

This webinar provided an overview of the Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program (CWIFP), an innovative new Corps tool that non-federal entities can take advantage of to accelerate their water infrastructure projects. CWIFP offers an option for non-federal entities when other USACE programs may not be a good fit and provides long-term, low-cost loans for non-federal dam safety and levee projects. The webinar was presented by Nate Campbell (HQUSACE Senior Portfolio Manager & Application Coordinator), Emily Chavolla (HQUSACE Program Manager), and Marie Kopka (HQUSACE Environmental Specialist).



This summary of the Question/Answer session of the webinar is not a transcription; questions and responses have been edited and reordered for clarity.

CWIFP Resources:

- [CWIFP Homepage](#)
- [CWIFP Fact Sheet](#)
- [CWIFP FAQ](#)
- [Notice of Funding Availability for Applications for Credit Assistance Under the Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program \(09/20/2023\)](#)

CWIFP Application Information & Covered Activities

If the program receives too many eligible applications, how are projects chosen/ranked?

CWIFP uses a scoring process used to rank the preliminary applications based on 18 selection criteria, which, for the past funding round, were written out in the [Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFA\)](#).

In CWIFP's first funding round, there was enough funding for all eligible projects. Of the 25 applications, four were not eligible, 18 were extended an invitation, and three of the project applications that we recommended to be invited are still pending a decision by the Office of Management and Budget. In future rounds of funding, if there are too many eligible projects, they will be ranked and selected based on NOFA scoring criteria.

How will interested parties be informed when the next funding round occurs?

The timeline for the next funding round depends on additional appropriations (i.e., the FY25 appropriations bill). Once FY25 appropriations are in place, the program will provide notification via an outreach list, with emails containing CWIFP information as it evolves. Additionally, [the official CWIFP website](#) will be updated regularly.

CWIFP Benefits for Communities

Does CWIFP cover dam removal and other related activities?

Yes. Dam removal, remediation, repair, and other related dam safety activities are eligible. To learn more about the eligibility of dam and levee activities, visit the [CWIFP Eligibility page](#).

The total project cost minimum threshold of \$20M potentially restricts smaller communities with fewer resources since their projects are typically smaller. What can these smaller communities do to benefit from CWIFP?

Smart Funding, Stronger Communities: CWIFP Unpacked Q&A Summary

The CWIFP team acknowledges that this cost eligibility requirement may restrict smaller communities from applying, and the team encourages these communities to reach out to their congressional representatives since that financial eligibility requirement is bound by statute. Additionally, states, levee districts, or groups of owners can bundle projects together and have funds disbursed to them on a project-by-project basis as long as each project meets the eligibility requirements. In short, a single application may include multiple projects under a single entity (i.e., the state). That entity would then be responsible for the loan repayment.

Does USACE provide any technical expertise to CWIFP applicants?

It does not. Statute language for CWIFP does not include technical assistance, but it is possible that the statutory language may be changed to include technical assistance in the future.