



GREEN INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM (GIGP) PROGRAM SUMMARY

FUNDING AVAILABLE: \$15 MILLION

The New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) will offer grants for eligible projects that improve water quality and utilize green practices to improve resiliency for protection of existing infrastructure through the Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP). This grant funding is made available through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF).

GIGP awards are made on a competitive basis to projects that will implement green practices in one of the following Green Categories:

- **Green Stormwater Infrastructure**
- **Energy Efficiency**
- **Water Efficiency**

Each GIGP application may only include one Green Category. Projects that include more than one Green Category must submit separate applications for each.

Projects previously awarded a grant through the Green Resiliency Grant program are not eligible for GIGP funding.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

The GIGP may fund between 50 and 90 percent of eligible project costs, up to a maximum of \$3 million per project. The grant amount is determined based on the eligible project costs as estimated in the application for planning, design, and construction. Eligible project costs must be directly related to project implementation and incurred after notification of award. See below for more information on types of grants.

Funding will be provided for projects to the extent that funds are available based on the evaluation criteria, including the specific Green Category, water quality impacts of the project, and financial need of the applicant. EFC, in its sole discretion, may fund all, or a portion of an eligible project and will determine the grant percentage available for the project. A local match for the balance of the estimated project costs is required.

The maximum percentage available to fund a GIGP project will be determined based on the median household income (MHI) of the municipality in which the project is located. Projects in municipalities that meet the following Median Household Income (MHI)¹ criteria will be eligible to receive up to the maximum grant available for the Green Category.

- Municipal MHI equal to or less than \$90,000 for communities in New York State, excluding the Long Island, New York City, and Mid-Hudson Regions.
- Municipal MHI equal to or less than \$110,000 for communities in the Long Island, New York City, and Mid-Hudson Regions.

All other projects will be eligible for a maximum grant up to the lesser grant available as set forth under “Funding” for each practice described below.

A summary of the funding available based on the Green Category is below:

	GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE	ENERGY EFFICIENCY	WATER EFFICIENCY
Municipal MHI equal to or less than \$90,000 for communities in New York State, excluding the Long Island, New York City and Mid-Hudson Regions	Grant in an amount up to 90% of eligible project costs	Grant in an amount up to 75% of eligible project costs	Grant in an amount up to 75% of eligible project costs
Municipal MHI greater than \$90,000 for communities in New York State, excluding the Long Island, New York City and Mid-Hudson Regions	Grant in an amount up to 75% of eligible project costs	Grant in an amount up to 50% of eligible project costs	Grant in an amount up to 50% of eligible project costs
Municipal MHI equal to or less than \$110,000 for communities in the Long Island, New York City and Mid-Hudson Regions.	Grant in an amount up to 90% of eligible project costs	Grant in an amount up to 75% of eligible project costs	Grant in an amount up to 75% of eligible project costs
Municipal MHI greater than \$110,000 for communities in the Long Island, New York City and Mid-Hudson Regions.	Grant in an amount up to 75% of eligible project costs	Grant in an amount up to 50% of eligible project costs	Grant in an amount up to 50% of eligible project costs

EFC reserves the right to limit applicants to no more than two active GIGP awards at the same time. A GIGP award is considered active from when a project has been awarded funding through the completion of construction and retainage has been released.

If submitting more than one application, applicants must prioritize projects. EFC reserves the right to prioritize projects more protective of water quality and limit GIGP funding to one grant award per applicant per cycle.

¹ A summary of the United States Census, 2023 American Community Survey MHI data can be found on EFCs website at <https://efc.ny.gov/american-community-survey-data>

AWARDEE REQUIREMENTS (after Grant Award)

Awardees must fulfill certain requirements to enter into a Grant Agreement with EFC, including, but not limited to:

- Compliance with federal Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Services procurement 40 U.S.C 1101.
- Compliance with Single Audits as defined in 2 CFR 200, subpart 7, if applicable
- State Environmental and Historic Preservation reviews, i.e., SEQR and SHPO
- Compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), if applicable
- Detailed current final budget and plan of finance to show that sufficient funding has been secured for the full project cost.
- Proof of legal right to own, operate, and maintain project for the duration of its useful life
- Compliance with Minority/Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) requirements
- Compliance with Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements, if applicable
- Compliance with Davis Bacon Wage and American Iron and Steel Requirements for Treatment Works Projects Only. Treatment Works means any Publicly Owned Treatment Works for devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling and reclamation of municipal sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature. It also includes sewers, pipes and other conveyances, only if they convey wastewater to a publicly owned treatment plant, and combined storm water and sanitary sewer systems.
- Compliance with Build America Buy America (BABA), if applicable.

