



MULTIMEDIA  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
FINANCE CENTER



## EPA Community Grants Training Session 2

October 10, 2025

# Training Objectives

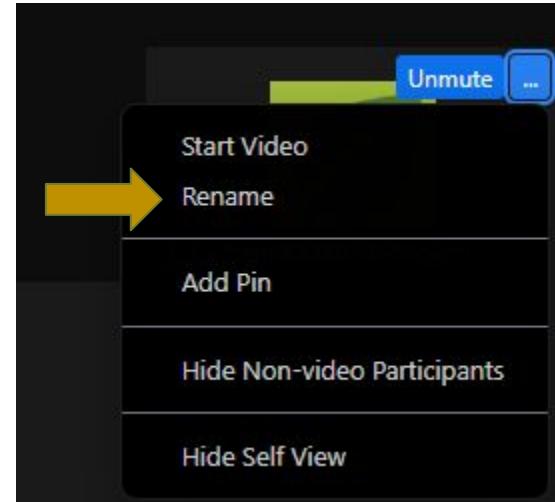
- Share resources to apply for and manage Community Grants
- Create a supportive peer-to-peer network
- Increase local grant writing and management capacity

## Disclaimer!

The training provides guidance, but not authoritative interpretations of federal laws, rules or regulations.

# Housekeeping

- Participation
  - Add your location next to your name
  - Hold questions for the end of the presentations
  - Please turn your camera on, if possible, during Q&A
- Recordings
  - Presentations will be recorded
  - Q&A and discussions will not be recorded
  - Recordings and slides will be posted on SSDN's website



# Curriculum

1. Community Grants Basics - 09/25

## **2. Support Resources, Waiver Eligibility - 10/09**

3. Application Components - 10/16

4. Entity Registration; Other Funding Options - 10/30

5. NEPA and Other Cross-Cutting Regulations - 11/13

6. Procurement Regulations - 12/04

7. Grant Management and Reporting - 12/11



# Session 2 Agenda

1. Application resources
2. Cost share waivers
3. Q&A and peer connections

# 1. Application Resources

# Resources from EPA

→ **Start here:**

<https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-water-infrastructure/epa-community-grants>

## Final Implementation Guidance

- Technical corrections
- Crosscutting regulations
- Procurement references

## Cost Share Waiver Implementation Guidance

## General Terms and Conditions

An official website of the United States government. [Here's how you know](#)

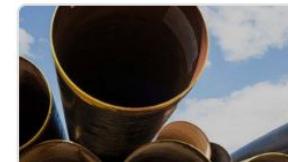
 United States Environmental Protection Agency

[Environmental Topics](#) ▾ [Laws & Regulations](#) ▾ [Report a Violation](#) ▾ [About EPA](#) ▾

[Home](#) / [Sustainable Water Infrastructure](#)

## EPA Community Grants

Projects funded with EPA Community Grants provide a valuable source of federal funding for water infrastructure that will complement the resources Congress provided in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the annual appropriations process.



### Program Basics

Learn about Congressional appropriations that fund the program and communities receiving funding for their projects.

[Learn the basics](#)



### Implementation Guidance

Find program implementation and cost share waiver guidance.

[Find guidance](#)



### Training

Access training materials to learn how to apply for funding and manage your grant.

[Explore training](#)

# Resources from EPA

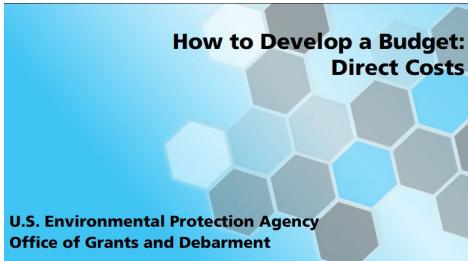
## Required training

- For new recipients, and
- For recipients who last received an EPA grant prior to Oct. 1, 2014



### EPA Grants Management Training for Applicants and Recipients

6 modules, approx. 5h total



### How to Develop a Budget

4 modules, approx. 2h total

Non-required webinars: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-grants-webinars>

## 2. Cost Share Waivers

# Cost Share Requirement

- Non-federal funds: min 20% of grant project cost
  - Ex. \$2M grant (80%) = \$400K match (20%); total project: \$2.4M
- *Any voluntary cost share funding will be subject to the grant terms and conditions as well as applicable requirements and must be used on eligible activities.*
  - [EPA Community Program Q&A](#)
- Federally recognized Tribes are exempt
- Disadvantaged communities may be exempt - must request waiver

