

Division of Water Infrastructure Announces
Spring 2022 Water/Wastewater Funding Application Training at Five Sites Statewide
(Asheville, Hickory, Raleigh, Williamston, Pembroke)

The Division of Water Infrastructure in the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality announces training on completing applications for water/wastewater funding for the Spring 2022 funding round. All applications must be received by the Division no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 2, 2022. Application training for the following funding programs will be offered from February 21 to March 3 at the locations indicated in the chart below.

- **The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) will provide up to 100 percent grant funding for drinking water and wastewater projects in the following programs, as described in the [ARPA Administration Plan](#):**
 - **Viable Utility Reserve:** Funding is available to all local government units (LGUs) designated as distressed by the State Water Infrastructure Authority and the Local Government Commission. Grants can be used for infrastructure and study grants listed in NC GS 159G-32(d)(1)-(5).
 - **State Reserve Program construction projects:** Funding is available to all LGUs that are not designated as distressed and to non-profit water corporations to be used for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects. A portion of the ARPA SFRF grant funding is reserved for local government units that are categorized as “at-risk” and for projects primarily to connect residences in disadvantaged underserved communities to water/wastewater systems. All other local government units and non-profit water corporations are eligible for other ARPA SFRF grant funding. Construction projects may address non-compliance, regionalization, resiliency, asset rehabilitation/replacement, replacing failing infrastructure, and many other infrastructure needs.
 - **State Reserve Program study grants:** Funding is available to all LGUs and non-profit water corporations for the following study grants.
 - **Asset Inventory and Assessment grants:** to inventory the existing water and/or wastewater systems and document the condition of the inventoried infrastructure.
 - **Merger / Regionalization Feasibility grants:** to determine the feasibility of consolidating the management of multiple utilities into a single utility operation or to provide regional water/wastewater treatment, and the best way of carrying out the consolidation or regionalization.
 - **Pre-Construction Planning grants:** to conduct engineering, design, or other pre-construction activities. Pre-construction planning grants can be issued separately, or as part of a construction project.
 - **Rate Study grants:** to determine a rate structure that will enable a public water system or wastewater system to generate sufficient revenues to adequately fund management and operations, personnel, appropriate levels of maintenance, and reinvestment to facilitate the provision of reliable water or wastewater services. Rate study grants must be part of a construction project or other study grants.
 - **Training grants:** to cover registration and mileage expenses related to attending training events for governing board officials and utility staff that would increase the capacity of a public water or wastewater system to operate efficiently and maintain adequate maintenance and revenue collection. Training grants must be part of a construction project or other study grants.
- **The State Revolving Funds will provide low-interest loans (including some principal forgiveness loans) for wastewater and drinking water projects in the following programs:**
 - **Clean Water State Revolving Fund:** This program funds wastewater, stormwater, and green projects. It is available to all local government units and non-profit water corporations.

- **Drinking Water State Revolving Fund:** This program funds drinking water projects. It is available to all local government units, non-profit water corporations, and investor-owned water corporations. A portion of the funds are reserved for small water systems.

Note: Community Development Block Grant-Infrastructure and ARPA SFRF Stormwater infrastructure funds are not available in the Spring 2022 funding round.

Schedule of Spring 2022 Application Training Sessions

If you are considering applying for funding related to any of the available programs listed above, the Division of Water Infrastructure encourages you to attend a training session listed below. The same training is conducted in each session. One training session will include a virtual option and its recording will be made available online. There is no registration cost. If you cannot attend training, Division staff will be available to meet on an individual basis. Application materials will be available on the Division website before training begins at: <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure/i-need-funding/application-forms-and-additional-resources>.

Space is limited at each location. Please **RSVP** to Jennifer Haynie at jennifer.haynie@ncdenr.gov (919.707.9173) **at least a week prior to the session you plan to attend**. Please provide your name, organization, email, phone number, and the location you plan to attend. All training sessions will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m.

Monday, February 21, 2022, Asheville, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (35 seats available)
Land-of-Sky Council of Governments 339 New Leicester Highway, # 140 Asheville, NC 28803
Tuesday, February 22, 2022, Hickory, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (40 seats available)
Western Piedmont Council of Governments 1880 2 nd Avenue NW Hickory, NC 28601
Monday, February 28, 2022, Raleigh, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (30 seats available)
Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building 512 N. Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27604 Virtual option (via WebEx) also available for this training only: (WebEx Instructions for online listening): https://ncdenrits.webex.com/ncdenrits/j.php?MTID=m12b728f1e43608d4b7a8086da61c7db4 Meeting Number: 2435 093 6056 Password: Spring2022 (By phone): 1-415-655-0003 Access Code: 2435 093 6056
Wednesday, March 2, 2022, Williamston, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (25 seats available)
NC Telecenter 415 East Boulevard, # 130 Williamston, NC 27892
Thursday, March 3, 2022, Pembroke, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (40 seats available)
Lumber River Council of Governments 30 C.J. Walker Road COMtech Park

Pembroke, NC 28372