potential for contamination to spread (3 points for yes or unknown, 0 points for no).	Ecology	3
2.5	A designated sensitive environment or fishery resource exists within one mile of the study area (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Ecology	3
2.6	Potential exposure of sensitive wildlife or plant species that might access the study area or be impacted by the contamination spreading (such as redband trout, migratory birds, orcas, salmon, monarch butterflies, and/or endangered species) or potential exposure of priority habitat (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Ecology	3

Table 11: Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants – Category 3: Equitable Distribution

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
3.1	<p>3 POINTS: The study area is east of the Cascades or the local government is “economically disadvantaged,” as defined in WAC 173-322A-100(15) and (16) and Appendix B of this Guidance.</p> <p>0 POINTS: If the above does not apply.</p>	Ecology	3
3.2	<p>3 POINTS: Community within or immediately surrounding the study area is a “highly impacted community,” as defined in WAC 173-322A-100(24) and Section 4.5: Environmental Justice Evaluation Criteria of this Guidance.</p> <p>0 POINTS: If the above does not apply.</p>	Ecology	3

Table 12: Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants – Category 4: Redevelopment and Reuse in Cleanups

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
4.1	The study area contains one or more vacant, abandoned, or underutilized former industrial or commercial facilities (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Applicant	3
4.2	<p>3 POINTS: The study area is located within a Redevelopment Opportunity Zone (ROZ), designated under RCW 70.105D.150.</p> <p>2 POINTS: The study area is located within an incorporated city, town, or urban growth area designated under RCW 36.70A.110.</p> <p>0 POINTS: None of the above apply.</p>	Applicant	3
4.3	<p>Local infrastructure (such as public transit, roads, water, sewer, utilities) to serve the redeveloped area are:</p> <p>3 POINTS: Already in place.</p> <p>2 POINTS: Under construction.</p> <p>1 POINT: Planned.</p> <p>0 POINTS: None of the above apply.</p>	Applicant	3

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Chapter 10: Safe Drinking Water Action Grants

The purpose of Safe Drinking Water Action Grants is to assist local governments in providing safe drinking water to persons served by private wells or public water systems impacted by a contaminated site. An example would be paying for a stripping tower to treat water from a municipal well impacted by solvent contamination. Another example would be extending public water to an area where private wells have been contaminated by a site.

Ecology and the Washington State Department of Health (Department of Health) each have roles regarding Safe Drinking Water Action Grants. Both agencies may identify impacted water supplies either through routine water supply monitoring or contaminated site studies. Once the impacted water supply is identified, Ecology can provide grant funding for safe drinking water and administers the grant. Where grants are awarded, the Department of Health provides technical oversight of work on public water systems to ensure state drinking water regulations are met.

10.1 Project Eligibility

For the purposes of Safe Drinking Water Action Grants, a project consists of safe drinking water actions at a single contaminated site. A project may extend over more than one biennium. To be eligible for a grant, a project must meet all of the following requirements:

- The Applicant is a local government.
- The Applicant is not required to conduct the safe drinking water actions under order or decree.
- The Applicant is the owner or operator of a public water system, or the Applicant is applying on behalf of the owner or operator of a public water system (purveyor).¹⁸
- Ecology has determined the drinking water source is affected or threatened by one or more contaminants originating from a contaminated site because:¹⁹

¹⁸ A public water system is any Group A water system, as described in Chapter [246-290](#) WAC.

¹⁹ Naturally occurring contaminants and contaminants originating from sources other than a MTCA site or from within the water system do not qualify for these grants. Examples are: naturally occurring metals, bacterial contamination caused by septic systems, nitrates caused by manure application, and copper and lead introduced by the plumbing system.

- The contaminant levels exceed the maximum contaminant level (MCL) established by the State Board of Health in WAC [246-290-310](#);
 - The contaminant levels exceed the cleanup levels established by Ecology under Chapter [173-340](#) WAC; or
 - The contaminant levels don't currently exceed the MCLs or cleanup levels, but may exceed them in the future.²⁰
- The Department of Health has determined the Applicant's or purveyor's water system that would be used to provide alternative water is in substantial compliance with applicable rules of the State Board of Health or the Department of Health, including:
 - Group A Public Water Supplies (Chapter [246-290](#) WAC);²¹
 - Water Works Operator Certification (Chapter [246-292](#) WAC);
 - Water System Coordination Act (Chapter [246-293](#) WAC); and
 - Drinking Water Operating Permits (Chapter [246-294](#) WAC).

Any water line extensions must be consistent with the coordinated water system plan prepared under Chapter [70.116](#) RCW and the plans for new development prepared under Chapter [36.70](#) or [36.70A](#) RCW for the geographic area containing the affected water supplies. These laws may prohibit extensions beyond the water supplier's service area or designated city limits and urban growth areas. Applicants proposing such extensions should coordinate with the Department of Health and the Washington State Department of Commerce's Growth Management Program.

In order for projects that address persistent chemicals (such as per- or poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)) to be eligible, the compounds of concern must either have a Maximum Cleanup Level (MCL) established by the Department of Health or U.S. EPA, or a cleanup level established by Ecology under Part VII of Chapter [173-340](#) WAC.

²⁰ For example, the water supply is within or down gradient of a contaminant plume or the water supply, if pumped at its full permitted potential, would draw in contamination.

²¹ Group B water systems (generally small private water systems) are not authorized to receive Safe Drinking Water Grants.

10.2 Grant Funding

There is no limit on the amount of eligible project costs Ecology may fund. Ecology will limit each grant to the amount expected to be spent within one biennium.

Ecology may fund up to 90% of an eligible project cost. Recipients are responsible for any remaining share of those costs and 90% of all non-eligible project costs.

Ecology retains the discretion to not award a grant for an eligible project or to provide less funding for an eligible project than the maximum amount or percentage allowed, based on funding availability and other factors (WAC [173-322A-220\(2\)](#)).

10.3 Eligible Costs

Ecology's Grant Financial Manager has final approval authority for all grant-related costs. The grant agreement must be signed by both the Recipient and Ecology for any costs incurred under a new agreement to be eligible for reimbursement. The Recipient can only be reimbursed for costs to implement a work plan previously approved by the Ecology Cleanup Project Manager. The approved work plan will be outlined in the grant agreement and must be amended prior to any substantial changes in work for costs to be eligible. All costs must be properly documented. Conditionally eligible costs must be pre-approved by the Ecology Grant Financial Manager.

Eligible costs must be reasonable and necessary to provide safe drinking water to people whose water supply has been impacted by a contaminated site. These grants cannot be used to fund individual service connections to undeveloped lots; oversizing or extending a water system for future development; ongoing operation or maintenance; or local improvement district assessments.

Examples of eligible activities and related costs include:

- Water supply source development and replacement, including well replacement, pumping and storage facilities (such as wells), source meters, and reasonable appurtenances.
- Transmission lines between major systems components, including interties with other water systems.
- Treatment equipment and facilities, including air stripping towers, package treatment plants, point-of-use treatment systems, and similar approaches.
- Distribution lines from major system components to system customers or service connections.

- Bottled water as an interim action.
- Fire hydrants.
- Service meters.
- Project inspection, engineering, and administration.
- Individual service connections, including any connection fees and charges.
- Drinking water well decommissioning under WAC [173-160-381](#).
- Other costs identified by the Department of Health as necessary to provide a system that operates in compliance with federal and state standards.
- Grant administration consistent with the applicable version of Ecology’s “[Yellow Book](#).”
- Retroactive costs for a project incurred during the period of a prior grant agreement.

Some costs related to these activities may not be reimbursable under the grant, or may only be eligible under certain conditions. These conditionally eligible costs must be approved in advance by Ecology’s Grant Financial Manager. Costs not allowed are the sole responsibility of the Recipient.

10.4 Evaluation Criteria

Ecology evaluates Safe Drinking Water Action Grant applications based on several criteria, which score mostly from 0 to 3 points. Those criteria are grouped into three evenly weighted categories. A project’s score is determined by adding together the total score for each category. The categories are:

Category 1: Faster Cleanup

Category 2: Protect Human Health and the Environment

Category 3: Equitable Distribution

The evaluation criteria for each category are shown in Table 13 through Table 15. The scorecard identifies each criteria, the maximum possible criteria score, and who provides the original score (that is, the Applicant or Ecology). Some criteria are initially answered by the Applicant when completing the application in EAGL. Ecology may update the Applicant’s answers when evaluating the application. The remaining criteria are answered by Ecology only. For criteria

answered by Ecology, the Applicant may provide relevant information related to the criteria when completing the application in EAGL.

Table 13: Safe Drinking Water Action Grants Evaluation Criteria – Category 1: Faster Cleanup

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
1.1	<p>Prior grant performance (one applies):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 POINTS: Applicant does not have an active grant for the project. • 2 POINTS: Applicant has an active grant for the project, but it is expected to be spent by the beginning of the biennium. • 0 POINTS: Applicant has an active grant and it is unclear that the grant will be spent by the beginning of the biennium. 	Ecology	3
1.2	<p>Applicant’s readiness to proceed sub-criteria (adds up to 4 total possible points):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 POINT: All legal access needed for project obtained (0 points if no). • 1 POINT: Environmental consultant is hired or not needed (0 if needed, but not hired). • 1 POINT: Plan to reach safe drinking levels developed (0 points if no). • 1 POINT: Local government/staff project manager identified (0 points if no). 	Applicant	4
1.3	<p>Leveraging other funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 POINTS: Applicant has secured additional grants, private funds (including contributions, insurance, public-private partnerships, etc.). • 2 POINTS: Applicant is pursuing grant applications, private funds (including contributions, insurance, public-private partnerships, etc.). • 1 POINT: Applicant has a capital plan for both cleanup and redevelopment or reuse of the site. • 0 POINTS: None of the above apply. 	Applicant	3
1.4	Grant enables local government to more quickly provide safe drinking water to those affected (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Ecology	3

Table 14: Safe Drinking Water Action Grants Evaluation Criteria – Category 2: Improve Human Health

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
2.1	Project provides a permanent treatment system for drinking water at the source (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Ecology	3
2.2	Project treats the drinking water source as opposed to providing alternative drinking water such as bottled water (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Ecology	3
2.3	<p>3 POINTS: Presence of Extremely or Very Hazardous Chemicals is confirmed or suspected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,1,2-Trichloroethane • 2-Methylnaphthalene • Aldrin • Antimony • Arsenic • Benzene • Benzo(a)pyrene (or cPAH toxic equivalency quotient) • Cadmium • Chromium VI • cis-1,2-Dichloroethene (cis-DCE) • Dieldrin • Dioxins • Lead • Mercury • Methylmercury • Naphthalene • Per- or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)²² • Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) • Trichloroethene (TCE) • Vinyl chloride • Other substances identified by Ecology.²³ <p>0 POINTS: Extremely or Very Hazardous chemicals are not present at the site.</p>	Ecology	3

²² As of February 2020, the Department of Health is reviewing five PFAS compounds to establish state action levels for drinking water.