# Cost Share Requirement

- Sources of match:
  - Public:
    - State (incl. State Revolving Fund)
    - Local
    - CDBG, Dept of Ag Rural Development funds,  
Appalachian Regional Commission funds
  - Private:
    - Business, nonprofit
  - In-kind:
    - Admin expenses

# Cost Share Waiver Criteria

Same for all FY of funding

1. Median household income: < 80% of state MHI
2. Upper limit of Lowest Quintile Income:  $\leq$  national LQI
3. Poverty level:  $\geq$  30.9% of pop under 200% poverty level
4. Poverty level:  $\geq$  20% of pop under poverty level
5. Food stamps/SNAP benefits:  $\geq$  11.7% of population

Cost Share Waiver Implementation Guidance, March 1, 2024

<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/community-grants-cost-share-waiver-guidance.pdf>

# MHI per State

| <b>State</b>   | <b>MHI</b> | <b>80% of MHI</b> |
|----------------|------------|-------------------|
| Alabama        | \$ 62,027  | \$ 49,622         |
| Florida        | \$ 71,711  | \$ 57,369         |
| Georgia        | \$ 74,664  | \$ 59,731         |
| Kentucky       | \$ 62,417  | \$ 49,934         |
| Mississippi    | \$ 54,915  | \$ 43,932         |
| North Carolina | \$ 69,904  | \$ 55,923         |
| South Carolina | \$ 66,818  | \$ 53,454         |
| Tennessee      | \$ 67,097  | \$ 53,678         |

Source: ACS 5-yr 2023

# What's a Quintile??

| Income brackets | Lower limit (example) | Upper limit (example) |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Lowest          | \$ 0                  | \$ 25,000             |
| Second          | \$ 25,001             | \$ 35,200             |
| Third           | \$ 35,201             | \$ 68,520             |
| Fourth          | \$ 68,521             | \$ 98,456             |
| Upper           | \$ 98,457             | \$ 147,890            |

National upper limit of  
Lowest Quintile Income: \$33,775

## **NOTICE:**

**Due to the lapse of federal funding, portions of  
this website will not be updated. Any inquiries  
submitted will not be answered until  
appropriations are enacted.**

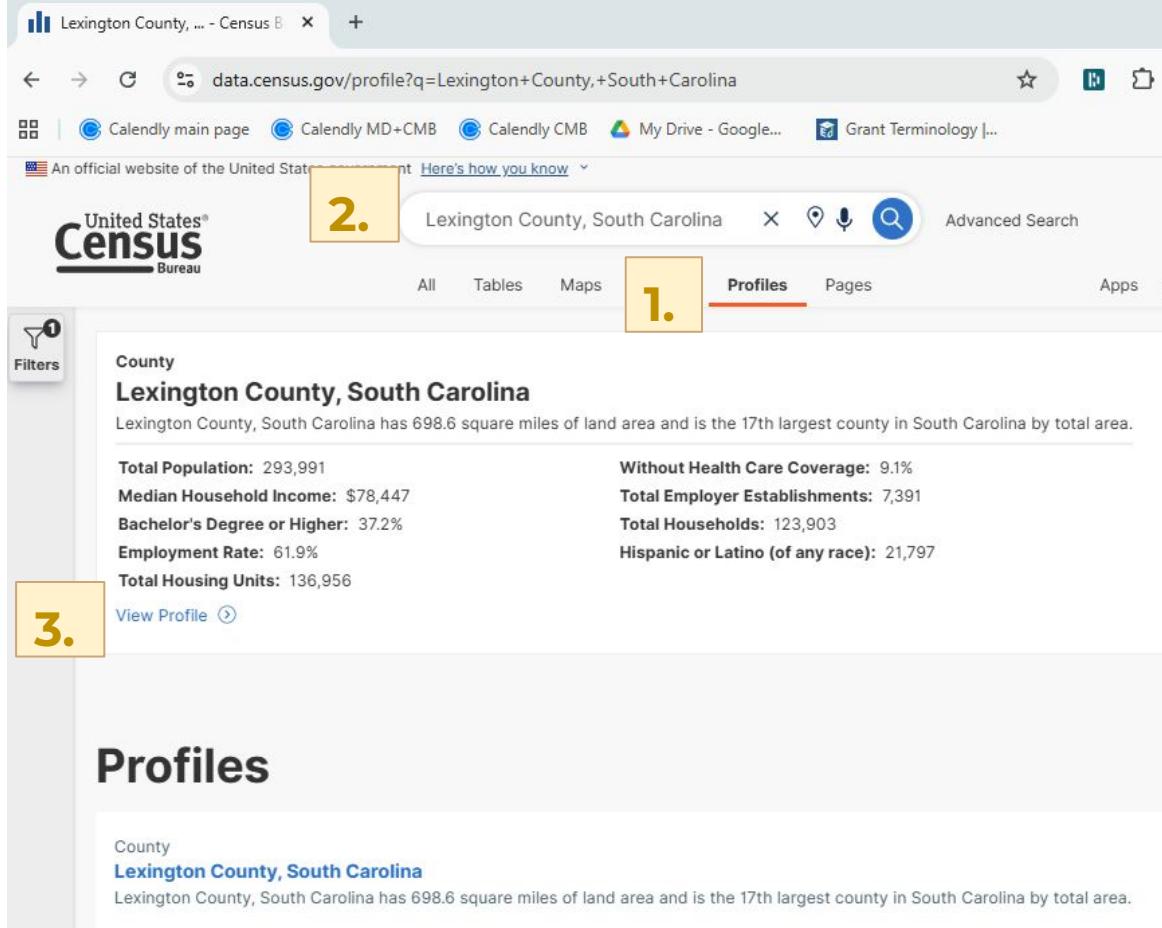
**You will be redirected in 10 seconds...**

