



2023 Grant Guidelines – Competitive Track

King County's Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) will be accepting applications to the WaterWorks Grant Program January 4 – March 8, 2023. This program **supports local efforts to protect water quality, control pollution, and build healthy communities**. In 2023, \$2.4 million in grant funding is available through the Competitive Track for projects benefiting water quality in the WTD service area.

An additional \$2.6 million of grant funding is available through the Council-allocated Track, which has a separate application and review process, but same eligibility criteria. For more information and to apply, contact your King County councilmember's office or visit [the WaterWorks website](#).

Who can apply

- Non-profits, NGOs, community groups
- Educational institutions or schools
- Cities, counties*, special purpose districts
- Tribes

In addition:

- Applicants must have an Employer Identification Number (EIN) to apply
- Other types of organizations (such as businesses) can partner with an eligible entity as the fiscal sponsor
- Partnerships are encouraged
- *King County DNRP staff cannot apply directly, but can partner with other organizations

Grant size

The minimum grant award is \$20,000 and the maximum grant award is \$200,000. A 10% match is required, with a waiver available for community organizations that serve primarily underrepresented populations.

Criteria

Proposals must create a benefit to or improvement of water quality within [WTD's service area](#) and benefit its ratepayers. Proposals are also evaluated on implementation strength and certainty of success, community involvement and support, and equity and social justice.

Eligible activities and types of projects

- Community engagement and stewardship
- Education and outreach
- Source control, pollution prevention

- Research, monitoring
- Green stormwater infrastructure
- Gray stormwater infrastructure (e.g. retrofits; but not graywater or primarily indoor systems)
- Habitat restoration in riparian areas

Activities that are not eligible

- Land acquisitions or conservation easements (except in some cases for council-allocated grants)
- Lobbying of elected officials
- Activities required for mitigation
- Design, construction, operation, or maintenance of local sewer facilities or connection to the County system
- Projects that primarily address drinking water supply or water conservation

How to Apply

Note: The competitive track grant application has changed to a one-step process— there is no Letter of Intent (LOI) this cycle. The application deadline is **March 8, 2023**; materials must be completed and submitted in the online grant portal (available January 4, 2023). Visit [the WaterWorks website](#) for details.

Free online Information Sessions will be held by the WaterWorks Grant team January 19 and January 23, 2023. [For more information and to register visit this page.](#)

All applicants are welcome to sign up for a short **1-on-1 consultation** with staff to discuss project ideas via phone or online; first-time applicants are particularly encouraged to meet with staff. Email water.grants@kingcounty.gov to sign up for a consultation.

Evaluation and Review Process

Complete applications are reviewed, scored, and ranked by the WaterWorks Grant Ranking Committee. Funding recommendations by the WaterWorks Grant Ranking Committee are reviewed and authorized by the King County Executive and the King County Council for final approval.

Timeline

January 4, 2023	Application materials posted
March 8, 2023	Deadline for full applications
Spring/Summer 2023	Applications reviewed
Late Fall 2023	Applicants notified of funding recommendations
Winter/Spring 2024	Projects begin

For more information, contact water.grants@kingcounty.gov, Elizabeth Loudon 206-477-4297, Kelley Govan 206-263-1248, or TTY relay:711, or visit www.kingcounty.gov/waterworks-grants. **Translation and interpretation services** available upon request, email water.grants@kingcounty.gov or call 206-477-4297.