APPLICATION DUE DATE

Applications may be submitted through EFC's Customer Portal at <https://portal.efc.ny.gov> starting Wednesday, April 22, 2026 and must be submitted by Friday, June 12, 2026 by 4:00 P.M.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Additional information on the GIGP can be found on EFC's website at: <http://www.efc.ny.gov/gigp>

GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

SUMMARY

Green stormwater infrastructure projects improve water quality by reducing and treating stormwater at its source through infiltration and/or evapotranspiration. Green stormwater infrastructure projects selected for funding go beyond offering a greener solution. Green stormwater infrastructure practices treat rainwater as a valuable resource to be harvested and used on site or filtered and allowed to soak into the ground, recharging aquifers, rivers, and streams. The plants used in green stormwater infrastructure help to cool surroundings and improve air quality through the process of evapotranspiration. These practices have multiple benefits, which include restoring habitat, addressing flood mitigation and resiliency, providing cleaner air, and beautifying streets to spur economic development and community revitalization.

FUNDING

The maximum percentage grant is up to 90% of eligible project costs for a green stormwater infrastructure project in a municipality that meets the MHI criteria. All other green infrastructure projects are eligible to receive up to a maximum of 75% of total eligible project costs.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipalities
- Private Entities
- State Agencies
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Regional Green Stormwater Infrastructure projects utilize green stormwater infrastructure to restore natural landscape features, such as flood plains, riparian buffers, streams, and wetlands. These natural features provide water quality benefits and enhance watersheds, while preserving wildlife and their habitat.

Local Green Stormwater Infrastructure projects are typically located in an urban environment and consist of site and neighborhood specific practices, such as bioretention, cisterns, downspout disconnections, green roofs, green walls, permeable pavements, stormwater street trees, and urban forestry programs.

Eligible projects must meet or exceed requirements identified in [USEPA Green Project Reserve guidance](#) (published in 2012).

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must complete the online application and submit a feasibility study that aligns with the [EFC Feasibility Study Outline](#) as part of their application. For more information on required and optional documents to support an application, refer to the [Application Documentation Guidance](#).

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES / COSTS

Ineligible activities and costs include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Hardening, channelizing, or straightening streams and/or stream banks
- In-line and end-of-pipe treatment systems that only filter or detain stormwater
- Stormwater controls that have impervious or semi-impervious liners and provide no compensatory evapotranspirative or harvesting function for stormwater retention
- Stormwater conveyance systems that are not soil/vegetation based (swales) such as pipes and concrete channels
- Stormwater ponds that serve an extended detention function and/or extended filtration, including dirt-lined detention basins
- Underground stormwater control and treatment devices such as swirl concentrators, hydrodynamic separators, baffle systems for grit, trash removal/floatables, oil and grease, inflatable booms and dams for in-line underground storage and diversion of flows
- Practices implemented to comply with the requirements of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity Permit No. GP-0-15-002
- Wetland construction or restoration required as compensation (mitigation) for adverse impacts to wetlands or other environmental damage caused through construction activities
- Purchase of capital equipment such as street sweepers, sewer cleaners, and vector trucks
- Project costs not directly related to water quality, such as asbestos abatement, bus shelters, benches, light poles, traffic devices, and other site amenities

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applications, including all required and supporting documents, will be evaluated based on the clarity and completeness of information provided to define the scope and articulate the benefits of the project. If there are discrepancies between any of the application materials, or required information is not provided, credit will not be assigned for the respective evaluation criteria.

Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) applications will be evaluated and ranked based on:

- The **environmental and water-quality outcomes** of the project, including reduction of CSOs and/or SSOs, consistency with any applicable enforcement requirements, and direct benefits to the receiving waterbody.
- **Documentation of existing flood risk** included in the application using credible information, and clear explanation of how the project will reduce or mitigate those risks.
- The volume of **stormwater runoff reduced, treated, and/or managed**, supported by complete, clear, and well-documented calculations.
- The **green infrastructure co-benefits** provided by the project.
- Demonstrated **site ownership and/or secured access** necessary to construct, operate, and maintain the project for its useful life.
- The **applicant's experience and capacity** (technical, managerial, and financial) to successfully deliver the project.

- The direct benefits the project provides to communities with demonstrated socioeconomic need, as reflected by **Median Household Income (MHI) and percentage of families below the poverty level** within the project area.
- Documentation of **community and intergovernmental support** included in the application, such as public engagement materials and letters of support.
- The extent to which the project **leverages additional resources**, including outside funding, partnerships, and alignment with recommendations from an adopted local or regional plan.
- The feasibility and clarity of the **long-term operation and maintenance (O&M) approach**, including defined roles, responsibilities, and funding for ongoing upkeep.
- The **readiness of the project** to proceed, demonstrated through progress on environmental review, procurement of required engineering services, and design development.
- The extent to which the project achieves intended outcomes at a **competitive cost**, reflecting efficient use of public funds.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

SUMMARY

Energy Efficiency projects improve technologies and/or practices to reduce the energy consumption of water quality projects, use energy in a more efficient way, or produce/utilize renewable energy.

FUNDING

The maximum percentage grant is up to 75% of eligible project costs for an energy efficiency project in a municipality that meets the MHI criteria. All other energy efficiency projects are eligible to receive up to a maximum of 50% of total eligible project costs.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTW)

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES:

Renewable Energy projects such as wind, solar, micro-hydroelectric, and biogas combined heat and power systems (CHP) that provide power to a POTW. Micro-hydroelectric projects involve capturing the energy from pipe flow.

- POTW owned renewable energy sources located onsite or offsite.
- Eligible projects include the portion of a publicly owned renewable energy project that serves the POTW's energy needs.
- Eligible projects must feed into the grid that the utility draws from and/or there is a direct connection.

Energy Efficient Replacement projects achieve at least a 25% reduction in energy consumption through the replacement of existing equipment with energy efficient equipment. These projects must compare the energy used by the existing system or unit process to the proposed system or unit process. The energy used by the existing system should be based on name plate data when the system was first installed, recognizing that the old system is currently operating at a lower overall efficiency than at the time of installation. New POTW projects or capacity expansion projects should be designed to maximize energy efficiency and should include high efficiency premium motors and equipment where cost effective.

Eligible projects must meet or exceed requirements identified in [USEPA Green Project Reserve guidance](#) (published in 2012)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must complete the online application and submit an engineering report that aligns with the [DEC/EFC Engineering Report Outline](#), and Flex Tech report, if available, as part of their application. For more information on required and optional documents to support an application, refer to the [Application Documentation Guidance](#).

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES / COSTS

Ineligible activities and costs include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Renewable energy generation by a privately-owned facility or the portion of a publicly owned renewable energy facility that does not provide energy to a POTW, either through a connection to the grid that the utility draws from and/or a direct connection to the POTW.
- Replacing a pump or other piece of equipment at the end of its useful life with equipment of average efficiency.
- Facultative lagoons, even if integral to an innovative treatment process.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applications, including all required and supporting documents, will be evaluated based on the clarity and completeness of information provided to define the scope and articulate the benefits of the project. If there are discrepancies between any of the application materials, or required information is not provided, credit will not be assigned for the respective evaluation criteria.

Energy Efficiency (EE) applications will be evaluated and ranked based on:

