

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

Division of Financial Assistance

Presenters

May 4, 2023

- Aparjeet Rangi & Mohamed Salem

May 16, 2023

- Aparjeet Rangi & Himali Rodrigo

May 25, 2023

- Ibyang Rivera & Mohamed Salem



“Preserve, Enhance, and Restore California’s Water Resource”

PRESENTATION OUTLINE



Part I: Funding Programs

- Drinking Water
- Wastewater
- Site Cleanup
- Nonpoint Source
- Technical Assistance (TA)

Part II: How to Apply

Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST)

Part III: How to Stay Informed

Website and Email Subscriptions

PART I – FUNDING PROGRAMS

- Drinking Water
- Wastewater
- Site Cleanup
- Nonpoint Source
- Technical Assistance

DRINKING WATER FUNDING PROGRAMS

- Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)
- Expedited Drinking Water Grant (EDWG) Funding Program
- County-wide and Regional Funding Programs
- Urgent Drinking Water Needs Funding
- Domestic Water Well Programs
- Drought Related Drinking Water Emergency Funding
- Drinking Water for Schools Grant Program
- Bottled Water for Schools
- Backup Generator Program



DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS/ACRONYMS

- **Disadvantaged Community (DAC):** median household income (MHI) < 80% statewide MHI.
- **Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC):** MHI < 60% statewide MHI.
- **Small Community:** < 3,300 connections or < 10,000 people.
- **Expanded Small Community:** 3,300 – 6,600 connections or 10,000 – 20,000 people.
- **Medium Community:** 20,000 - 100,000 people or 6,600 to 30,000 connections.
- **Consolidation:** joining 2 or more public water systems, state small water systems, or affected residences not served by a public water system, into a single public water system.
- **Incentive Project:** a drinking water construction project that solely benefits a Receiving Water System
- **Point of Use (POU) and Point of Entry (POE)**

SAFE AND AFFORDABLE FUNDING FOR EQUITY AND RESILIENCE (SAFER) PROGRAM

- Established from the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water (SADW) Fund through Senate Bill 200 in July 2019
- Provides \$130 million per year, until 2030
- Eligible projects including: infrastructure improvements, consolidation, operation and maintenance, interim solutions technical assistance, administrators (apply through specific programs)
- Website: <https://bit.ly/3MF3d59>
 - Final Policy for Developing the Fund Expenditure Plan for the SADW Fund
 - Funding Expenditure Plan for the SADW Fund for the current fiscal year

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (DWSRF) PROGRAM

Purpose: Assists public water systems in financing the cost of drinking water infrastructure projects needed to achieve or maintain compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act requirements.

Eligible Applicants:

- Publicly-owned community water systems (e.g., counties, cities and districts)
- Privately-owned community water systems (e.g., for-profit water utilities, non-profit mutual water companies)
- Non-profit or publicly-owned non-community water systems (e.g., public school districts)
- Community water systems created by the project

Priority: Projects addressing Priority Categories A-C or consolidation, regardless of category.

How to Apply: Applications accepted continuously via FFAST.

Reference Documents:

- Intended Use Plan (IUP) for current fiscal year.
- Policy for Implementing the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/3MyEcHM>

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (DWSRF) PROGRAM

Priority Category	Description
A	Immediate Health Risk
B	Untreated or At-Risk Sources
C	Compliance or Shortage
D	Inadequate Reliability
E	Secondary Risks
F	Other Projects

DWSRF – PLANNING GRANTS

Type of Communities Served		Grant Amount	
Population	Community MHI	% of Total Project Cost	Maximum Grant/PF
< 10,000	< 80% of Statewide MHI	Up to 100%	N/A

- Funding allows for up to 100% grant/principal forgiveness for projects that serve small DAC/SDAC and small non-DAC for good cause.
- No cap on planning grants.
- Planning grants count towards the maximum grant/principal forgiveness a community is eligible for over a 5-year period.