²³ The list is based in part on data from the U.S. EPA, available at: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-chemical-data-matrix-scdm-query>.

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
2.4	The impacted drinking water serves a sensitive population, such as a daycare, nursing home, or hospital (3 points for yes, 0 points for no).	Ecology	3
2.5	Potential for contamination to spread (3 points for yes or unknown, 0 points for no).	Ecology	3

Table 15: Safe Drinking Water Action Grant Evaluation Criteria – Category 3: Equitable Distribution

Criteria Number	Evaluation Criteria	Score Provider	Maximum Score
3.1	Community immediately surrounding the site is a “highly impacted community,” as defined in WAC 173-322A-100(24) and Section 4.5: Environmental Justice Evaluation Criteria of this Guidance.	Ecology	3

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Chapter 11.0 References and Resources

Table 16: Grant, loan, and EAGL resources mentioned in this guidance.

Resource	Description	Link
Remedial Action Grants for Local Governments 2018-2021 Guidance (rev. Sept 2019)	Guidance when submitting applications for Independent Remedial Action Grants and Integrated Planning Grants through the 2018–21 biennium (Pub. No. 18-09-049)	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1809049.html
“Yellow Book”	Guidance for all Ecology grants and loans: <i>Administrative Requirements for Recipients of Ecology Grants and Loans</i> (Pub. No. 17-01-004)	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1701004.html
EAGL	Ecology’s Administration of Grants and Loans system, where local governments and community groups can apply for funding opportunities including grants for cleanup and safe drinking water	Overview: https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans Secure Access Washington (SAW) log-in: https://secureaccess.wa.gov/ecy/eagl/
EAGL Instructions for 2021–23 Remedial Action Grant & Loan Applications	Specific EAGL guidance when applying for Oversight, Area-wide, and Safe Drinking Water funding for the 2021–23 biennium (Pub. No. 20-09-056)	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2009056.html
EAGL External Users’ Manual	General EAGL guidance when applying for all Ecology grant and loans (Pub. No. 17-01-015)	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1701015.html
How to obtain a Secure Access Washington (SAW) account	YouTube video	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pj0EnIjG3RQ&feature=youtu.be
Applying for Ecology grants	YouTube video	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9B3gvb3QRBk
Oversight Remedial Action Grants (webpage)	Funding for local governments to investigate and clean up contaminated sites under an order or decree overseen by Ecology under MTCA or by EPA under the federal cleanup law	https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Oversight-remedial-action-grants-loans

Resource	Description	Link
<p>Oversight Remedial Action Loans (webpage)</p>	<p>Low interest loans to local governments that have an Oversight Remedial Action Grant to help fulfill their local match requirement</p>	<p>https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Oversight-remedial-action-grants-loans</p>
<p>Area-wide Groundwater Investigation Grants (webpage)</p>	<p>Funding to facilitate redevelopment within a local government’s jurisdiction by conducting a study of the groundwater in a limited geographic area known or suspected to be contaminated by multiple sites</p>	<p>https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Area-wide-groundwater-investigation-grants</p>
<p>Safe Drinking Water Grants (webpage)</p>	<p>Funding to local governments to ensure safe drinking water for communities where source of drinking water has been polluted by the release of a hazardous substance</p>	<p>https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Safe-drinking-water-grants</p>
<p>Independent Remedial Action Grants (webpage)</p>	<p>Grants to local governments that investigate and clean up contaminated sites independently under Ecology’s Voluntary Cleanup Program</p>	<p>https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Safe-drinking-water-grants</p>
<p>Integrated Planning Grants (webpage)</p>	<p>Grants to local governments to assess and develop an integrated plan for cleaning up and redeveloping contaminated site(s)</p>	<p>https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Integrated-planning-grants</p>
<p>Ecology’s grants and loans since 2014</p>	<p>Interactive map of Ecology’s grants and loans awarded since 2014. Displays information by project location or dollars per area, and can be filtered by Ecology programs and funding programs.</p>	<p>https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/eaaglmap/?CustomMap=y&BBox=-13962546,5698654,-13014726,6267345&AL=5&Opacity=0.8&Basemap=esriTopo&EP=5&FP=16</p>
<p>per diem rate tables</p>	<p>Office of Financial Management’s rates for lodging, meals, and mileage per day</p>	<p>https://www.ofm.wa.gov/accounting/administrative-accounting-resources/travel/diem-rate-tables</p>

Table 17: Environmental and technical resources mentioned in this guidance.

Resource	Description	Link
EIM and MyEIM	Ecology's Environmental Information Management System (EIM) and MyEIM database tools that contain environmental data for air, water, soil, sediment, aquatic animals, and plants used for cleaning up sites. Data is collected by Ecology and partners, including local governments.	EIM: https://ecology.wa.gov/Research-Data/Data-resources/Environmental-Information-Management-database MyEIM: https://ecology.wa.gov/Research-Data/Data-resources/Environmental-Information-Management-database/Using-MyEIM
Closeout Procedures for National Priority Sites	EPA's guidance to determine whether construction of a cleanup action has been completed	https://www.epa.gov/superfund/close-out-procedures-national-priorities-list-superfund-sites
Cleanup Site Search	Database of 13,300-plus contaminated sites known to Ecology that draws from the internal Integrated Site Information System (ISIS) database	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/gsp/SiteSearchPage.aspx
TCP Web Reporting	Selection of reports and datasets that draws from two Ecology internal environmental databases: Integrated Site Information System (ISIS) and Underground Storage Tank System	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/tcpwebreporting/
Confirmed & Suspected Contaminated Sites List	List of sites undergoing cleanup and sites awaiting further investigation and/or cleanup	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/tcpwebreporting/reports/cleanup/contaminated
Hazardous Sites List	Special edition of the Site Register published twice a year listing sites that have been assessed and ranked using the Washington Ranking Method, and sites on the National Priorities List	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/UIPages/PublicationList.aspx?IndexTypeName=Program&NameValue=Toxics+Cleanup&DocumentTypeName=Newsletter
How the cleanup process works	Steps in the MTCA formal cleanup process	How the cleanup process works
Washington's Formal Cleanup Process Infographic	Infographic illustrating steps in the MTCA formal cleanup process (Pub. No. 19-09-166)	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166.html
Toxics Cleanup Program's (TCP's) policies and guidance	Consolidated but not exhaustive list of TCP's policies, procedures, implementation memos, and major guidance documents for cleaning up hazardous sites and meeting the requirements of MTCA.	https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Plans-policies/Toxics-cleanup-policies

Resource	Description	Link
TCP publications	Published focus sheets, frequently asked questions, guidance documents, and technical reports that describe cleanup sites across the state	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/UIPages/PublicationList.aspx?IndexTypeName=Program&NameValue=Toxics+Cleanup&DocumentTypeName=Publication
TCP Legislative reports	Recurring and one-time legislative reports produced by the Toxics Cleanup Program	http://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/Our-Programs/Toxics-Cleanup/TCP-Legislative-reports
EPA’s Superfund Chemical Data Matrix (SCDM) query	Query to generate lists of corresponding Hazard Ranking System factor values, benchmarks, and data elements	https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-chemical-data-matrix-scdm-query

Table 18: Environmental justice, climate change, and cultural resources mentioned in this guidance.

Resource	Description	Link
Washington State Department of Health’s EJ	Web-based data on public health aspects of environmental justice	https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/EnvironmentalHealth/WashingtonTrackingNetworkWTN/Resources/EnvironmentalJusticeIssues
Washington Tracking Network	Map-based tool used to facilitate searching for and displaying health concerns that have links to environmental health	https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/EnvironmentalHealth/WashingtonTrackingNetworkWTN/
EPA’s environmental justice website	National environmental justice data and link to EJScreen	https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice
Ecology’s climate change guidance for cleanup sites	<i>Adaptation Strategies for Resilient Cleanup Remedies: A guide for cleanup project managers to increase the resilience of toxic cleanup sites to the impacts from climate change</i> (Pub. No. 17-09-052)	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1709052.html
EPA’s green remediation for cleanup sites	Information for incorporating sustainable environmental practices into remediation of contaminated sites	https://www.epa.gov/remedytech/green-remediation-incorporating-sustainable-environmental-practices-remediation
Executive Order 05-05 or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act Project Review Sheet	Form for gathering information when complying with National Historic Preservation Act or Executive Order 05-05 Archaeological and Cultural Resources (Pub. No. ECY 070-537)	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/ECY070537.html
Public Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP)	Plan and procedures for the unanticipated discovery of cultural resources and human skeletal remains (Pub. No. 070-560)	https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/ECY070560.html
Executive Order 05-05	Gov. Christine Gregoire’s executive order for Archaeological and Cultural Resources	https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/exe_order/eo_05-05.pdf

Table 19: Cleanup laws, regulations, and Legislative bills mentioned in this guidance.