# Census Profile

[data.census.gov](http://data.census.gov)

How it should work

1. Click Profiles tab
2. Type location, then 
3. Click [View Profile](#)



Lexington County, ... - Census B x +

← → C data.census.gov/profile?q=Lexington+County,+South+Carolina

Calendly main page Calendly MD+CMB Calendly CMB My Drive - Google... Grant Terminology |...

An official website of the United States Government [Here's how you know](#)

United States Census Bureau

2. Lexington County, South Carolina X Advanced Search

1. Profiles Pages

County

**Lexington County, South Carolina**

Lexington County, South Carolina has 698.6 square miles of land area and is the 17th largest county in South Carolina by total area.

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Total Population: 293,991          | Without Health Care Coverage: 9.1%       |
| Median Household Income: \$78,447  | Total Employer Establishments: 7,391     |
| Bachelor's Degree or Higher: 37.2% | Total Households: 123,903                |
| Employment Rate: 61.9%             | Hispanic or Latino (of any race): 21,797 |
| Total Housing Units: 136,956       |  |

View Profile 

3.

## Profiles

County

**Lexington County, South Carolina**

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# SNAP Benefits

<https://www.census.gov/acs/www/about/why-we-ask-each-question/food-stamps/>

Lexington County, South Carolina  **GET DATA**

Lexington County, South Carolina

Households Receiving Food Stamp/SNAP Benefits

9.8 percent

Source: Latest ACS 5-Year Estimates  
Data Profiles/Economic Characteristics

Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP that Have Children Under 18 Years

57.9 percent

Source: Latest ACS 5-Year Estimates  
Subject Tables: S2201

We ask one question about receiving benefits from the food stamp/SNAP program to better understand food assistance program needs.

 **VIEW QUESTION**

## Results from this question

The results from this question are compiled to provide communities with important statistics about housing characteristics. You can see some of these published statistics here for the nation, states, and your community.

United States

Households Receiving Food Stamp/SNAP Benefits

11.8 percent

Source: Latest ACS 5-Year Estimates  
Data Profiles/Economic Characteristics

Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP that Have Children Under 18 Years