DWSRF – CONSTRUCTION GRANTS

Type of Community	Residential Water Rates as a % of MHI	% of Total Eligible Project Cost	Max Amount Per Connection *
Category A – C and/or Consolidation Projects			
Small DAC, SDAC; Eligible NTNC That Serves a Small DAC/SDAC; Expanded Small DAC/SDAC; Medium DAC/SDAC; or Small Non-DAC with MHI < 150% of Statewide MHI	N/A	up to 100%	\$60,000
Category D – F Projects			
Small DAC/SDAC or Eligible NTNC That Serves a Small DAC/SDAC	N/A	up to 100%	\$45,000
Expanded Small DAC/SDAC	>=1.5%		
	<1.5%	Not Eligible for PF, Grant, or Combination Thereof	

- The Deputy Director of DFA may approve financing for construction projects with a total eligible project cost up to \$6,000,000 regardless of the amount per connection.
- The Deputy Director of DFA may approve up to \$80,000 per connection for good cause.

DWSRF – REPAYABLE CONSTRUCTION FINANCING TERMS

Type of Community Served by	Residential Water Rates as % of MHI	Interest Rate	Maximum Financing Term	Local Cost Share
Small DAC or Eligible NTNC that serves a small DAC	N/A	0%	40 Years	Waived
Small DAC or Expanded Small DAC/SDAC	>= 1.5%			
	<1.5%	½ General Obligation Bond Rate		

- Low interest rate loans for planning and construction projects.
- Current interest rate is 2.1%
- Note: If community is not considered a DAC/SDAC and has more than 6,600 connections or 20,000 people. , they can still be eligible for loan.

DWSRF – CONSOLIDATION

Required to evaluate the consolidation feasibility to be eligible for DWSRF construction funding

- If infeasible, required to discuss the reasons supporting that determination
- If the most sustainable solution, DFA may provide grant for the applicable consolidation project only, and not any alternative to consolidation

Reasonable & necessary connection fees/source capacity fees grant eligible

If a Receiving Water System does not have sufficient capacity to serve the additional customers, grant funding may be available to increase capacity.

- May reduce/limit reimbursement of connection fees if infrastructure improvements are being funded with grant

DWSRF – CONSOLIDATION INCENTIVES

A public water system (PWS) fully consolidates 1 or more communities (15+ connections or 25+ people)

- 0% financing: Up to \$10,000,000/consolidated community; and
- Grant (up to; max \$5,000,000/community):
 - \$3,000/connection when consolidating a system that does not qualify as a small DAC,
 - \$5,000/connection when consolidating a small DAC, or
 - \$10,000/connection when consolidating a small SDAC.

PWS managerially consolidates or provides water via an interconnection, or a master meter agreement to one or more small community water system (separate water system permits still exist)

- 0% financing: up to \$2,000,000; and
- Grant (up to; max \$1,000,000/water system)
 - \$2,500/connection for a small DAC water system; or
 - \$5,000/connection for a small SDAC

Receiving Water System must be a voluntary participant (not mandatory consolidation) to receive incentive funding

DWSRF – CONSOLIDATION INCENTIVES

PWS acts as an administrator to one or more SCWS

- 0% financing: up to \$5,000,000 for planning or construction of an Incentive Project
- Grant/PF (up to; max \$1,000,000/water system)
 - \$2,500/connection for a small DAC water system; or
 - \$5,000/connection for a small SDAC

EXPEDITED DRINKING WATER GRANT (EDWG) FUNDING PROGRAM

Eligible Entities: Public agencies, public school districts, and PUC-regulated water systems

Project Cost: \$15M grant per project maximum

Application Process: SWB will periodically announce a deadline to submit project proposals

	Regular Program	EDWG Program
Application Solicitation	Continuous	Periodic
Project Types	Category A-F and/or consolidation projects (planning & construction)	Category A-D and/or consolidation projects (construction projects only)
Financial/Environmental Packages and Clearances	Prior to funding agreement	After funding agreement
Grant Maximum	Annual Intended Use Plan (IUP) grant per connection limit	IUP grant per connection limit + \$15M maximum grant per project
Funding Sources	State and federal funds	State funds only

COUNTY-WIDE AND REGIONAL FUNDING PROGRAMS

Purpose: Addresses drought related and contamination issues for state small water systems (state smalls) and domestic wells serving disadvantaged communities (DACs) and low-income households.