Resource	Description	Link
MTCA (statute)	Hazardous Waste Cleanup—Model Toxics Control Act, Chapter 70.105D RCW	http://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=70.105D
MTCA Cleanup Rule	Model Toxics Control Act—Cleanup Regulations, Chapter 173-340 WAC	http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-340
RAG Rule	Remedial Action Grants and Loans Regulations, Chapter 173-322A WAC	http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-322A
Sediment Cleanup Rule	Sediment Management Standards, Chapter 173-204 WAC	http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-204
Group A Public Water Supplies	Section 310: Maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) and maximum residual disinfectant levels (MRDLs), Chapter 246-290 WAC	https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=246-290-310
Waterworks Operator Certification	Chapter 246-292 WAC	https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=246-292
Water System Coordination Act	Chapter 246-293 WAC	https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=246-293
Drinking Water Operating Permits	Chapter 246-294 WAC	https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=246-294
Public Water System Coordination Act of 1977	Chapter 70.116 RCW	https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=70.116
Planning Enabling Act	Chapter 36.70 RCW	https://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=36.70
Growth Management-Planning by Selected Counties and Cities	Chapter 36.70A RCW	https://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=36.70A
ESSB 5993 (Chapter 422, Laws of 2019)	Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5993 Reforming the financial structure of the model toxics control program	https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=5993&Year=2019&Initiative=false

Appendix A: Chapter 173-322A WAC, Remedial Action Grants and Loans

[Chapter Listing](#) [From Code Reviser’s website, last updated 8/29/2014]

WAC Sections*

173-322A-010	Purpose and authority.
173-322A-020	Relation to other laws and rules.
173-322A-100	Definitions.
173-322A-200	Funding cycle.
173-322A-210	Funding priorities.
173-322A-220	Fiscal controls.
173-322A-320	Oversight remedial action grants.
173-322A-325	Oversight remedial action loans.
173-322A-340	Area-wide groundwater investigation grants.
173-322A-350	Safe drinking water action grants.

*WAC Sections related to grants not covered by this Guidance have been omitted.

173-322A-010 Purpose and authority.

(1) This chapter recognizes that:

(a) The state contains thousands of hazardous waste sites that present serious threats to human health and the environment, including the state's water resources;

(b) Many of these hazardous waste sites, such as landfills and port facilities, are owned or operated by local governments;

(c) Many of the properties affected by these hazardous waste sites are brownfield properties, where economic development and other community reuse objectives are hindered by the presence of contamination; and

(d) The cost of cleaning up these hazardous waste sites in many cases is beyond the financial means of local governments and ratepayers.

(2) This chapter establishes requirements for a program of grants and loans to local governments for remedial action pursuant to RCW

70.105D.070 (4) and (8).

(3) The purpose of the remedial action grants and loans program established by this chapter is to expedite the cleanup and redevelopment of hazardous waste sites and to lessen the impact of the cleanup on ratepayers and taxpayers. The remedial action grants and loans shall be used to supplement local government funding and funding from other sources to carry out remedial actions.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.105D RCW. WSR 14-18-060 (Order 13-09), § 173-322A-010, filed 8/29/14, effective 9/29/14.]

173-322A-020 Relation to other laws and rules.

(1) Nothing in this chapter shall influence, affect, or modify department programs, regulations, or enforcement of applicable laws relating to hazardous waste site investigation and cleanup.

(2) Nothing in this chapter shall modify the order or decree the department has secured with potentially liable persons or prospective purchasers for remedial action. The execution of remedial actions pursuant to the order or decree shall in no way be contingent upon the availability of grant funding.

(3) All grants and loans shall be subject to existing accounting and auditing requirements of state laws and regulations applicable to the issuance of grants and loans.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter

70.105D RCW. WSR 14-18-060 (Order 13-09), § 173-322A-020, filed 8/29/14, effective 9/29/14.]

173-322A-100 Definitions.

Unless otherwise defined in this chapter, words and phrases used in this chapter shall be defined according to WAC

173-340-200 and 173-204-505.

(1) **"Agreement signature date"** means, for the purposes of grant and loan agreements, the date the agreement document is signed by the department.

(2) **"Applicant"** means a local government that applies for a grant or loan.

(3) **"Area-wide groundwater contamination"** means groundwater contamination on multiple adjacent properties with different ownerships consisting of hazardous substances from multiple sources that have resulted in commingled plumes of contaminated groundwater that are not practicable to address separately.

(4) **"Average market rate"** means the average market rate for tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds for the month of June preceding the agreement signature date, as determined using rates published by *Bond Buyer*.

(5) **"Biennium"** means the twenty-four-month fiscal period extending from July 1st of odd-numbered years to June 30th of odd-numbered years.

(6) **"Brownfield property"** means previously developed and currently abandoned or underutilized real property and adjacent surface waters and sediment where environmental, economic, or community reuse objectives are hindered by the release or threatened release of hazardous substances that the department has determined requires remedial action under this chapter or that the United States Environmental Protection Agency has determined requires remedial action under the federal cleanup law.

(7) **"Budget"** means, for the purpose of grant and loan agreements, a breakdown of eligible costs by task.

(8) **"Cleanup action"** means the term as defined in WAC [173-340-200](#) or [173-204-505](#).

(9) **"Construction completion"** means physical construction of a cleanup action component is complete.

(10) **"Coordinated water system plan"** means a plan for public water systems within a critical water supply service area which identifies the present and future water system concerns and sets forth a means for meeting those concerns in the most efficient manner possible pursuant to chapter [246-293](#) WAC.

(11) **"Decree"** or **"consent decree"** means a consent decree issued under chapter [70.105D](#) RCW or the federal cleanup law.

(12) **"Department"** means the department of ecology.

(13) **"Department share"** means the department's share of eligible costs.

(14) **"Director"** means the director of the department of ecology.

(15) **"Economically disadvantaged county"** means a county whose per capita income is equal to or below the median per capita income of counties in Washington state, as determined on July 1st of each odd-numbered year using the latest official American Community Survey five-year estimates of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

(16) **"Economically disadvantaged city or town"** means a city or town whose per capita income is equal to or below the median per capita income of cities and towns in Washington state, as determined on July 1st of each odd-numbered year using the latest official American Community Survey five-year estimates of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

(17) **"Eligible cost"** means a project cost that is eligible for funding under this chapter and the terms of the grant or loan agreement.

(18) **"Extended grant agreement"** means a grant agreement entered into under RCW [70.105D.070](#) (4)(e)(i).

(19) **"Feasibility study"** means the term as defined in chapter [173-340](#) or [173-204](#) WAC.

(20) **"Federal cleanup law"** means the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.

(21) **"Grant agreement"** means a binding agreement between the local government and the department that authorizes the disbursement of funds to the local government to reimburse it for a portion of expenditures in support of a specified scope of services.

(22) **"Hazardous substances"** means any hazardous substance as defined in WAC [173-340-200](#).

(23) **"Hazardous waste site"** means any facility where there has been confirmation of a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance that requires remedial action.

(24) **"Highly impacted community"** means a community that the department has determined is likely to bear a disproportionate burden of public health risks from environmental pollution.

(25) **"Independent remedial actions"** means remedial actions conducted without department oversight or approval and not under an order or consent decree.

(26) **"Initial investigation"** means a remedial action that consists of an investigation under WAC [173-340-310](#).

(27) **"In-kind contributions"** means property or services that benefit a project and are contributed to the recipient by a third party without direct monetary compensation. In-kind contributions include interlocal costs, donated or loaned real or personal property, volunteer services, and employee services donated by a third party.

(28) **"Innovative technology"** means new technologies that have been demonstrated to be technically feasible under certain site conditions, but have not been widely used under the conditions that exist at the hazardous waste site. Innovative technology has limited performance and cost data available.

(29) **"Interim action"** means a remedial action conducted under WAC [173-340-430](#).

(30) **"Loan agreement"** means a binding agreement between the local government and the department that authorizes the disbursement of funds to the local government that must be repaid. The loan agreement includes terms such as interest rates and repayment schedule, scope of work, performance schedule, and project budget.

(31) **"Local government"** means any political subdivision of the state, including a town, city, county, special purpose district, or other municipal corporation, including brownfield renewal authority created under RCW [70.105D.160](#).

(32) **"No further action determination"** or **"NFA determination"** means a written opinion issued by the department under WAC [173-340-515\(5\)](#) that the independent remedial actions performed at a hazardous waste site or property meet the substantive requirements of chapter [173-340](#) WAC and that no further remedial action is required at the hazardous waste site or property. The opinion is advisory only and not binding on the department.

(33) **"Order"** means an order issued under chapter [70.105D](#) RCW, including enforcement orders issued under WAC [173-340-540](#) and agreed orders issued under WAC [173-340-530](#), or an order issued under the federal cleanup law, including unilateral administrative orders (UAO) and administrative orders on consent (AOC).

(34) **"Oversight remedial actions"** means remedial actions conducted under an order or decree.

(35) **"Partial funding"** means funding less than the maximum department share allowed under this chapter.

(36) **"Potentially liable person"** or **"PLP"** means any person whom the department finds, based on credible evidence, to be liable under RCW [70.105D.040](#).

(37) **"Potentially responsible party"** or **"PRP"** means "covered persons" as defined under section 9607 (a)(1) through (4) of the federal cleanup law (42 U.S.C. Sec. 9607(a)).

(38) **"Property"** means, for the purposes of independent remedial action grants, the parcel or parcels of real property affected by a hazardous waste site and addressed as part of the independent remedial action.

(39) **"Prospective purchaser"** means a person who is not currently liable for remedial action at a facility and who proposes to purchase, redevelop, or reuse the facility.

(40) **"Public water system"** means a Group A water system as defined in WAC [246-290-020](#).

(41) **"Purveyor"** means an agency or subdivision of the state or a municipal corporation, firm, company, mutual or cooperative association, institution, partnership, or person or any other entity that owns or operates a public water system, or the authorized agent of such entities.

(42) **"Recipient"** means a local government that has been approved to receive a grant or loan.

(43) **"Recipient share"** or **"match"** means the recipient's share of eligible costs.

(44) **"Redevelopment opportunity zone"** means a geographic area designated under RCW [70.105D.150](#).

