

Colorado's Water Plan Grants

Supply and Demand Gap Project Grants

The CWP sets a measurable objective of reducing the projected 2050 municipal and industrial gap from as much as 560,000 acre-feet to zero acre-feet by 2030.

Potential Project Types:

Feasibility Studies, Engineering Design and Permitting, Projects and Processes that result in a shared benefit to multiple stakeholder interests with an emphasis on non-consumptive water uses.

Criteria and considerations:

- Completed Feasibility Studies must be submitted with an engineer's estimate of probable cost for grant requests that include costs for final engineering plans and construction.
- Does the project/applicant demonstrate a commitment to collaboration? Does the project/applicant: address more than one type of need; involve multiple participants where appropriate; consult with a broad set of local stakeholders and local governments; provide meaningful opportunities for input?
- Does the project address an identified water gap? Is the project: included in a BIP; identified as meeting a defined need in a basin needs assessment; identified as meeting a defined need identified in the SWSI; or identified as part of the no-and low-regrets scenario planning process?
- Does the project/applicant demonstrate sustainability? Does the project/applicant: adopt an integrated plan or plans geared toward implementing conservation? avoid adverse effects to environmental and recreational interests; adopt environmental, watershed health, and recreational mitigation in the planning phase of the project; avoid impacts to, mitigate, or enhance water quality, mitigate or avoid economic and social impacts on agricultural and rural communities; maximize the use of water resources, improving or modernizing aging infrastructure, or aquifer storage and recharge project; conflict with any interstate compact or the curtailment of existing water rights?
- Does the project/applicant establish the fiscal and technical feasibility of the project? Does the project/applicant demonstrate: overall cost-effectiveness; local investment or contribution; financial capability to repay debt; an intent to leverage other funding; technical and legal availability of water supplies for the project; or readiness to proceed upon receipt of necessary funding and permits (i.e. completed preliminary planning and design work, obtained necessary water rights, secured necessary financial commitments)?

Matching recommendation:

Applicant is encouraged to provide a minimum of 50% non-CWCB grant matching funds (a CWCB loan is considered the applicant's matching funds). Grant requests for greater 50% of project costs will receive lower preference during application review.