47.2 percent

Source: Latest ACS 5-Year Estimates  
Subject Tables: S2201

Median Income of Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP

29,953 dollars

Source: Latest ACS 5-Year Estimates  
Subject Tables: S2201



 **VIEW STATE AND LOCAL DATA**

## Food Stamp/SNAP data help communities:

Provide Food Assistance to School Children

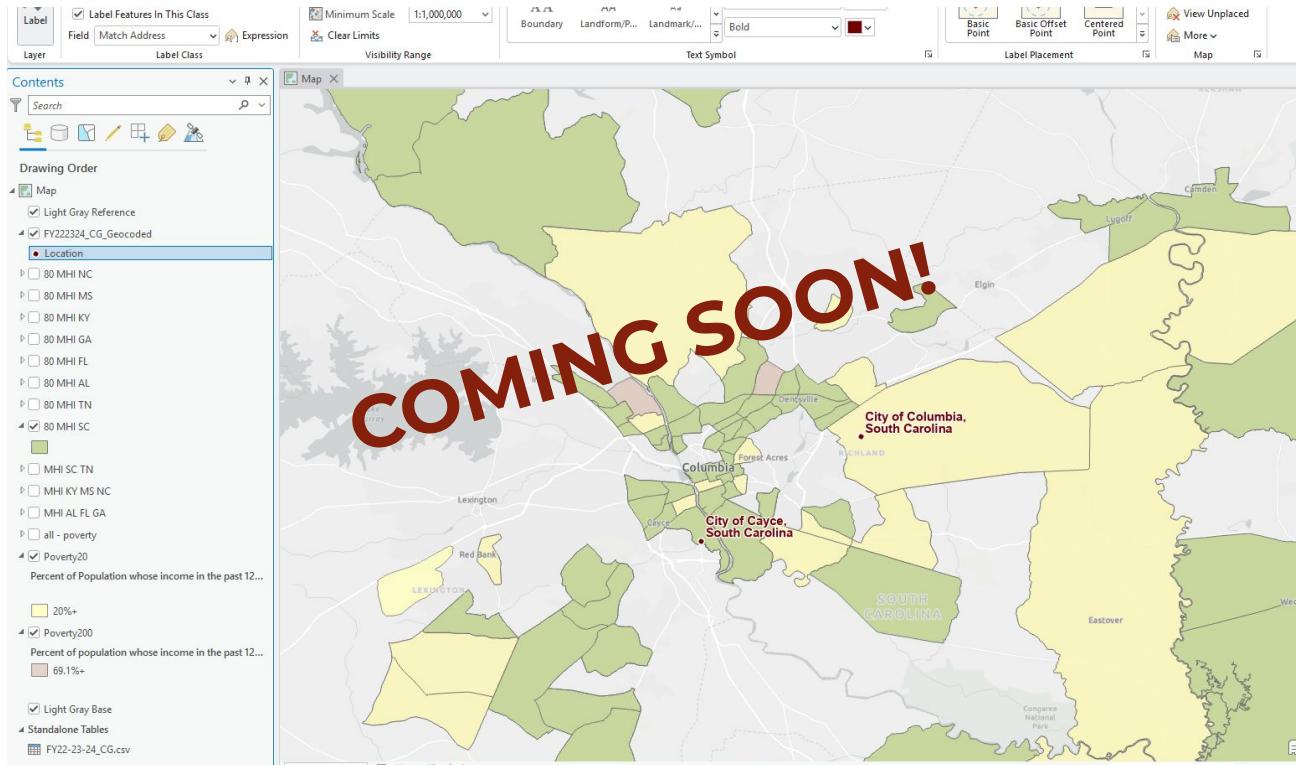
We want to know more about food assistance

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Eligibility & Access

## Cost Share Waiver Implementation Guidance, March 1, 2024

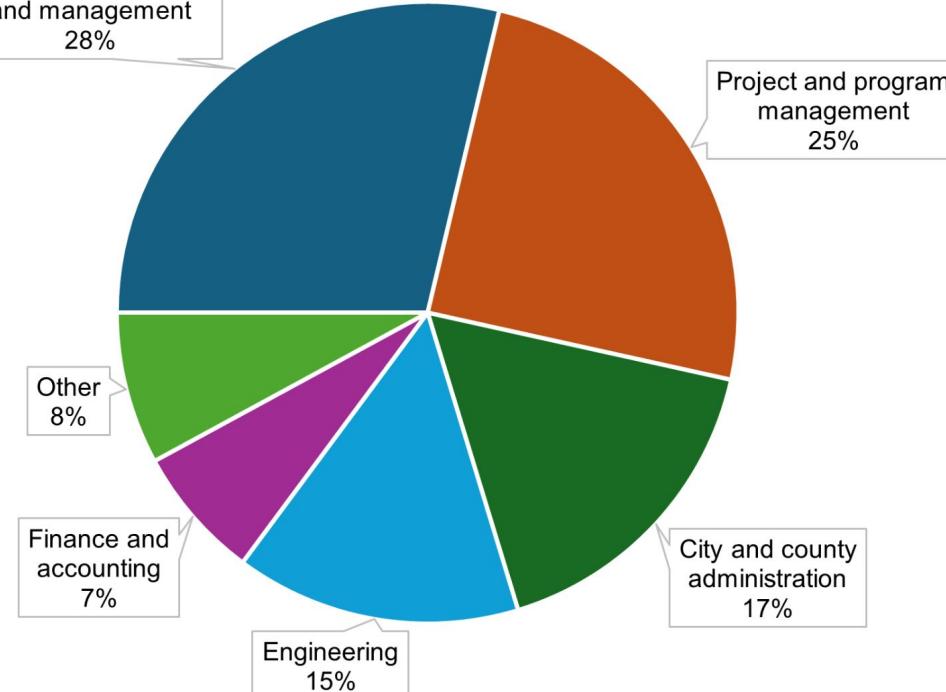
<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/community-grants-cost-share-waiver-guidance.pdf>