(45) **"Remedial action"** means any action or expenditure consistent with the purposes of chapter [70.105D](#) RCW to identify, eliminate, or minimize any threat posed by hazardous substances to human health or the environment including any investigative and monitoring activities with respect to any release or threatened release of a hazardous substance and any health assessments or health effects studies conducted in order to determine the risk or potential risk to human health.

(46) **"Remedial investigation"** means the term as defined in chapter [173-340](#) or [173-204](#) WAC.

(47) **"Retroactive costs"** means costs incurred before the agreement signature date.

(48) **"Safe drinking water"** means water meeting drinking water quality standards set by chapter [246-290](#) WAC.

(49) **"Scope of work"** means the tasks and deliverables of the grant or loan agreement.

(50) **"Site"** means any building, structure, installation, equipment, pipe or pipeline (including any pipe into a sewer or publicly owned treatment works), well, pit, pond, lagoon, impoundment, ditch, landfill, storage container, motor vehicle, rolling stock, vessel, or aircraft; or any site or area where a hazardous substance, other than a legal consumer product in consumer use, has been deposited, stored, disposed of, or placed, or otherwise come to be located.

(51) **"Site hazard assessment"** means a remedial action that consists of an investigation performed under WAC 173-340-320.

(52) **"Voluntary cleanup program"** means the program authorized under RCW [70.105D.030](#) (1)(i) and WAC 173-340-515.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [70.105D](#) RCW. WSR 14-18-060 (Order 13-09), § 173-322A-100, filed 8/29/14, effective 9/29/14.]

173-322A-200 Funding cycle.

(1) **Project solicitation.** Biennially, the department will solicit project proposals from local governments to develop its budget and update its ten-year financing plan for remedial action grants and loans. The department may update its ten-year financing plan as needed during the biennium. Project proposals for each type of grant or loan must be submitted on forms provided by the department and include sufficient information to make the determinations in subsection (3) of this section. For multibiennial oversight remedial action grant projects, proposals must be updated biennially. To be considered for inclusion in the department's budget for remedial action grants and loans, project proposals and updates should be submitted by the dates published by the department.

(2) **Application submittal.** Applications for each type of grant or loan must be submitted on forms provided by the department and include sufficient information to make the determinations in subsections (3) and (4) of this section. For multibiennial oversight remedial action grant projects, an application must be submitted before each biennium for which additional funds are requested. Completed applications should be submitted by the dates published by the department.

(3) **Project evaluation and ranking.** Project proposals and applications for each type of grant or loan will be reviewed by the department for completeness and evaluated to determine:

- (a) Project eligibility; and
- (b) Funding priority under WAC

173-322A-210.

(4) **Agreement development.** The department will make funding decisions only after funds have been appropriated. After deciding to fund an eligible project, the department will negotiate with the applicant the scope of work and budget for the grant and develop the agreement. The department will consider:

- (a) Funding priority under WAC 173-322A-210;
- (b) Cost eligibility;
- (c) Allowable funding of eligible costs; and
- (d) Availability of state funds and other funding sources.

(5) **Fund management.** The department may adjust funding levels or fund additional eligible projects during a biennium if additional funds should become available.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.105D RCW. WSR 14-18-060 (Order 13-09), § 173-322A-200, filed 8/29/14, effective 9/29/14.]

173-322A-210 Funding priorities.

(1) **Among types of grants and loans.** The department will fund remedial action grants and loans in the following order of priority:

- (a) Oversight remedial action grants and loans under an existing extended grant agreement;
- (b) Site assessment grants and other remedial action grants and loans for previously funded projects, provided that substantial progress has been made; and
- (c) Remedial action grants and loans for new projects.

(2) **For each type of grant or loan.** For each type of remedial action grant or loan, the department will further prioritize projects for funding or limit funding for projects based on the factors specified in WAC

173-322A-300 through 173-322A-350, as applicable.

(3) **Oversight remedial action loans.** The department will fund an oversight remedial action loan from the same fund allocation used to fund the associated oversight remedial action grant. When the demand for funds exceeds the amount allocated, the department will give the oversight remedial action grant and loan the same priority.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.105D RCW. WSR 14-18-060 (Order 13-09), § 173-322A-210, filed 8/29/14, effective 9/29/14.]

173-322A-220 Fiscal controls.

(1) **General.** The department will establish reasonable costs for all grants and loans, require local governments to manage projects in a cost-effective manner, and ensure that all potentially liable persons assume responsibility for remedial action.

(2) **Funding discretion.** The department retains the discretion to not provide a grant or loan for an eligible project or to provide less funding for an eligible project than the maximum allowed under this chapter.

(3) **Funding limits.** The department may not provide more funding for an eligible project than the maximum allowed under this chapter for each type of grant or loan.

(4) **Retroactive funding.** Retroactive costs are not eligible for funding, except as provided under this chapter for each type of grant or loan.

(5) **Cash management of grants.** For oversight remedial action grants, the department may not:

(a) Allocate more funds for a project each biennium than are estimated to be necessary to complete the scope of work for that biennium. The biennial scope of work must be approved by the department; or

(b) Allocate more funds for a project unless the local government has demonstrated to the department that funds awarded during the previous biennium have been substantially expended or contracts have been entered into to substantially expend the funds.

(6) **Consideration of insurance, contribution, and cost recovery claims.** A recipient may use proceeds from an insurance claim or a contribution or cost recovery claim under RCW

[70.105D.080](#) or the federal cleanup law seeking recovery of remedial action costs at a hazardous waste site to meet recipient share requirements, subject to the conditions in (a) through (f) of this subsection.

(a) **Applicability.** The project at the hazardous waste site is currently funded on or will be funded after July 1, 2014, under a grant agreement.

(b) **Notice of claims.** Upon application for the grant or within thirty days of filing a lawsuit or insurance claim to recover remedial action costs at the hazardous waste site, whichever is later, the recipient must notify the department of the filing.

(c) **Notice of proceeds.** Upon application for the grant, the recipient must notify the department of the total amount of proceeds received to date on any claims for remedial action costs at the hazardous waste site. The department may require the recipient to periodically update the total amount of proceeds received on the claims. The department may also require the recipient to provide documentation of the proceeds received on the claims.

(d) **Notice of resolution.** Upon application for the grant or within thirty days of any resolution of a claim for remedial action costs at the hazardous waste site, whichever is later, the recipient must:

(i) Notify the department of the resolution;

(ii) Specify the amount of proceeds received under the resolution and the portion of the proceeds attributable to eligible costs; and

(iii) Provide the department a copy of the settlement, judgment, or other document resolving the claim or portion of the claim.

(e) **Repayment of grant funds.** If the total proceeds from all the claims for remedial action costs at a hazardous waste site exceed the following costs, then the department may reduce the department share or require repayment of costs reimbursed by the department under a grant agreement by up to the amount of the exceedance:

(i) The cost incurred by the recipient to pursue the claims;

(ii) The cost of remedial actions incurred by the recipient that are not funded by the department at the hazardous waste site, including costs incurred before resolution of the claims; and

(iii) If approved by the department, the cost of remedial actions incurred by the recipient that are not funded by the department for an eligible project at a hazardous waste site that is not the basis for the claims.

(f) **Eligibility of payments to other recipients.** Contribution and cost recovery claim payments are not eligible costs if the payments are made for remedial actions previously funded by a grant to another jurisdiction.

(7) Reimbursement request deadlines.

(a) Requests for reimbursement and adequate documentation of eligible retroactive costs incurred before the application date must be submitted to the department in the application.

(b) Requests for reimbursement and adequate documentation of eligible retroactive costs incurred between the application date and the agreement signature date must be submitted to the department within ninety days of the agreement signature date.

(c) Requests for reimbursement and adequate documentation of eligible costs incurred after the agreement signature date must be submitted to the department within one hundred twenty days of incurring the costs.

(d) If requests for reimbursement are not submitted by the deadlines in (a) through (c) of this subsection, as applicable, the department may deny reimbursement of the costs.

(8) **Spending plans for grant or loan agreements.** The department may require grant or loan recipients to provide and periodically update a spending plan for the grant or loan.

(9) **Financial responsibility.** As established by the Model Toxics Control Act, chapter [70.105D](#) RCW, and implementing regulations, potentially liable persons bear

financial responsibility for remedial action costs. The remedial action grant and loan programs may not be used to circumvent the responsibility of a potentially liable person. Remedial action grants and loans shall be used to supplement local government funding and funding from other sources to carry out required remedial action.

(10) **Puget Sound action agenda.** The department may not fund projects designed to address the restoration of Puget Sound that are in conflict with the action agenda developed by the Puget Sound partnership under RCW [90.71.310](#).

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [70.105D](#) RCW. WSR 14-18-060 (Order 13-09), § 173-322A-220, filed 8/29/14, effective 9/29/14.]

173-322A-320 Oversight remedial action grants.

(1) **Purpose.** The purpose of oversight remedial action grants is to provide funding to local governments that investigate and clean up hazardous waste sites under an order or decree. The grants are intended to encourage and expedite remedial action and to lessen the impact of the cost of such action on ratepayers and taxpayers.

(2) **Project eligibility.** For the purposes of this grant, a project consists of remedial actions conducted under one or more orders or decrees at a single hazardous waste site. A project may extend over more than one biennium. To be eligible for a grant, a project must meet all of the following requirements:

(a) The applicant must be a local government;

(b) The applicant must be a potentially liable person, potentially responsible party, or prospective purchaser at the hazardous waste site;

(c) The project must meet one of the following criteria:

(i) The applicant is required to conduct remedial actions at the hazardous waste site under an order or decree; or

(ii) A person other than the applicant is required to conduct remedial actions at the hazardous waste site under an order or decree and the applicant has:

(A) Signed the order or decree; and

(B) Entered into a written agreement with the other person to reimburse the person for a portion of the remedial action costs incurred under the order or decree;

(d) If the order or decree is issued under the federal cleanup law, it must be signed or acknowledged in writing by the department as a sufficient basis for funding under this chapter; and

(e) The project must be included in the department's ten-year financing plan required under RCW

[70.105D.030\(5\)](#).

