

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF WATER

August 9, 2023

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Allocation of Federal Fiscal Year 2023 Funding for the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater

Reuse Municipal Grant Program

FROM: Radhika Fox

Assistant Administrator

TO: Regional Water Division Directors, Regions I-X

Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant (OSG) [33 U.S.C §1301] funding for fiscal year (FY) 2023 is available with the passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 (Public Law No: 117-328). This memorandum allocates FY 2023 OSG program funding to EPA regions for the purpose of awarding grants to state entities. Regions should obligate funds under interagency agreements or direct grants to state entities by September 30, 2024, or the funds may be subject to Congressional rescission. Furthermore, funds that are not obligated under an interagency agreement or a direct grant by September 30, 2024, may be awarded to another state in the region as determined by the Regional Administrator. At least 25 percent of each state grant must fund eligible projects in financially distressed communities and/or to communities with a population of 10,000 or less. Furthermore, nonfederal cost share requirements do not apply to portions of a grant that support financially distressed communities with a population of 10,000 or less.

The agency developed and published the OSG allocation formula in the Federal Register (FR) on February 24, 2021 (see 85 FR 47205) as directed under Section 221(g)(2) of the Clean Water Act (CWA). For the FY 2023 appropriation of \$50,000,000, the agency exercised the authority listed in CWA Section 221(h)(1) to retain up to one percent of the appropriation for administration costs. Table 1 lists the allocation of the FY 2023 OSG funding amounts per state entity.

Table 1: Allocation Dollar Amount for the FY 2023 OSG Program

State Entity	FY23 Total Allotment		Percent of Total
Region 1	\$	3,770,000	
Connecticut	\$	1,054,000	2.13%
Maine	\$	293,000	0.59%
Massachusetts	\$	1,277,000	2.58%
New Hampshire	\$	464,000	0.94%
Rhode Island	\$	434,000	0.88%
Vermont	\$	248,000	0.50%
Region 2	\$	6,563,000	
New Jersey	\$	2,822,000	5.70%
New York	\$	3,137,000	6.34%
Puerto Rico	\$	356,000	0.72%
Virgin Islands	\$	248,000	0.50%
Region 3	\$	5,578,000	
Delaware	\$	248,000	0.50%
District of Columbia	\$	645,000	1.30%
Maryland	\$	1,319,000	2.66%
Pennsylvania	\$	1,702,000	3.44%
Virginia	\$	1,048,000	2.12%
West Virginia	\$	616,000	1.24%
Region 4	\$	5,943,000	
Alabama	\$	504,000	1.02%
Florida	\$	1,425,000	2.88%
Georgia	\$	740,000	1.49%
Kentucky	\$	1,047,000	2.12%
Mississippi	\$	407,000	0.82%
North Carolina	\$	663,000	1.34%
South Carolina	\$	398,000	0.80%
Tennessee	\$	759,000	1.53%

State Entity	FY23 Total Allotment		Percent of Total
Region 5	\$	8,189,000	10001
Illinois	\$	1,273,000	2.57%
Indiana	\$	1,507,000	3.04%
Michigan	\$	739,000	1.49%
Minnesota	\$	363,000	0.73%
Ohio	\$	3,417,000	6.90%
Wisconsin	\$	890,000	1.80%
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Region 6	\$	4,526,000	
Arkansas	\$	343,000	0.69%
Louisiana	\$	705,000	1.42%
New Mexico	\$	248,000	0.50%
Oklahoma	\$	406,000	0.82%
Texas	\$	2,824,000	5.71%
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Region 7	\$	3,522,000	
Iowa	\$	400,000	0.81%
Kansas	\$	563,000	1.14%
Missouri	\$	1,914,000	3.87%
Nebraska	\$	645,000	1.30%
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Region 8	\$	1,771,000	
Colorado	\$	531,000	1.07%
Montana	\$	248,000	0.50%
North Dakota	\$	248,000	0.50%
South Dakota	\$	248,000	0.50%
Utah	\$	248,000	0.50%
Wyoming	\$	248,000	0.50%
Region 9	\$	7,468,000	
American Samoa	\$	458,000	0.93%
Arizona	\$	419,000	0.85%
California	\$	5,255,000	10.62%
Guam	\$	385,000	0.78%
Hawaii	\$	248,000	0.50%
Nevada	\$	366,000	0.74%
Northern Marianas	\$	337,000	0.68%

State Entity	FY23 Total Allotment	Percent of Total
Region 10	\$ 2,170,000	
Alaska	\$ 248,000	0.50%
Idaho	\$ 248,000	0.50%
Oregon	\$ 742,000	1.50%
Washington	\$ 932,000	1.88%
Total	\$ 49,500,000	100.00%

If you have questions concerning the contents of this memorandum or about the OSG program, you may contact OSG@epa.gov or visit www.epa.gov/cwsrf/sewer-overflow-and-stormwater-reuse-municipal-grants-program.

APPENDIX A: OSG Allotment Formula of Federal Fiscal Year 2023 Funding

Methodology and Data Sources

After notice and comment, EPA adopted the following methodology to allocate funds appropriated for the program (see 85 FR 47205).