# Interactive Map

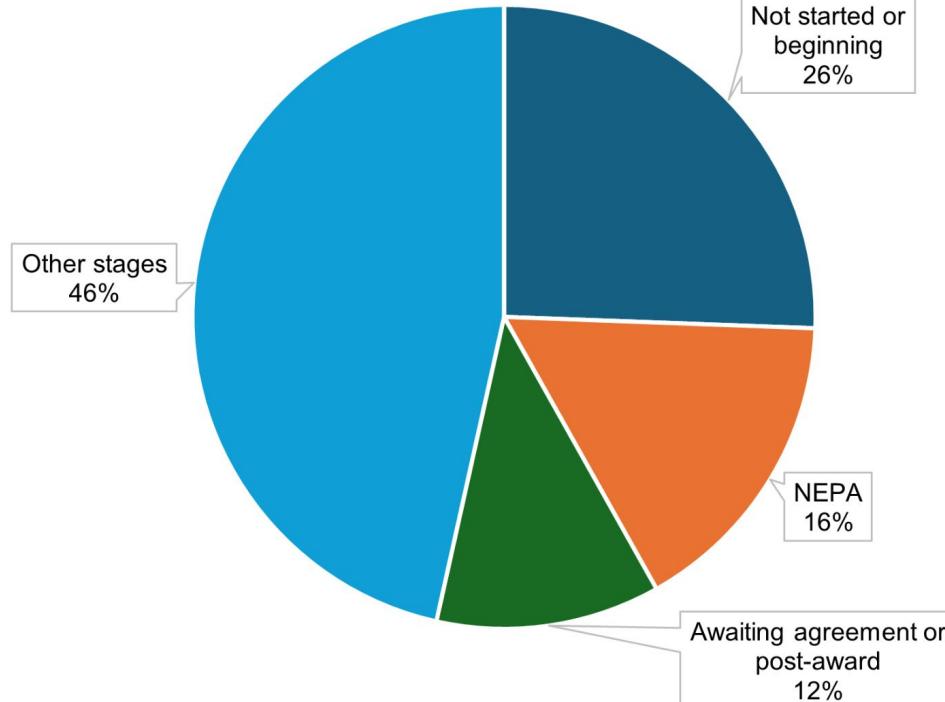


### 3. Q&A and Peer Exchange

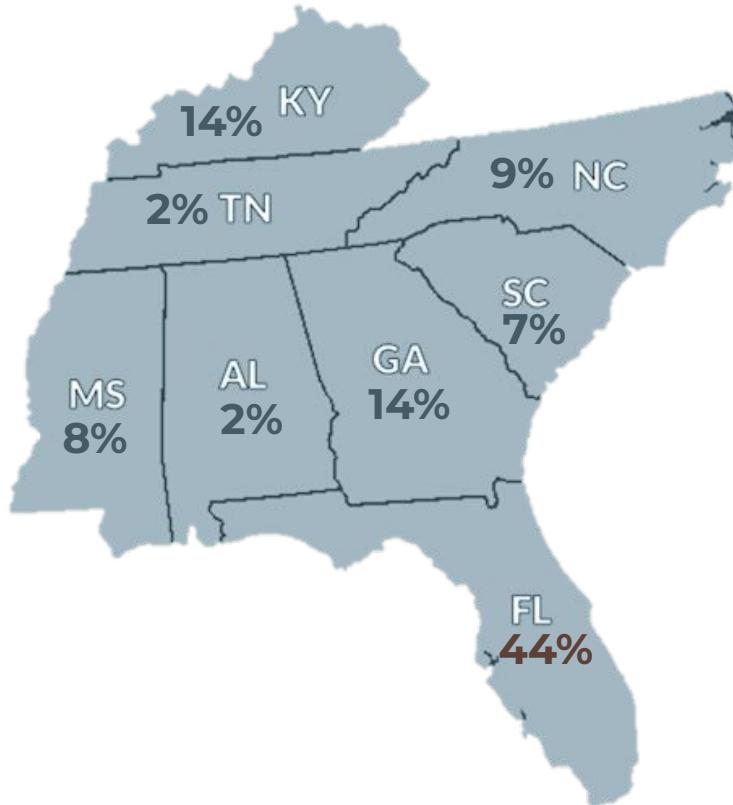
# Training Participants



# Application Progress



# State Representation



# Open Floor



# Next Session

Oct. 16: Application Components



# Contact Information



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