(3) **Funding priority.** The department will prioritize eligible projects for funding or limit funding for eligible projects based on the priorities in WAC [173-322A-210](#) and the following factors:

- (a) The threat posed by the hazardous waste site to human health and the environment;
- (b) Whether the applicant is a prospective purchaser of a brownfield property within a redevelopment opportunity zone;
- (c) The land reuse potential of the hazardous waste site;
- (d) Whether the hazardous waste site is located within a highly impacted community;
- (e) The readiness of the applicant to start and complete the work to be funded by the grant and the performance of the applicant under prior grant agreements;
- (f) The ability of the grant to expedite the cleanup of the hazardous waste site;
- (g) The ability of the grant to leverage other public or private funding for the cleanup and reuse of the hazardous waste site;
- (h) The distribution of grants throughout the state and to various types and sizes of local governments; and
- (i) Other factors as determined and published by the department.

(4) **Application process.**

(a) **Project solicitation.** Biennially, the department will solicit project proposals from local governments to develop its budget and update its ten-year financing plan for remedial action grants and loans. The department may update its ten-year financing plan as needed during the biennium. Project proposals must be submitted on forms provided by the department and include sufficient information to make the determinations in (c) of this subsection. For multibiennial projects, proposals must be updated biennially. To be considered for inclusion in the department's budget for remedial action grants and loans, project proposals and updates should be submitted by the dates published by the department.

(b) **Application submittal.** Applications must be submitted on forms provided by the department and include sufficient information to make the determinations in (c) and (d) of this subsection. For multibiennial projects, an application must be submitted before each biennium for which additional funds are requested. Completed applications should be submitted by the dates published by the department.

(c) **Project evaluation and ranking.** Project proposals and applications will be reviewed by the department for completeness and evaluated to determine:

- (i) Project eligibility under subsection (2) of this section; and
- (ii) Funding priority under subsection (3) of this section.

(d) **Agreement development.** The department will make funding decisions only after funds have been appropriated. After deciding to fund an eligible project, the

department will negotiate with the applicant the scope of work and budget for the grant and develop the agreement. The department will consider:

- (i) Funding priority under subsection (3) of this section;
- (ii) Cost eligibility under subsections (5) and (6) of this section;
- (iii) Allowable funding under subsections (7) and (8) of this section; and
- (iv) Availability of state funds and other funding sources.

(e) **Fund management.** The department may adjust funding levels or fund additional eligible projects during a biennium if additional funds should become available.

(5) **Cost eligibility.** To be eligible for funding, a project cost must be eligible under this subsection and the terms of the grant agreement and be approved by the department.

(a) **Eligible costs.** Eligible costs for an oversight remedial action grant include, but are not limited to, reasonable costs for the following:

- (i) Emergency or interim actions;
- (ii) Remedial investigations;
- (iii) Feasibility studies and selection of the remedy;
- (iv) Engineering design and construction of the selected remedy; and

(v) Operation and maintenance or monitoring of a cleanup action component for up to one year after construction completion of the component.

(b) **Ineligible costs.** Ineligible costs for an oversight remedial action grant include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (i) The cost of developing the grant application or negotiating the grant agreement;
- (ii) The cost of dispute resolution under the order or decree or the grant agreement;
- (iii) The costs incurred under an order or decree by a potentially liable person, potentially responsible party, or prospective purchaser other than the recipient, except as provided under subsection (2)(c)(iii) of this section;
- (iv) Retroactive costs, except as provided under subsection (6) of this section;
- (v) The remedial action costs of the department or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reasonably attributable to the administration of an order or decree for remedial action at the hazardous waste site, including reviews of reimbursement requests;
- (vi) Natural resource damage assessment and restoration costs and liability for natural resource damages under chapter [70.105D](#) RCW or the federal cleanup law;
- (vii) Site development and mitigation costs not required as part of a remedial action;
- (viii) Legal costs including, but not limited to, the cost of seeking client advice, pursuing cost recovery, contribution, or insurance claims, participating in administrative hearings, pursuing penalties or civil or criminal actions against persons, penalties

incurred by the recipient, defending actions taken against the recipient, and any attorney fees incurred by the recipient; and

(ix) In-kind contributions.

(6) **Retroactive cost eligibility.** The following retroactive costs are eligible for reimbursement if they are also eligible under subsection (5) of this section:

(a) Costs incurred under the order or decree between the effective date of the order or decree and the agreement signature date;

(b) Costs incurred under the order or decree during the period of a prior grant agreement that have not been reimbursed by the department;

(c) Costs incurred negotiating the order or decree, provided that the costs are not legal costs and were incurred within:

(i) Sixty days after starting negotiations for an order; or

(ii) One hundred twenty days after starting negotiations for a decree; and

(d) Costs incurred before the effective date of the order or decree conducting independent remedial actions, provided that:

(i) The actions are:

(A) Conducted within five years before the start of negotiations for the order or decree;

(B) Consistent with the remedial actions required under the order or decree;

(C) Compliant with the substantive requirements of chapter [173-340 WAC](#); and

(D) Incorporated as part of the order or decree; and

(ii) Costs incurred before the start of negotiations for the order or decree do not exceed six hundred thousand dollars.

(7) **Funding of eligible costs.**

(a) **Department share.** The department may fund up to fifty percent of the eligible costs. Except for extended grant agreements, the department may fund a higher percentage of the eligible costs as follows.

(i) The department may fund up to an additional twenty-five percent of the eligible costs if the applicant is:

(A) An economically disadvantaged county, city, or town; or

(B) A special purpose district with a hazardous waste site located within an economically disadvantaged county, city, or town.

(ii) The department may fund up to an additional fifteen percent of the eligible costs if the applicant uses innovative technology.

(iii) The department may fund up to a total of ninety percent of the eligible costs if the eligible costs for the project are less than five million dollars and the director or designee determines the additional funding would:

(A) Prevent or mitigate unfair economic hardship imposed by cleanup liability;

(B) Create new substantial economic development, public recreational opportunities, or habitat restoration opportunities that would not otherwise occur; or

(C) Create an opportunity for acquisition and redevelopment of brownfield property under RCW [70.105D.040](#)(5) that would not otherwise occur.

(b) **Recipient share.** The recipient shall fund the percentage of the eligible costs not funded by the department under (a) of this subsection. The recipient may not use in-kind contributions to meet this requirement.

(8) Cash management of grants.

(a) The department may not allocate more funds for a project each biennium than are estimated to be necessary to complete the scope of work for that biennium. The biennial scope of work must be approved by the department.

(b) The department may not allocate more funds for a project unless the local government has demonstrated to the department that funds awarded during the previous biennium have been substantially expended or contracts have been entered into to substantially expend the funds.

(9) **Administration of multiple grants.** Except for extended grant agreements, the department may provide oversight remedial action grants to a local government for more than one project under a single grant agreement.

(10) Extended grant agreements.

(a) **Project eligibility.** The department may provide an oversight remedial action grant to a local government for a hazardous waste site under an extended grant agreement if, in addition to meeting the eligibility requirements in subsection (2) of this section, the project extends over multiple biennia and the eligible costs for the project exceed twenty million dollars.

(b) **Agreement duration.** The initial duration of an extended grant agreement may not exceed ten years. The department may extend the duration of the agreement upon finding substantial progress has been made on remedial actions at the site.

(c) **Department share.** Under an extended grant agreement, the department may not fund more than fifty percent of the eligible costs.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [70.105D](#) RCW. WSR 14-18-060 (Order 13-09), § 173-322A-320, filed 8/29/14, effective 9/29/14.]

173-322A-325 Oversight remedial action loans.

(1) **Purpose.** The purpose of oversight remedial action loans is to supplement local government funding and funding from other sources to meet the recipient share requirements for oversight remedial action grants under WAC

[173-322A-320](#). The loans are intended to encourage and expedite the cleanup of hazardous waste sites and to lessen the impact of the cleanup cost on ratepayers and taxpayers.

(2) **Types of loans.** There are two different types of oversight remedial action loans, a standard loan and an extraordinary financial hardship loan. The two types of loans have different project eligibility requirements and different terms and conditions for repayment based upon the applicant's ability to repay the loan.

(a) **Standard loan.** A standard loan is a loan that includes the terms and conditions for repayment.

(b) **Extraordinary financial hardship loan.** An extraordinary financial hardship loan is a loan that includes deferred terms and conditions for repayment. Deferred terms and conditions may not be indefinite. Any such loan must be approved by the director or designee.

(3) **Project eligibility.** For the purposes of this loan, a project consists of remedial actions conducted under an order or decree at a single hazardous waste site. A project may extend over more than one biennium. To be eligible for a loan, a project must meet all of the following requirements:

(a) The applicant must have an oversight remedial action grant for the project under WAC [173-322A-320](#); and

(b) The applicant must demonstrate the following to the department's satisfaction. The department may require an independent third-party financial review to support the demonstration:

(i) For a standard loan, the applicant's financial need for the loan and ability to repay the loan; or

(ii) For an extraordinary financial hardship loan, the applicant's financial need for the loan, inability to repay the loan under present circumstances, and ability to repay the loan in the future.

(4) **Funding priority.** The department will assign an oversight remedial action loan the same priority as the associated oversight remedial action grant.

(5) **Application process.**

(a) **Project solicitation.** Biennially, the department will solicit project proposals from local governments to develop its budget and update its ten-year financing plan for remedial action grants and loans. The department may update its ten-year financing plan as needed during the biennium. Project proposals must be submitted on forms provided by the department and include sufficient information to make the determinations in (c) of this subsection. For multibiennial projects, proposals must be updated biennially. To be considered for inclusion in the department's budget for remedial action grants and loans, project proposals and updates should be submitted by the dates published by the department.

(b) **Application submittal.** Applications must be submitted on forms provided by the department and include sufficient information to make the determinations in (c) and (d)

of this subsection. For multibiennial projects, an application must be submitted before each biennium for which additional funds are requested. Completed applications should be submitted by the dates published by the department.