- 1. Reserve 1 percent of the federal appropriation for EPA's administrative expenses per CWA Section 221(h).
- 2. Allocate the remaining amount (federal appropriation minus EPA administrative set-aside) based on several factors to characterize the "need allocation" of each state. In addition to the most recent Clean Watersheds Need Survey (CWNS), EPA chose additional objective factors to help characterize the infrastructure needs of each state, as permitted by CWA Section 221(g)(2). These factors include total state population, urban population, and 10-year annual average precipitation. EPA assigned weights to each of the factors in the allocation formula. The CWNS needs are weighted at 50 percent and the additional factors were weighted evenly to collectively account for the remaining 50 percent. The combination of the following factors forms the need allocation for each state with data sources listed here:
 - Clean Watersheds Needs Survey: The CWNS includes and documents identified capital investment needs for Sanitary Sewer Overflow Correction (Categories I-IV where states have shown a designated SSO need), Combined Sewer Overflow Correction (Category V), and Stormwater Management (Category VI). Information for this factor comes from the most recent published CWNS.¹
 - Annual Average Precipitation: The precipitation factor for each state is the annual average amount of precipitation collected from the past 10 years of data from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) National Centers for Environmental Information, Climate at a Glance: Statewide Time Series. These data will be updated annually to form a 10-year rolling average.² Due to data limitations, alternative data sources are used for the following states:
 - <u>Hawaii</u>: The past 10 years of data for annual average precipitation will be collected from the Hilo Area, Honolulu Area, Kahului Area, and Lihue Area from the Honolulu Forecast Office of NOAA.³ These sources constitute the most complete data set in the relevant timeframe and are considered the best available representation for Hawaii.
 - <u>District of Columbia</u>: The past 10 years of data for annual average precipitation will be collected from the Washington Area from the Baltimore/Washington Forecast Office of NOAA. This is the most complete data set in the relevant timeframe and is considered the best available representation for the District of Columbia.⁴
 - Puerto Rico: The past 10 years of data for annual average precipitation will be collected from the San Juan Area and Ensenada and Morovis weather stations from the San Juan

¹ Clean Watersheds Need Survey 2012 Report to Congress, January 2016. https://www.epa.gov/cwns/clean-watersheds-needs-survey-cwns-2012-report-and-data

² NOAA National Centers for Environmental information, Climate at a Glance: Statewide Time Series, published June 2023, retrieved on June 13, 2023 from https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/climate-at-a-glance/statewide/time-series

³ NOAA, Honolulu Forecast Office, Hilo Area, Honolulu Area, Kahului Area, and Lihue Area Data, https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=hfo

⁴ NOAA, Baltimore/Washington Forecast Office, Washington Area Data, https://w2.weather.gov/climate/xmacis.php?wfo=lwx

- Forecast Office of NOAA. These sources constitute the most complete data set in the relevant timeframe and are considered the best available representation for Puerto Rico.⁵
- American Samoa: The past 10 years of data for annual average precipitation will be collected from the Pago Pago Area from the Pago Pago Forecast Office of NOAA. This is the most complete data set in the relevant timeframe and is considered the best available representation for American Samoa.⁶
- Guam: The past 10 years of data for annual average precipitation will be collected from the Guam Area from the Tiyan Forecast Office of NOAA. This is the most complete data set in the relevant timeframe and is considered the best available representation for Guam.⁷
- Northern Mariana Islands: The past 10 years of data for the annual average precipitation will be collected from the Guam Area from the Tiyan Forecast Office of NOAA. There are no available weather stations in the Northern Mariana Islands. However, the Northern Mariana Islands are covered by the Tiyan Forecast Office and Guam is located approximately 130 miles away. It has been determined that data from the Guam Area can be considered an acceptable surrogate for precipitation amounts in the Northern Mariana Islands.⁸
- U.S. Virgin Islands: The past 10 years of data for the annual average precipitation will be collected from the Christiansted Airport and St. Thomas weather stations from the San Juan Forecast Office of NOAA. These sources constitute the most complete data set in the relevant timeframe and are considered the best available representation for the U.S. Virgin Islands.⁹
- Total Population: Data for the total population factor is obtained from the published U.S. Census Bureau decennial 2020 census.
 - The states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico population data comes from the 2020 Census Resident Population for the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.¹⁰
 - American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and U.S. Virgin Islands population data comes from the U.S. Census Bureau Island Area Tables.¹¹
- <u>Urban Population</u>: The urban population factor for each state entity will be based on the data from the 2020 U.S. Census Bureau decennial census as this is the most recent urban dataset available from the U.S. Census Bureau.¹²

⁵ NOAA, San Juan Forecast Office, San Juan Area and Ensenada, and Morovis Weather Station Data. https://w2.weather.gov/climate/xmacis.php?wfo=sju

⁶ NOAA, Pago Pago Forecast Office, Pago Pago Area Data, https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=ppg

⁷ NOAA, Tivan Forecast Office, Guam Area Data, https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=gum

⁹ NOAA, San Juan Forecast Office, Christiansted Airport and St. Thomas Weather Station Data, https://w2.weather.gov/climate/xmacis.php?wfo=sju

¹⁰ U.S. Census Bureau, Resident Population for the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico: 2020 Census, <u>2020</u> Census Apportionment Results

¹¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Island Areas Censuses, 2020 Census: Counting the Island Areas

¹² U.S. Census Bureau, Census Urban and Rural Classification and Urban Area Criteria, <u>State-level Urban and Rural Information for the 2020 Census</u>