Eligibility Applicants:

- Counties
- Non-governmental organization on behalf of one or more counties
- Other public agencies on behalf of one or more counties

Eligible Projects:

- Assessment (i.e., Community outreach and domestic well testing)
- Interim Solutions (i.e., Bottled Water, Tanks and Hauled Water)
- Long-Term Solutions (i.e., Well repairs and/or replacements and limited-scale consolidation)

How to Apply: Applications accepted continuously via FFAST.

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/3wCeSel>

URGENT DRINKING WATER NEEDS FUNDING

Purpose: Provide funding to address urgent drinking water needs due to drought, contamination, or other eligible emergencies.

Eligible Applicants:

- A public agency, including Regional Boards.
- A tribal government that is considered a disadvantaged community (DAC).
- A not-for-profit organization serving a DAC; or
- A community water system that serves a DAC.

Eligible Projects: Interim water supplies, such as bottled or hauled water; Emergency funding to repair or replace failed or failing critical components of water systems; Installation of POU's and POEs, vending machines and emergency interties.

How to Apply: Applications accepted continuously.*

**Applications can be submitted by email: DFA-CAA@waterboards.ca.gov.*

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/3wI55T6>

DOMESTIC WATER WELL PROGRAMS

Eligible Recipients	Eligible Projects Activities (not all inclusive)	How to Apply?
DRINKING WATER WELL REPLACEMENT PROGRAM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-Income Households • State Small Water Systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New well construction • Design costs of necessary infrastructure • Well Replacement • Permits 	Rural Communities Assistance Corporation (RCAC) Application available on the RCAC website: https://www.rcac.org
HOUSEHOLD PRIVATE WELL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Households • State Small Water Systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private well testing • Installation of POU/POEs 	Administered by Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) Application available on the SHE website: https://www.selfhelpenterprises.org
REGIONAL PRIVATE DOMESTIC WATER WELL ABANDONMENT, REPAIR, REPLACEMENT & CONNECTION PROGRAM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-Income Household • State Small Water Systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New well construction • Design costs of necessary infrastructure • Well Replacement • Permits 	Administered by Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) Application available on the SHE website: https://www.selfhelpenterprises.org

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/3NuoPAq>

EMERGENCY BOTTLED AND HAULED DRINKING WATER FUNDING PROGRAMS

Counties Served	Contacts & How to Apply?
Community Water Center (CWC) Regional Bottled Water Program	
Santa Clara, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, Kern, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura	Brandon Bollinger brandon.bollinger@communitywatercenter.org Website: https://bit.ly/3VuNgIU
Self-Help Enterprises Regional Bottled Water Program	
Fresno, Kern , Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus, and Tulare	Tami McVay TamiM@selfhelpenterprises.org Website: https://bit.ly/3MEPRpi
Self-Help Enterprises Tanks & Hauling Program	
Fresno, Kern , Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus, and Tulare	Tami McVay TamiM@selfhelpenterprises.org Website: https://bit.ly/3MEPRpi

DRINKING WATER FOR SCHOOLS GRANT PROGRAM

Purpose: Improve access to, and the quality of, drinking water in public schools.

Project Types:

Point-of-use and point-of-entry treatment systems

- Fixture replacement to address lead in drinking water
- Installation of drinking water fountains
- Provision of interim drinking water supplies

Program Administrators:

- Self-Help Enterprises at <https://bit.ly/39lppfc>
- Rural Community Assistance Corporation at <https://bit.ly/3MECCV2>

How to Apply: Applications are available via the Program Administrators

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/3wGcRwN>

BOTTLED WATER FOR SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Purpose: Provide bottled drinking water for public schools statewide.

Project Types: Delivery of bottled drinking water in 5-gallon containers, plus dispenser rentals.

Eligible Applicants: Public Schools (preschool, child day care facilities, K-12th Grade located on public school property)

How to Apply: School districts can contact the Program Administrator directly at: agua4all@rcac.org

Program Administrator:

- Rural Community Assistance Corporation at <https://bit.ly/3wIGi1c>

EMERGENCY DRINKING WATER/CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA)

Purpose: Fund projects that clean up or abate the effects of a waste on waters of the State, or projects that address urgent drinking water needs.

Eligible Applicants:

- A public agency serving a disadvantaged community (DAC);
- A tribal government that is a DAC;
- A not-for-profit organization serving a DAC; or
- A community water system that serves a DAC.