(c) **Project evaluation and ranking.** Project proposals and applications will be reviewed by the department for completeness and evaluated to determine:

(i) Project eligibility under subsection (3) of this section. If the department determines the applicant meets the eligibility requirements for an extraordinary financial hardship loan, then the department may, upon the approval by the director, provide such a loan to the applicant instead of a standard loan; and

(ii) Funding priority under subsection (4) of this section.

(d) **Agreement development.** The department will make funding decisions only after funds have been appropriated. After deciding to fund an eligible project, the department will negotiate with the applicant the scope of work and budget for the loan and develop the agreement. The department will consider:

(i) Funding priority under subsection (4) of this section;

(ii) Cost eligibility under subsections (6) and (7) of this section;

(iii) Allowable funding under subsection (8) of this section; and

(iv) Availability of state funds and other funding sources.

(e) **Fund management.** The department may adjust funding levels or fund additional eligible projects during a biennium if additional funds should become available.

(6) **Cost eligibility.** The eligible costs for oversight remedial action loans shall be the same as the eligible costs for oversight remedial action grants under WAC [173-322A-320\(5\)](#).

(7) **Retroactive cost eligibility.** The eligibility of retroactive costs for oversight remedial action loans shall be the same as the eligibility of retroactive costs for the oversight remedial action grants under WAC [173-322A-320\(6\)](#).

(8) **Funding by department.** The department may provide the recipient of an oversight remedial action loan for up to one hundred percent of the recipient share under WAC [173-322A-320](#) (7)(b). The loan shall be used by the recipient to supplement local government funding and funding from other sources to meet the recipient share requirement.

(9) **Repayment by recipient.** The terms and conditions for repayment of a loan shall be specified in the loan agreement.

(a) **Standard loans.** For a standard loan, the following terms and conditions shall apply. Additional terms and conditions may be specified in the loan agreement.

(i) **Repayment periods and interest rates.**

(A) If the repayment period is less than or equal to five years, the interest rate shall be thirty percent of the average market rate.

(B) If the repayment period is more than five years and less than or equal to twenty years, the interest rate shall be sixty percent of the average market rate.

(ii) **Interest accrual.** Interest shall accrue on each disbursement as it is paid to the recipient.

(b) **Extraordinary financial hardship loans.** For an extraordinary financial hardship loan, the repayment terms and conditions specified in (a) of this subsection may be adjusted or deferred. Deferred terms and conditions are dependent on periodic review of the recipient's ability to pay. Terms and conditions may not be deferred indefinitely.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [70.105D](#) RCW. WSR 14-18-060 (Order 13-09), § 173-322A-325, filed 8/29/14, effective 9/29/14.]

173-322A-340 Area-wide groundwater investigation grants.

(1) **Purpose.** The purpose of area-wide groundwater investigation grants is to provide funding to local governments that investigate known or suspected areas of area-wide groundwater contamination. The investigations are intended to facilitate the cleanup and redevelopment of properties affected by area-wide groundwater contamination.

(2) **Project eligibility.** For the purposes of this grant, a project consists of an investigation of area-wide groundwater contamination in a single study area. A project may extend over more than one biennium. To be eligible for a grant, a project must meet all of the following requirements:

(a) The applicant must be a local government;

(b) The project must involve the investigation of known or suspected area-wide groundwater contamination;

(c) The applicant must not be required to conduct the investigation under an order or decree;

(d) The applicant must have the necessary access to conduct the investigation or obtain such access in accordance with a schedule in the grant agreement; and

(e) The project must be included in the ten-year financing plan required under RCW [70.105D.030\(5\)](#).

(3) **Funding priority.** The department will prioritize eligible projects for funding or limit funding for eligible projects based on the priorities in WAC [173-322A-210](#) and the following factors:

(a) The threat posed by the hazardous waste sites to human health and the environment;

(b) Whether the hazardous waste site is within a redevelopment opportunity zone;

(c) The land reuse potential of the hazardous waste sites;

(d) Whether the hazardous waste sites are located within a highly impacted community;

(e) The readiness of the applicant to start and complete the work to be funded by the grant and the performance of the applicant under prior grant agreements;

(f) The ability of the grant to expedite the cleanup of the hazardous waste sites;

(g) The ability of the grant to leverage other public or private funding for the cleanup and reuse of the hazardous waste sites;

(h) The distribution of grants throughout the state and to various types and sizes of local governments; and

(i) Other factors as determined and published by the department.

(4) **Application process.**

(a) **Project solicitation.** Biennially, the department will solicit project proposals from local governments to develop its budget and update its ten-year financing plan for remedial action grants and loans. The department may update its ten-year financing plan as needed during the biennium. Project proposals must be submitted on forms provided by the department and include sufficient information to make the determinations in (c) of this subsection. To be considered for inclusion in the department's budget for remedial action grants and loans, project proposals should be submitted by the dates published by the department.

(b) **Application submittal.** Applications must be submitted on forms provided by the department and include sufficient information to make the determinations in (c) and (d) of this subsection. Completed applications should be submitted by the dates published by the department.

(c) **Project evaluation and ranking.** Project proposals and applications will be reviewed by the department for completeness and evaluated to determine:

(i) Project eligibility under subsection (2) of this section; and

(ii) Funding priority under subsection (3) of this section.

(d) **Agreement development.** The department will make funding decisions only after funds have been appropriated. After deciding to fund an eligible project, the department will negotiate with the applicant the scope of work and budget for the grant and develop the agreement. The department will consider:

(i) Funding priority under subsection (3) of this section;

(ii) Cost eligibility under subsections (5) and (6) of this section;

(iii) Allowable funding under subsections (7) and (8) of this section; and

(iv) Availability of state funds and other funding sources.

(e) **Fund management.** The department may adjust funding levels or fund additional eligible projects during a biennium if additional funds should become available.

(5) **Cost eligibility.** To be eligible for funding, a project cost must be eligible under this subsection and the terms of the grant agreement and be approved by the department.

(a) **Eligible costs.** Eligible costs for an area-wide groundwater investigation grant include, but are not limited to, the reasonable costs for the following:

- (i) Identifying the sources of the area-wide groundwater contamination;
- (ii) Determining the nature and extent of the area-wide groundwater contamination;
- (iii) Identifying the preferential groundwater contaminant migration pathways;
- (iv) Identifying area-wide geologic and hydrogeologic conditions; and
- (v) Establishing area-wide natural groundwater quality, including aquifer classification under WAC [173-340-720](#).

(b) **Ineligible costs.** Ineligible costs for an area-wide groundwater investigation grant include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (i) The cost of developing the grant application or negotiating the grant agreement;
- (ii) The cost of dispute resolution under the grant agreement;
- (iii) Retroactive costs, except as provided under subsection (6) of this section;
- (iv) Natural resource damage assessment and restoration costs and liability for natural resource damages under chapter [70.105D](#) RCW or the federal cleanup law;
- (v) Site development and mitigation costs not required as part of the remedial action;
- (vi) Legal costs including, but not limited to, the costs of seeking client advice, pursuing cost recovery, contribution, or insurance claims, participating in administrative hearings, pursuing penalties or civil or criminal actions against persons, penalties incurred by the recipient, the cost of defending actions taken against the recipient, and any attorney fees incurred by the recipient; and
- (vii) In-kind contributions.

(6) **Retroactive cost eligibility.** Retroactive costs are eligible for reimbursement if the costs are incurred during the period of a prior grant agreement, the costs are eligible under subsection (5) of this section, and the costs have not been reimbursed by the department.

(7) **Limit on eligible costs for a project.** The eligible costs for a project may not exceed five hundred thousand dollars.

(8) **Funding of eligible costs.**

(a) **Department share.** The department may fund up to one hundred percent of the eligible costs.

(b) **Recipient share.** The recipient shall fund the percentage of the eligible costs not funded by the department under (a) of this subsection. The recipient may not use in-kind contributions to meet this requirement.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [70.105D](#) RCW. WSR 14-18-060 (Order 13-09), § 173-322A-340, filed 8/29/14, effective 9/29/14.]

173-322A-350 Safe drinking water action grants.

(1) **Purpose.** The purpose of safe drinking water action grants is to assist local governments, or a local government applying on behalf of a purveyor, in providing safe drinking water to areas contaminated by, or threatened by contamination from, hazardous waste sites.

(2) **Project eligibility.** For the purposes of this grant, a project consists of safe drinking water actions at a single hazardous waste site. A project may extend over more than one biennium. To be eligible for a grant, a project must meet all of the following requirements:

(a) The applicant must be a local government;

(b) The applicant must be a purveyor or the applicant must be applying on behalf of a purveyor;

(c) The applicant or purveyor must be in substantial compliance, as determined by the department of health, with applicable rules of the state board of health or the department of health, including chapter

[246-290](#) WAC (Group A public water supplies), chapter [246-292](#) WAC (Waterworks operator certification), chapter [246-293](#) WAC (Water System Coordination Act), and chapter [246-294](#) WAC (Drinking water operating permits);

(d) The drinking water source must be affected or threatened by one or more hazardous substances originating from a hazardous waste site;

(e) The department of ecology has determined that the drinking water source:

(i) Exhibits levels of hazardous substances that exceed the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) established by the state board of health and set forth in WAC [246-290-310](#);

(ii) Exhibits levels of hazardous substances that exceed the cleanup levels established by the department of ecology under Part VII of chapter [173-340](#) WAC; or

(iii) Is threatened to exceed the levels of hazardous substances identified in (e)(i) or (ii) of this subsection;

(f) If the safe drinking water action includes water line extensions, the extensions must be consistent with the coordinated water system plan prepared under chapter [70.116](#) RCW and any plans for new development prepared under chapter [36.70](#) or [36.70A](#) RCW for the geographic area containing the affected water supplies; and

(g) The applicant must not be required to conduct the safe drinking water action under an order or decree.

