



FRWD
Front Range
Waste Diversion

Q1. Are facilities who were previously declined grant funding and provided with reviewer comments eligible for grants through FRWD?

A1. Applicants who have been denied grant funding from the FRWD program in the past are eligible to apply again, as long as the entity continues to meet the definition of eligible entity outlined in the current RFA (see Section III, Eligible Entities, pg. 5). The project itself should also meet the requirements for funding outlined in the RFA (see Section I, Eligibility, pg. 2). Reviewer and staff comments are shared with applicants to provide constructive feedback and transparency and should not be interpreted as a final ruling on the eligibility of future projects.

Q2. I have some ideas for waste diversion projects but am certainly not “shovel-ready” at this time. Do you think there will be a second round of funding that comes through either in the spring or next year?

A2. It is anticipated that the next funding opportunity will be available in early 2024 tailored to projects that fall below the minimum tonnage requirements outlined in this offering with an initiative to support smaller projects with lower funding requests (see RFA Section I, pg. 3). This timeline is subject to change, so it is recommended to [sign up for the email list](#) to receive the latest updates. In addition, applications for NextCycle Colorado, a business accelerator designed to improve the end markets for recovered commodities and organic materials, are currently being accepted until December 1, 2023. Download the [NextCycle application](#) for more information.

Q3. The project that we would like to submit an application for includes three distinct sites co-located within one campus: an organics composting facility, a C&D facility, and a recycling material recovery facility (MRF). Regarding the tonnage diversion requirements, is it 1,000 tons of material diverted for the entire project, (i.e. the entire campus), or is 1,000 tons of material diverted from each of the three individual sites located within this campus (1,000 tons organics at the compost facility, 1,000 tons C&D at the C&D facility, and 1,000 tons recycling at the MRF)?

A3. The 1,000 additional tons should be a direct result of all grant-funded efforts that divert materials previously being landfilled (see Section I, Tonnage Eligibility, pg. 2). In the case of projects with more than one focus area, the 1,000 additional tons should be calculated based on the entire project, not per focus area.

Q4. From reading through the shovel-ready requirements, we believe that our project is to be considered shovel ready because the location will be set and it will be far along in the permitting process by July 2024 (the permitting process has already been initiated and is in progress now). However, as of July, the project will still be approximately two years out from construction. Is this considered shovel ready even though actual construction will still be two years out at the time of the July contract?

A4. No, “shovel-ready” projects are able to commence promptly upon contract execution and are prepared to spend all awarded funds within two (2) year of the contract’s

effective date (see RFA Section II. Project Requirements pg. 4). It is the Board's preference to prevent the allocation of funds that cannot be utilized promptly.

Q5. In the application online portal, in the shovel-readiness quiz tab, what is the word/text limit for each of the text boxes where the applicant is asked to explain?

A5. There are no word limits for any of the text boxes under the shovel-readiness tab, but be sure to limit the length of responses to only the necessary information. Reviewers appreciate concise and clear applicant responses.

Q6. In the Project Specific Details section of the application, there is a drop-down menu for the project alignment, where the applicant is to select either C&D, Organics, Recycling Infrastructure, etc. We want to apply for grant funds in support of all three of those. Are we able to select all three in the drop-down menu and apply for all three together in one application, or will we need to fill out three separate applications, one for each site? We want to apply with these sites in combination, not as three individual projects that would then be competing for funds.

A6. The application portal does not allow for more than one project focus to be selected at a time. Applicants whose projects cover more than one focus area may choose the project alignment that makes up the largest percentage of the estimated additional diversion or that makes up the largest percentage of the project budget. Applicants can provide explanation of each area of focus within the executive summary. The review committee assesses applications against all other eligible applications regardless of the project alignment chosen (see RFA Section V, Application Evaluation, pg. 7). For specific scoring criteria see RFA Attachment 4, Section 2. Project Specific Details, pg. 19.

Q7. If we are proposing a composting project, are scenarios for the two different options (based on potentially changing regulations) required, or are they optional? Do we need to present two different options if these regulations change?

A7. No, applicants are not required to propose two project scenarios, but it is recommended if you wish to pursue your project under either regulatory scenario. An option A project (if revised regulations are passed) and an option B project (if regulations remain as are currently written) should clearly explain and delineate the two project options in the application narrative including differences in diversion capacity or tonnage. Additionally the applicant proposing the two project options must submit two project work plans, and two project budgets and budget narratives. If there is not a decision on the regulations when the grants are awarded, the FRWD Board of Directors may approve a project contingent upon regulatory changes. If a single option based on proposed rules changes is submitted and the changes are not approved, any awarded funds will be rescinded. (See RFA Section II. Project Requirements, pg. 4).