- The **environmental and water-quality outcomes** of the project, including reduction of CSOs and/or SSOs, consistency with any applicable enforcement requirements (if applicable), and direct benefits to the receiving waterbody.
- Clearly documented **project need**, including whether the project will expand capacity of the POTW or reduce or eliminate CSO events.
- The extent to which the project **offsets or reduces energy consumption** at the POTW.
- Demonstrated **site ownership and/or secured access** necessary to construct, operate, and maintain the project for its useful life.
- The **applicant's experience and capacity** (technical, managerial, and financial) to successfully deliver the project.
- The direct benefits the project provides to communities with demonstrated socioeconomic need, as reflected by **Median Household Income (MHI) and percentage of families below the poverty level** within the project area.
- Documentation of **community and intergovernmental support** included in the application, such as public engagement materials and letters of support.
- The extent to which the project **leverages additional resources**, including outside funding, partnerships, and alignment with recommendations from an adopted local or regional plan.
- The feasibility and clarity of the **long-term operation and maintenance (O&M) approach**, including defined roles, responsibilities, and funding for ongoing upkeep.
- The **readiness of the project** to proceed, demonstrated through progress on environmental review, procurement of required engineering services, and design development.
- The extent to which the project achieves intended outcomes at a **competitive cost**, reflecting efficient use of public funds.

WATER EFFICIENCY

SUMMARY

Water Efficiency projects use improved technologies and/or practices to deliver equal or better services with less water. Water efficiency encompasses conservation and reuse efforts, as well as water loss reduction and prevention, to protect water resources for the future.

FUNDING

The maximum percentage grant is up to 75% of eligible project costs for a water efficiency project in a municipality that meets the MHI criteria. All other water efficiency projects are eligible to receive up to a maximum of 50% of total eligible project costs.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipalities

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Water Meter Installation projects provide for the purchase and installation of water meters in previously unmetered areas.

Water Meter Replacement projects include the replacement of existing broken/malfunctioning water meters or upgrading existing meters.

Water Meter Retrofit projects add AMR capabilities or leak detection equipment to existing meters (not replacing the meter itself).

- All water meters must be installed on water service connections for homes or businesses that discharge to and are served by a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW).
- All water meters installed under the program must be digital meters with automated reading technology including Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) systems, Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI), smart meters, or meters with built in leak detection.
- Backflow prevention devices installed in conjunction with new water meters may be included as an eligible expense.
- All water meters must be installed by a professional under contract with the applicant and may not be installed or coordinated by the homeowner

Water Reuse projects recycle gray water, condensate, or wastewater effluent to reduce potable water consumption.

Eligible projects must meet or exceed requirements identified in [USEPA Green Project Reserve guidance](#) (published in 2012)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must complete the online application and submit an engineering report that aligns with the [DEC/EFC Engineering Report Outline](#) as part of their application. For more information on required and optional documents to support an application, refer to the [Application Documentation Guidance](#).

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES / COSTS

Ineligible activities and costs include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Replacing drinking water distribution lines.
- Leak detection equipment for drinking water distribution systems.
- Analog water meters.
- Water meters for water service connections for homes or businesses that do **not** discharge to or are served by a POTW.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applications, including all required and supporting documents, will be evaluated based on the clarity and completeness of information provided to define the scope and articulate the benefits of the project. If there are discrepancies between any of the application materials, or required information is not provided, credit will not be assigned for the respective evaluation criteria.

Water Efficiency (WE) applications will be evaluated and ranked based on:

- The **environmental and water-quality outcomes** of the project, including reduction of CSOs and/or SSOs, consistency with any applicable enforcement requirements, and direct benefits to the receiving waterbody.
- The extent to which the project advances **water system modernization** through implementation of advanced metering approaches.
- The **incorporation of water reuse** where applicable, with clear identification of the reuse source, intended use, and expected benefits.
- Increased **district meter coverage** and/or reduction in **potable water use** demonstrated by the project.
- Demonstrated **site ownership and/or secured access** necessary to construct, operate, and maintain the project for its useful life.
- The **applicant's experience and capacity** (technical, managerial, and financial) to successfully deliver the project.
- The direct benefits the project provides to communities with demonstrated socioeconomic need, as reflected by **Median Household Income (MHI) and percentage of families below the poverty level** within the project area.
- Documentation of **community and intergovernmental support** included in the application, such as public engagement materials and letters of support.
- The extent to which the project **leverages additional resources**, including outside funding, partnerships, and alignment with recommendations from an adopted local or regional plan.
- The feasibility and clarity of the **long-term operation and maintenance (O&M) approach**, including defined roles, responsibilities, and funding for ongoing upkeep.
- The **readiness of the project** to proceed, demonstrated through progress on environmental review, procurement of required engineering services, and design development.
- The extent to which the project achieves intended outcomes at a **competitive cost**, reflecting efficient use of public funds.