(3) **Funding priority.** The department will prioritize eligible projects for funding or limit funding for eligible projects based on the priorities in WAC [173-322A-210](#) and the following factors:

- (a) The threat posed by the hazardous waste site to drinking water;
- (b) Whether the drinking water serves a highly impacted community;
- (c) The per capita cost of providing safe drinking water;
- (d) The ability of the grant to expedite the provision of safe drinking water;
- (e) The ability of the grant to leverage other public or private funding for the provision of safe drinking water;
- (f) The readiness of the applicant to start and complete the work to be funded by the grant and the performance of the applicant under prior grant agreements; and
- (g) Other factors as determined and published by the department.

(4) **Application process.**

(a) **Project solicitation.** Biennially, the department will solicit project proposals from local governments to develop its budget and update its ten-year financing plan for remedial action grants and loans. The department may update its ten-year financing plan as needed during the biennium. Project proposals must be submitted on forms provided by the department and include sufficient information to make the determinations in (c) of this subsection. To be considered for inclusion in the department's budget for remedial action grants and loans, project proposals should be submitted by the dates published by the department.

(b) **Application submittal.** Applications must be submitted on forms provided by the department and include sufficient information to make the determinations in (c) and (d) of this subsection. Completed applications should be submitted by the dates published by the department.

(c) **Project evaluation and ranking.** Project proposals and applications will be reviewed by the department for completeness and evaluated to determine:

- (i) Project eligibility under subsection (2) of this section; and
- (ii) Funding priority under subsection (3) of this section.

(d) **Agreement development.** The department will make funding decisions only after funds have been appropriated. After deciding to fund an eligible project, the department will negotiate with the applicant the scope of work and budget for the grant and develop the agreement. The department will consider:

- (i) Funding priority under subsection (3) of this section;
- (ii) Cost eligibility under subsections (5) and (6) of this section;
- (iii) Allowable funding under subsection (7) of this section; and
- (iv) Availability of state funds and other funding sources.

(e) **Fund management.** The department may adjust funding levels or fund additional eligible projects during a biennium if additional funds should become available.

(5) **Cost eligibility.** To be eligible for funding, a project cost must be eligible under this subsection and the terms of the grant agreement and be approved by the department.

(a) **Eligible costs.** Eligible costs for a safe drinking water action grant include, but are not limited to, reasonable costs for the following, if needed:

(i) Water supply source development and replacement, including pumping and storage facilities, source meters, and reasonable appurtenances;

(ii) Transmission lines between major system components, including interties with other water systems;

(iii) Treatment equipment and facilities;

(iv) Distribution lines from major system components to system customers or service connections;

(v) Bottled water, as an interim action;

(vi) Fire hydrants;

(vii) Service meters;

(viii) Project inspection, engineering, and administration;

(ix) Individual service connections, including any connection fees and charges;

(x) Drinking water well decommissioning under WAC [173-160-381](#); and

(xi) Other costs identified by the department of health as necessary to provide a system that operates in compliance with federal and state standards.

(b) **Ineligible costs.** Ineligible costs for a safe drinking water action grant include, but are not limited to, the following:

(i) The cost of developing the grant application or negotiating the grant agreement;

(ii) The cost of dispute resolution under the grant agreement;

(iii) Retroactive costs, except as provided under subsection (6) of this section;

(iv) The cost of oversizing or extending a water system for future development;

(v) The cost of individual service connections for undeveloped lots;

(vi) Local improvement district assessments;

(vii) Operation and maintenance costs;

(viii) Natural resource damage assessment and restoration costs and liability for natural resource damages under chapter [70.105D](#) RCW or the federal cleanup law;

(ix) Legal costs including, but not limited to, the costs of seeking client advice, pursuing cost recovery, contribution, or insurance claims, participating in administrative hearings, pursuing penalties or civil or criminal actions against persons, penalties

incurred by the recipient, defending actions taken against the recipient, and any attorney fees incurred by the recipient; and

(x) In-kind contributions.

(6) **Retroactive cost eligibility.** Retroactive costs are eligible for reimbursement if the costs are incurred during the period of a prior grant agreement, the costs are eligible under subsection (5) of this section, and the costs have not been reimbursed by the department.

(7) **Funding of eligible costs.**

(a) **Department share.** The department may fund up to ninety percent of the eligible costs.

(b) **Recipient share.** The recipient shall fund the percentage of the eligible costs not funded by the department under (a) of this subsection. The recipient may not use in-kind contributions to meet this requirement.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [70.105D](#) RCW. WSR 14-18-060 (Order 13-09), § 173-322A-350, filed 8/29/14, effective 9/29/14.]

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Appendix B: Economically Disadvantaged Cities, Towns, and Counties in Washington State

The tables in Appendix B identify which cities and counties are eligible for reduced local match for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021.

Oversight Grants may be funded up to 75% of the eligible project costs if the applicant is “economically disadvantaged.” A city or county is “economically disadvantaged” if its per capita income is equal to or below the median per capita income for the city or county as determined on July 1st of each odd numbered year, based on the latest official American Community Survey five-year estimates of the U.S. Department of Commerce (WAC [173-322A-100](#)(15) and (16)).

Economically Disadvantaged Counties

As of July 1, 2019, the median income for counties in Washington State is \$26,878.

The counties in the following table **are at or below** that median income. These counties **are considered** economically disadvantaged for purposes of Oversight Remedial Action Grant funding and qualify for reduced local match.

Appendix B Table 1: Economically disadvantaged counties for purposes of Oversight RAG funding as of July 1, 2019

Rank	County	Per Capita Income (in dollars)
39	Adams	18,415
20	Asotin	26,878
25	Cowlitz	25,878
27	Douglas	25,060
37	Ferry	21,951
36	Franklin	22,125
28	Garfield	24,781
34	Grant	22,508
30	Grays Harbor	24,081
21	Kittitas	26,698
26	Klickitat	25,069
31	Lewis	23,853
23	Mason	26,312
33	Okanogan	22,755
32	Pacific	23,050
24	Pend Oreille	26,128
29	Stevens	24,707
22	Walla Walla	26,651
35	Whitman	22,154
38	Yakima	21,510

The counties in the following table **are above** the median income of \$26,878 for Washington State. These counties **are not considered** economically disadvantaged for purposes of Oversight Remedial Action Grant funding and do not qualify for reduced local match.

Appendix B Table 2: Counties not considered economically disadvantaged for purposes of Oversight RAG funding as of July 1, 2019.

Rank	County	Per Capita Income (in dollars)
10	Benton	30,511
17	Chelan	27,605
14	Clallam	28,857
8	Clark	32,162
13	Columbia	28,950
5	Island	33,837
7	Jefferson	32,317
1	King	46,316
4	Kitsap	34,412
19	Lincoln	26,918
9	Pierce	31,157
2	San Juan	40,784
11	Skagit	30,069
15	Skamania	28,644
3	Snohomish	35,737
16	Spokane	28,325
6	Thurston	32,410
18	Wahkiakum	26,964
12	Whatcom	29,186

Economically Disadvantaged Cities and Towns

As of July 1, 2019, the median income for Washington cities and towns is \$25,835.

The cities and towns in the following table **are at or below** the median income.

These cities and towns **are considered** economically disadvantaged for purposes of Oversight Remedial Action Grant funding and qualify for reduced local match.

Appendix B Table 3: Cities and towns at or below Washington's median income of \$25,835 and therefore considered economically disadvantaged for the purposes of Oversight RAG funding as of July 1, 2019.

Rank	Geography	County	Per Capita Income (in dollars)
218	Aberdeen	Grays Harbor	20,985
262	Airway Heights	Spokane	16,357
144	Albion	Whitman	25,664
216	Algona	King	21,198
150	Almira	Lincoln	25,242
163	Benton City	Benton	24,287
208	Bingen	Klickitat	21,646
274	Brewster	Okanogan	13,499
275	Bridgeport	Douglas	13,460
254	Bucoda	Thurston	17,436
143	Burlington	Skagit	25,666
199	Cashmere	Chelan	22,016
222	Castle Rock	Cowlitz	20,706
228	Cathlamet	Wahkiakum	20,121
206	Centralia	Lewis	21,661
225	Chehalis	Lewis	20,302
250	Cheney	Spokane	18,037
220	Chewelah	Stevens	20,886
233	Clarkston	Asotin	19,497
145	Cle Elum	Kittitas	25,437
181	College Place	Walla Walla	23,105
188	Colville	Stevens	22,687
146	Conconully	Okanogan	25,434
240	Concrete	Skagit	19,036
272	Connell	Franklin	13,927
176	Coulee City	Grant	23,269
186	Creston	Lincoln	22,774
258	Cusick	Pend Oreille	16,738
198	Darrington	Snohomish	22,044
178	Deer Park	Spokane	23,266

Rank	Geography	County	Per Capita Income (in dollars)
184	East Wenatchee	Douglas	22,843
229	Ellensburg	Kittitas	19,770
213	Elma	Grays Harbor	21,371
190	Elmer City	Okanogan	22,672
197	Endicott	Whitman	22,061
179	Entiat	Chelan	23,160
195	Everson	Whatcom	22,171
165	Farmington	Whitman	24,206
210	Forks	Clallam	21,576
278	George	Grant	12,574
234	Goldendale	Klickitat	19,452
221	Grand Coulee	Grant	20,849
263	Grandview	Yakima	16,285
277	Granger	Yakima	13,020
183	Hamilton	Skagit	22,974
257	Harrah	Yakima	16,806
170	Hartline	Grant	23,833
268	Hatton	Adams	14,520
153	Hoquiam	Grays Harbor	25,093
164	Ilwaco	Pacific	24,236
152	Ione	Pend Oreille	25,173
202	Kahlotus	Franklin	21,824
245	Kelso	Cowlitz	18,355
141	Kennewick	Benton	25,835
182	Kettle Falls	Stevens	23,013
238	Kittitas	Kittitas	19,288
235	Krupp	Grant	19,451
273	Lamont	Whitman	13,611
231	Latah	Spokane	19,525
207	Lind	Adams	21,651
194	Long Beach	Pacific	22,227
189	Longview	Cowlitz	22,681
280	Mabton	Yakima	11,588
252	Malden	Whitman	17,650
230	Marcus	Stevens	19,741
281	Mattawa	Grant	11,539
212	McCleary	Grays Harbor	21,372
168	Medical Lake	Spokane	24,039
260	Mesa	Franklin	16,508
151	Metaline Falls	Pend Oreille	25,186
249	Morton	Lewis	18,068
174	Moses Lake	Grant	23,458