Eligible Uses: emergency cleanup projects to mitigate public or environmental health threat, bottled/hailed water, well repair, rehabilitation, and replacement, vending machines, point-of-use devices, emergency interties, treatment systems

How to Apply: Applications accepted continuously.*

**Applications can be submitted by completing the funding application online via the Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST).*

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/422AzBp>

BACKUP GENERATOR FUNDING PROGRAM

Purpose: The Backup Generator Funding Program (Program) provides backup generators to drinking water systems (excluding mobile home parks) that do not have adequate backup electrical supply to ensure continuous operations during power failures

Eligible Projects: Generators funded under the program are intended for backup use only for drinking water systems (excluding mobile home parks) to continue its operations during a power outage.

How to Apply: Applications are not currently being accepted

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/3L3g28P>

WASTEWATER FUNDING PROGRAMS

- Clean Water State Revolving Fund
- Water Recycling Funding Program



WASTEWATER DEFINITIONS/ACRONYMS

- **Small community:** community with a population of less than 20,000
- **Large community:** community with a population more than 20,000
- **Disadvantaged community (DAC):** a community that has a median household income (MHI) less than 80% of the statewide MHI
- **Severely disadvantaged community (SDAC):** a community that has a MHI less than 60% of the statewide MHI
- **Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs)**
- **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)**
- **Non-point source (NPS)**

CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (CWSRF)

Purpose: Fund planning and construction projects to restore and maintain compliance with WDRs and NPDES permits. Helps communities prevent pollution of precious water resources to maintain their beneficial uses.

Eligible Applicants:

- Public agencies (Any city, town, district)
- Tribal organizations
- 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations

Eligible Project Types:

- Wastewater treatment plants, local sewers, sewer interceptors, and water reclamation facilities
- NPS projects identified in CA's NPS Plan, estuary projects, stormwater reduction, and treatment facilities.

How to Apply: Applications accepted continuously via FFAST.

Reference Documents:

- Intended Use Plan (IUP) for current fiscal year.
- Policy for Implementing the Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/3wEDKkH>



CWSRF – PLANNING GRANTS/PRINCIPAL FORGIVENESS

Population	Community MHI	Percent of Total Project Cost	Maximum grant/PF Per Project
<20,000	DAC < 80 percent of Statewide MHI	100%	N/A

- The amount disbursed to the community under a planning/design grant/PF will be subtracted from the maximum eligible construction grant/PF.
- The maximum grant/PF a community can receive is based on all planning, technical assistance (TA), and construction CWSRF funding the community receives in a five-year period

CWSRF – CONSTRUCTION GRANTS/PRINCIPAL FORGIVENESS

Community	Wastewater Rates as a % of MHI	% of Total Eligible Project Cost	Max Grant/PF Per Project	Max Grant/PF Per Household
Small Community with MHI between 80%-150% Statewide MHI	≥4%	50%	N/A	\$45,000 Or \$125,000 (sep tic-to-sewer)
Small DAC	N/A	100%		
Septic-to-sewer only: Large DAC or Small Non-DAC	≥1.5%	50%	\$25 million	\$75,000

The Deputy Director of DFA may approve:

- Financing for construction projects with a total eligible project cost up to \$6 million regardless of the amount per residential connection
- Up to \$60,000 per connection for treatment system and/or collection system improvements
- Up to \$175,000 per connection for septic-to-sewer or regional projects

CWSRF – REPAYABLE CONSTRUCTION FINANCING TERMS

Low interest rate loans for planning and construction projects.

- Current interest rate is 1.9%
Short-term financing incentive: 0.25 reduction for 20-year financing term or lower

WATER RECYCLING FUNDING PROGRAM (WRFP)

Purpose: Fund planning and construction projects that promote the beneficial use of treated municipal wastewater to augment or offset state/local fresh water supplies.

Eligible Project Types:

- Recycled water treatment
- Recycled water storage, distribution, and pumping
- Groundwater recharge
- Indirect potable reuse
- Surface water augmentation

How to Apply: Applications accepted continuously via FFAST.

