

SOLICITATION NOTICE

CALFED WATER QUALITY GRANT PROGRAM CONCEPT PROPOSAL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 5:00 P.M. ON THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2008.

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Financial Assistance is accepting applications for the CALFED Water Quality Grant Program to support projects in the Delta and its watersheds to reduce concentrations and loads of certain drinking water constituents of concern.

Project Eligibility

The purpose of the CALFED Water Quality Grant Program is to provide funds to projects that restore and protect the municipal and domestic supply beneficial use of water in the Delta and its tributaries through the control of sources of one or more of the program's drinking water quality pollutants of concern (organic carbon, bromide, salinity, nutrients, and pathogens).

It is critical that you contact the Regional Water Quality Control Board and/or CALFED representative in Attachment 2 as you develop your proposal to ensure it meets eligibility requirements and the program preferences and priorities.

Funding Available

Approximately \$4.2 Million is available for this solicitation with a minimum grant amount of \$250,000 and a maximum grant amount of \$4.2 Million per project. A minimum match of 25% is required, but may be waived or reduced for projects that directly benefit a disadvantaged community.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include local public agencies, public agencies, public colleges, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, Indian tribes, federal and state agencies. Eligibility requirements are detailed in Attachment 1 of this Solicitation Notice.

Program Guidelines

Unless otherwise specified here or elsewhere in the application instructions, this solicitation uses the guidelines established in the 2005-06 Consolidated Grants Program Guidelines (Guidelines) for the Integrated Watershed Management Program (IWMP) which are available on-line at the State Water Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/consolidgrants0506/docs/cg_final_guidelines_feb2006.pdf.

Program Preferences

CALFED Water Quality Grant Program is seeking to fund one or more projects that implement an intensive program of management practice or pollution control technology in a watershed of the Delta or one of its tributaries. Projects should be implemented at a watershed scale where water quality improvements can be measured and demonstrated. Similar projects in the past have generally been implemented in watersheds less than 200 square miles in size. Proposals most likely to receive funding must successfully demonstrate the following:

- Well planned and designed implementation activities that have a high likelihood of contributing to the desired water quality improvements based on available information;
- Significant pollutant load reductions for one or more drinking water constituents of concern as a primary purpose of the project;
- Consistency with existing water management plans including the efficient use of water for municipal, industrial, agricultural, and environmental purposes.

Based on past studies and projects, the most competitive projects are likely to be located in the San Joaquin Valley floor, the Sacramento Valley floor, or the Delta but may include adjacent foothill areas.

This 2008 Solicitation for CALFED Water Quality Grant Program funds (Solicitation) will support the preferences listed here and projects that address one or more of the priorities in Appendix G of the 2005-06 Consolidated Grants Guidelines (*Guidelines*).

Solicitation Process

The 2008 CALFED Water Quality Grant Program will use the procedures established by the State Water Board in the *Guidelines* to solicit applications, evaluate proposals, and award grants.

The Solicitation will be a two-step process. In the first step, applicants will submit brief Concept Proposals (CPs) using the State Water Board's on-line Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST). Applicants with the highest-ranking CPs will be invited to submit a Full Proposal. After a thorough review of all full proposals, a recommended funding list will be developed and presented at State Water Board meetings for public comment and adoption.

All applicants requesting funds from the 2008 CALFED Water Quality Grant Program must submit a complete electronic CP by **5:00 pm on Thursday, July 10, 2008** using the State Water Board's online Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST) system at <https://faast.waterboards.ca.gov>. **Late applications will not be accepted.**

To be considered complete, the submitted CP application must include all of the items in the checklist below. Applicants should use this checklist to verify all required information is submitted using the FAAST.

Attachment 1 of this Solicitation Notice lists contacts for questions on funding priorities or eligibility requirements.

2008 CALFED Water Quality Grant Program

CONCEPT PROPOSAL SOLICITATION NOTICE JUNE 2, 2008

Table 1: Checklist for Completing the Online Concept Application

Within the FFAST, the following SECTIONS must be completed and submitted:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>General Information (For the project location information requested in this section, specify the latitude and longitude values that are representative of the project. For large areas of land, specify the mid-point of the area. For a water body, specify the mid-point of the water body stretch.)</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Funding Programs Check the box next to the "CALFED Water Quality Grant Program". Consult with the contacts listed in Attachment 2 of this notice for questions regarding applicant eligibility, project eligibility, and program priorities.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Project Management Please indicate the Project Director and the Project Manager from the applicant's organization.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Legislative Information Enter the State assembly, State senate, and U.S. congressional districts where the region is located. For regions that include more than one district, please enter each district. Look at the tables provided in FFAST to assist with determining the appropriate districts.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Agency Contacts This section must include all agency contacts (Regional Water Board, , etc.) that assisted in the development of the project proposal. You may enter more than one agency contact.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Cooperating Entities List the organizations that will assist the applicant in implementing the project, including partner organizations, consultants, and volunteers. You may enter more than one cooperating entity. We may contact cooperating agencies as part of the application review process.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Application Questionnaire The concept proposal questions are shown beginning on Page 32 of Attachment 1 of this Solicitation Notice.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Optional Attachment: Only if needed, up to two (2) pages to complete your answers to any application questions. Please reference the question number(s) you are responding to. Attachments longer than two (2) pages will <u>not</u> be reviewed.</p>
	<p>If the optional attachment is submitted, it <u>must</u> conform to the following formatting requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A <u>maximum</u> of 2 pages in length; • PDF format • Letter (8.5" x 11") size paper; • Single-spaced or wider; • Times New Roman font - Size 11 or larger; and • One inch (1-inch) margins.

For further assistance on the 2008 CALFED Water Quality Grant Program, please contact Ms. Julé Rizzardo, of the Division of Financial Assistance, at (916) 341-5822 or jrizzardo@waterboards.ca.gov. You may also contact Mr. Mark Magtoto of the Division of Financial Assistance, at (916) 341-5481 or mmagtoto@waterboards.ca.gov.

For questions about the State Water Board's Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST), please contact FAAST staff by phone at (866) 434-1083, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., or by email at faast_admin@waterboards.ca.gov.

Table 2: 2008 CALFED Water Quality Grant Program Schedule	
DATES SHOWN IN ITALICS ARE TENTATIVE DATES	
MILESTONE OR ACTIVITY	SCHEDULE
Solicitation Notice Released	June 2, 2008
Concept Proposal applications must be submitted to the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. Applications submitted after 5:00 p.m. on the due date will not be reviewed or considered for funding.	July 10, 2008
Invite selected applicants to submit Full Proposal applications.	<i>August 8, 2008</i>
Full Proposal applications must be submitted to the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. Applications submitted after 5:00 p.m. on the due date will not be reviewed or considered for funding.	<i>October 10, 2008</i>
The State Water Board approval of final grant awards	<i>November 18, 2008</i>