Rank	Geography	County	Per Capita Income (in dollars)
232	Mossyrock	Lewis	19,523
166	Mount Vernon	Skagit	24,201
248	Moxee	Yakima	18,278
148	Naches	Yakima	25,430
200	Napavine	Lewis	21,965
192	Nespelem	Okanogan	22,389
217	Newport	Pend Oreille	21,080
223	Nooksack	Whatcom	20,693
264	Northport	Stevens	16,117
158	Oak Harbor	Island	24,566
219	Oakville	Grays Harbor	20,888
160	Ocean Shores	Grays Harbor	24,368
204	Okanogan	Okanogan	21,752
193	Omak	Okanogan	22,281
237	Oroville	Okanogan	19,355
259	Othello	Adams	16,609
167	Pacific	King/Pierce	24,148
196	Pasco	Franklin	22,103
224	Pateros	Okanogan	20,523
187	Pe Ell	Lewis	22,754
203	Pomeroy	Garfield	21,804
159	Port Angeles	Clallam	24,533
226	Prescott	Walla Walla	20,197
147	Prosser	Benton	25,434
243	Pullman	Whitman	18,681
253	Quincy	Grant	17,560
177	Rainier	Thurston	23,268
256	Raymond	Pacific	16,872
175	Reardan	Lincoln	23,336
201	Republic	Ferry	21,929
142	Ritzville	Adams	25,818
239	Riverside	Okanogan	19,088
255	Rock Island	Douglas	17,183
162	Rockford	Spokane	24,289
211	Rosalia	Whitman	21,469
149	Roy	Pierce	25,281
279	Royal City	Grant	12,367
171	SeaTac	King	23,710
191	Sedro-Woolley	Skagit	22,513
242	Shelton	Mason	18,881
261	Soap Lake	Grant	16,448
247	South Bend	Pacific	18,295

Rank	Geography	County	Per Capita Income (in dollars)
155	Spangle	Spokane	24,735
241	Sprague	Lincoln	18,977
270	Springdale	Stevens	14,111
156	St. John	Whitman	24,699
172	Stevenson	Skamania	23,689
236	Sumas	Whatcom	19,371
267	Sunnyside	Yakima	15,130
169	Tekoa	Whitman	24,031
276	Tieton	Yakima	13,299
244	Tonasket	Okanogan	18,382
271	Toppenish	Yakima	13,937
209	Twisp	Okanogan	21,587
265	Union Gap	Yakima	15,785
246	Vader	Lewis	18,345
185	Walla Walla	Walla Walla	22,807
269	Wapato	Yakima	14,286
266	Warden	Grant	15,574
215	Washtucna	Adams	21,226
173	Waterville	Douglas	23,501
161	Waverly	Spokane	24,316
180	Westport	Grays Harbor	23,139
157	Wilson Creek	Grant	24,693
251	Winlock	Lewis	17,758
227	Yacolt	Clark	20,166
205	Yakima	Yakima	21,684
214	Yelm	Thurston	21,321
154	Zillah	Yakima	25,064

Appendix B Table 3 (above): Cities and towns at or below Washington's median income of \$25,835 and therefore considered economically disadvantaged for the purposes of Oversight RAG funding as of July 1, 2019.

As of July 1, 2019, the median income for Washington cities and towns is \$25,835.

The cities and towns in the following table **are above** the median income. These cities and towns **are not considered** economically disadvantaged for purposes of Oversight Grant funding and do not qualify for reduced local match.

Appendix B Table 4: Cities and towns above Washington's median income of \$25,835 and therefore not considered economically disadvantaged for the purposes of Oversight RAG funding as of July 1, 2019.

Rank	Geography	County	Per Capita Income (in dollars)
41	Anacortes	Skagit	37,385
94	Arlington	Snohomish	29,321
110	Asotin	Asotin	28,490
93	Auburn	King/Pierce	29,344
11	Bainbridge Island	King	58,371
130	Battle Ground	Clark	26,571
5	Beaux Arts Village	King	87,811
10	Bellevue	King	59,007
122	Bellingham	Whatcom	27,209
45	Black Diamond	King	36,623
42	Blaine	Whatcom	37,362
49	Bonney Lake	Pierce	35,106
28	Bothell	King/ Snohomish	42,459
120	Bremerton	Kitsap	27,506
24	Brier	Snohomish	47,528
112	Buckley	Pierce	27,991
83	Burien	King	30,150
29	Camas	Clark	42,113
108	Carbonado	Pierce	28,615
50	Carnation	King	34,725
73	Chelan	Chelan	30,770
4	Clyde Hill	King	99,594
134	Colfax	Whitman	26,374
54	Colton	Whitman	33,873
126	Cosmopolis	Grays Harbor	26,955
128	Coulee Dam	Okanogan /Douglas/ Grant	26,909
40	Coupeville	Island	37,403
39	Covington	King	37,900
105	Davenport	Lincoln	28,703
123	Dayton	Columbia	27,124
69	Des Moines	King	31,235
53	DuPont	Pierce	34,144
16	Duvall	King	53,493

Rank	Geography	County	Per Capita Income (in dollars)
113	Eatonville	Pierce	27,985
37	Edgewood	Pierce	38,052
22	Edmonds	Snohomish	48,477
109	Electric City	Grant	28,583
86	Enumclaw	King/Pierce	29,793
135	Ephrata	Grant	26,354
95	Everett	Snohomish	29,266
111	Fairfield	Spokane	28,147
82	Federal Way	King	30,288
131	Ferndale	Whatcom	26,522
117	Fife	Pierce	27,736
65	Fircrest	Pierce	32,735
88	Friday Harbor	San Juan	29,531
118	Garfield	Whitman	27,645
27	Gig Harbor	Pierce	43,349
76	Gold Bar	Snohomish	30,486
85	Granite Falls	Snohomish	29,853
127	Harrington	Lincoln	26,924
2	Hunts Point	King	131,134
104	Index	Snohomish	28,705
20	Issaquah	King	51,630
77	Kalama	Cowlitz	30,466
26	Kenmore	King	45,666
107	Kent	King	28,636
12	Kirkland	King	56,385
60	La Center	Clark	33,206
114	La Conner	Skagit	27,928
72	Lacey	Thurston	30,824
84	LaCrosse	Whitman	29,994
19	Lake Forest Park	King	51,657
63	Lake Stevens	Snohomish	32,766
125	Lakewood	Pierce	26,982
36	Langley	Island	38,244
57	Leavenworth	Chelan	33,593
32	Liberty Lake	Spokane	39,280
79	Lyman	Skagit	30,386
96	Lynden	Whatcom	29,205
101	Lynnwood	Snohomish	28,874
106	Mansfield	Douglas	28,664
33	Maple Valley	King	39,053
78	Marysville	Snohomish	30,464
3	Medina	King	105,342

Rank	Geography	County	Per Capita Income (in dollars)
6	Mercer Island	King	82,637
100	Metaline	Pend Oreille	28,892
25	Mill Creek	Snohomish	45,803
102	Millwood	Spokane	28,831
51	Milton	Pierce/King	34,643
129	Monroe	Snohomish	26,595
58	Montesano	Grays Harbor	33,492
59	Mountlake Terrace	Snohomish	33,338
23	Mukilteo	Snohomish	48,078
9	Newcastle	King	60,857
14	Normandy Park	King	55,939
30	North Bend	King	41,579
74	North Bonneville	Skamania	30,722
133	Oakesdale	Whitman	26,457
140	Odessa	Lincoln	25,837
64	Olympia	Thurston	32,753
115	Orting	Pierce	27,851
66	Palouse	Whitman	32,646
75	Port Orchard	Kitsap	30,519
56	Port Townsend	Jefferson	33,756
70	Poulsbo	Kitsap	31,224
55	Puyallup	Pierce	33,866
13	Redmond	King	56,356
47	Renton	King	35,517
44	Richland	Benton	37,081
31	Ridgefield	Clark	40,355
89	Roslyn	Kittitas	29,524
15	Ruston	Pierce	54,836
8	Sammamish	King	61,690
18	Seattle	King	51,872
99	Selah	Yakima	28,914
121	Sequim	Clallam	27,380
38	Shoreline	King	37,960
35	Skykomish	King	38,460
97	Snohomish	Snohomish	29,111
21	Snoqualmie	King	51,091
116	South Cle Elum	Kittitas	27,761
103	South Prairie	Pierce	28,799
132	Spokane	Spokane	26,464
139	Spokane Valley	Spokane	25,891
98	Stanwood	Snohomish	28,934
43	Starbuck	Columbia	37,260

Rank	Geography	County	Per Capita Income (in dollars)
34	Steilacoom	Pierce	38,490
81	Sultan	Snohomish	30,343
62	Sumner	Pierce	32,850
92	Tacoma	Pierce	29,420
138	Tenino	Thurston	26,116
80	Toledo	Lewis	30,355
87	Tukwila	King	29,545
67	Tumwater	Thurston	32,396
61	Uniontown	Whitman	32,964
48	University Place	Pierce	35,257
90	Vancouver	Clark	29,473
68	Waitsburg	Walla Walla	31,381
46	Washougal	Clark	35,633
137	Wenatchee	Chelan	26,137
52	West Richland	Benton	34,150
91	White Salmon	Klickitat	29,426
136	Wilbur	Lincoln	26,298
71	Wilkeson	Pierce	30,899
119	Winthrop	Okanogan	27,532
17	Woodinville	King	52,494
124	Woodland	Cowlitz/Clark	27,056
7	Woodway	Snohomish	80,019
1	Yarrow Point	King	146,639

Appendix B Table 4 (above): Cities and towns above Washington's median income of \$25,835 and therefore not considered economically disadvantaged for the purposes of Oversight RAG funding as of July 1, 2019.

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