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/3wrLkjB>

SITE CLEAN UP FUNDING PROGRAMS

- Orphan Site Cleanup Fund (OSCF)
- SB445 Site Cleanup Subaccount Program (SCAP)
- Removal, Replacement, or Upgrading Underground Storage Tanks (RUST)



ORPHAN SITE CLEANUP FUND (OSCF)

Purpose: Provides grants for the cleanup of a site contaminated by leaking petroleum underground storage tanks (UST) where there is no financially responsible party.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Grantee is not eligible for the UST Cleanup Fund
- Grantee did not cause or contribute to release of petroleum
- Grantee has no affiliation with a party who caused or contributed to the release of the petroleum
- Principal source of contamination is from a petroleum UST

How to Apply: Submit by mail or electronically using GeoTracker.

Electronic submission guide: <https://bit.ly/3NfIUUb>

Factsheet: <https://bit.ly/41Z5TI3>

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/3AxM483>

SB445 SITE CLEANUP SUBACCOUNT PROGRAM (SCAP)

Purpose: Fund projects that remediate the harm or threat of harm to human health, safety, or the environment caused by existing or threatened surface water or groundwater contamination.

Eligible Projects:

- Investigate source of surface or groundwater contamination
- Remediate the harm or threat of harm to human health, safety, and the environment caused by existing or threatened surface or groundwater contamination
- Satisfies regulatory directives, orders, or notifications
- Ineligible for other Division of Financial Assistance funding programs

How to Apply: Applications accepted continuously via FAAST.

Factsheet: <https://bit.ly/3NqZg2T>

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/381dVD6>

REMOVAL, REPLACEMENT, OR UPGRADING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS (RUST)

Purpose: Grants and loans are available to assist small business underground storage tank (UST) owners and operators to come into compliance with UST regulatory requirements by replacing, removing, and upgrading USTs.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Information on eligibility requirements for reimbursement for corrective action by the UST Cleanup Fund is available at: <https://bit.ly/41Mxc1Q>

How to Apply: Single-walled tank closure deadline is December 31, 2025, and UST Cleanup Fund sunset is January 1, 2026. RUST applications are accepted in the Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool at: faast.waterboards.ca.gov.

Email: RUST@waterboards.ca.gov

ADDITIONAL FUNDING PROGRAMS

- Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program
- Technical Assistance



NONPOINT SOURCE (NPS) PROGRAM

Purpose: Support projects to reduce and mitigate the effects of nonpoint source pollutants such as sediment pesticides, and nutrients, to waters of the state within priority watersheds.

Eligible Projects: Planning and implementation proposals focusing on improving impaired waters. Some grants may be awarded to high-quality waters.

How to Apply: Submit a complete proposal through FFAST during a period of Grant Solicitation.

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/3wsR4d8>

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA)

Purpose: To provide technical assistance to develop, fund, and implement drinking water and wastewater needs, including assistance with the following types of projects:

- Funding applications
- Project planning & administration
- Engineering services
- Environmental services
- Legal assistance
- Rate studies
- Income survey
- Leak detection
- Capacity-building
- Emergency response (*DW only*)

Note: TA for groundwater and stormwater is currently limited

Eligibility: Varies by type of assistance. Priority is generally for small DACs

How to Apply: Requests for Technical Assistance are accepted continuously.

Submit completed Request for TA form to DFA-TARequest@waterboards.ca.gov

Web Address: <https://bit.ly/3G0sVxs>

PART II - FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION SUBMITTAL TOOL (FAAST)

- Web-based interface accessible 24 hours a day.
- Most funding programs at the State Water Board use FAAST
- Requires a FAAST account to apply for funding
- Web Address: <https://faast.waterboards.ca.gov/>
- Help Desk
 - FAAST_Admin@waterboards.ca.gov or 1-866-434-1083
 - Available Monday – Friday from 8AM – 5PM.



PART III – STAY INFORMED

Division of Financial Assistance Webpage

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/

All funding announcements are made via e-mail.

- E-mail Subscription Mailing Lists

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/

- State Water Resources Control Board > Financial Assistance (Grants & Loans)
 - Over 30 E-mail Subscription Mailing Lists
- Full Name and Email Address Required

THANK YOU!

For general inquiries, please call DFA at:

916-327-9978