Q8. For the FRWD grant, does the material being diverted need to be used in front range counties, or would it be considered if it is used in another county but would be disposed of in a front range landfill?

A8. The waste diverted must have originated in one of the thirteen Front Range counties and be diverted from landfills collecting the FRWD program tipping fees as established in statute. (See RFA Section I, Eligibility, Location Eligibility, pg. 3.)

Q9. We are a manufacturer of a recyclable material that replaces a non-recyclable material. Is it possible to use the grant to purchase our materials for use in construction projects with partner companies?

A9. If the proposed project is using one of the focus areas outlined in Section I. Background and Eligibility pg. 2 of this RFA to advance waste diversion then construction materials are an eligible expense (see RFA Attachment 3: Budget Requirements, pg. 14). Projects that increase the use of recycled content in products are eligible for funding. The manufacturer may apply for costs to enhance the production of the material. A partner company may apply for grant funding to purchase materials containing recycled content; however, the applicant should demonstrate the project's sustainability beyond the grant period.

Q10. We have several committed partners for the use of our recyclable material; however, we are trying to expand our market in front range communities. Is it possible to use grant funds for marketing to increase our product usage?

Q10. If the proposed project is using one of the focus areas outlined in Section I. Background and Eligibility pg. 2 of this RFA to advance waste diversion then marketing materials are an eligible expense (see RFA Attachment 3: Budget Requirements, pg. 14).

Q11. Under attachment 1- Project Specific Details, could you define the term "new processing capacity" as it is used in section B? We want to make sure we fully understand what that means if we are to say our project adds this.

A11. New processing capacity (see RFA Attachment 1: Application Narrative Questions, Executive Summary 1.b Project Impact, pg. 9) refers to projects that create new systems for processing or increase the production capacity of a current system to process larger quantities of collected materials for reuse, recycling, or composting. Example projects include equipment purchases for a material recovery facility or composting facility that will expand the facilities ability to accept more materials or improve efficiency of processing materials. (It may also be helpful to refer to RFA, Section I, Eligibility, Tonnage Eligibility pg. 2 - 3.)

Q12. Does our grant application require proof of our contact made with the CDPHE - including associated documents, timeline agreements, inspections, etc.? This is specifically in reference to the section on Shovel-Readiness, letter C.

A12. No, applicants are not required to provide proof of contact made with CDPHE regarding permitting for composting projects. Applicants should clearly explain the outcome of their efforts regarding an EDOP, certification, or other permitting requirements (see RFA Attachment 1: Application Narrative Questions, Shovel Readiness 1.c. Composting Projects, pg. 9).

Q13. If we have a wide range of locations served (in terms of zip codes), what is the best way to format that information? Counties? Neighborhoods? etc.? In other words, how specific should we get?

A13. The onus is on the applicant to accurately define their current or anticipated service areas by providing a map of the areas served, to be uploaded in the online application (see RFA Section IV, Application Requirements pg. 6).

Q14. The application contains a note about a financial pro-forma that the review team would like to see. It says this is not mandatory, but also says that FRWD has an example form that we could review. I haven't been able to find this form on the website. Can you please provide more information about this? Specifically, where/what is this form you are referring to, and where would we include the pro-forma in our application?

A14. A sample pro-forma statement can be found within the RFA under Attachment 1: Application Narrative Questions, Executive Summary 1.j. Long-Term Plans and Funding Need, pg. 10. It is also linked within the application under the "Project Specific Details" tab under Question 1.j. It will show as a blue link named "sample" in both locations. It is also linked [here](#). The pro-forma may be uploaded in the online application within the optional attachment section.

Q15. Is grant funding available to purchase equipment/infrastructure to manufacture products made from recycled waste tires (increasing production capacity in order to increase the amount of waste tires being diverted/recycled)?

A15. If the proposed project is using one of the focus areas outlined in Section I. Background and Eligibility pg. 2 of this RFA to advance waste diversion then equipment and infrastructure are eligible expenses (see RFA Attachment 3: Budget Requirements, pg. 14). However, applicants should consider providing justification of how waste tires fall into the "additional tons" defined in this RFA as tons of materials, *not currently being diverted from landfills*, annually upon implementation of the project, since they are banned from the landfill therefore unlikely to be considered as additional tons.

Q16. This is a written inquiry regarding the FRWD Waste Diversion on the Front Range (RFA #SF011224), Section V. Selection, Evaluations, and Awards, paragraph 2. Are there any limits to applying for FRWD grants in future years if awarded one in 2024? The project scope would be different but part of a phased master plan.

A16. No, there is no restriction to applying for future FRWD grant opportunities, regardless of previous funding.