



IWRB Aging Infrastructure Grant Criteria

The Idaho legislature has appropriated to the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) funding to be used for grants for water projects to ***rehabilitate or improve aging water infrastructure***.

Projects that rehabilitate or improve Idaho's water infrastructure support the Idaho economy, provide economic value, and ensure long-term water resource stability and sustainability. The IWRB has developed these criteria to provide financial assistance on a statewide competitive basis through grants to eligible entities interested in pursuing eligible projects to rehabilitate or improve aging water infrastructure.

Eligible Projects: The IWRB defines an aging water infrastructure project as any new project, or new phase of an improvement project intended to repair, maintain, replace, or improve existing infrastructure that supports irrigation water delivery, storage, drainage, treatment, and use of water for irrigation. Water efficiency projects that reduce incidental recharge will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Ineligible Projects:

- Projects that are already completed or underway by the application deadline
- Municipal drinking or wastewater systems

Eligible Entities: Irrigation Districts, Irrigation Boards of Control, Canal Companies, Drainage Districts, Groundwater Districts, Ditch Companies, Lateral Ditch Users Associations, Reservoir Districts, Municipal Irrigation Districts (formed per Title 42, chapter 18, Idaho Code), Municipalities, Counties and Water Districts

Eligible Geographic Area: Statewide

Program Budget: No more than 50% of the total budget may be spent within a single IWRB district. This limit may be waived if there are no competing funding demands.

Funding Details:

- Funding Details: Up to \$2,000,000 per project; one project per application
- IWRB grant portion cannot exceed 50% of total project costs
- Legal/Administrative services are limited to 5% of total project costs
- Costs incurred prior to the grant award date are not eligible for reimbursement
- Reimbursement requests can be made once a cost-reimbursement contract is established between the applicant and IWRB
- Reimbursement of invoices will not surpass 50% of the invoice amount submitted to Board Staff.

- Contract term will not exceed 3 years after the grant funding award (date of IWRB Resolution) unless an extension is approved by IWRB's contract manager
- Funds may be reallocated if a project is not completed within the term of the cost-reimbursement contract, or if no response is received by the applicant within a calendar year after the grant award date

Application Requirements: For the grant proposal to be considered, the following must be provided:

- A cover letter that is addressed to the IWRB and with the applicant's letterhead. The letter must contain a project summary and the project manager's contact information. The summary must include the funding request dollar amount and expected total project cost.
- An application containing the following:
- Addresses all evaluation criteria described below
- Required regulatory approval and permit documents; if project has not yet received permit documents, note this in the application's project schedule.

Evaluation Criteria: Grant applications submitted by eligible entities for eligible projects will be evaluated, scored (*120-point scale*), and ranked according to the following criteria. Project scoring will be used to prioritize funding. Applications shall discuss how the project under consideration meets the evaluation criteria.

Project Details (*up to 50 points*)

- Project applicant: Description of the applicant that includes organization type, background, revenue sources, and current operations. (*10 points*)
- Project proposal: Description of the project, where it will occur, and its benefits. Include pictures of the existing infrastructure (if applicable), and maps of the project area that have county and coordinate information. (*10 points*)
- Project schedule: The project's timeline of important milestones, such as obtaining funds, permitting, and construction. The time to complete the project is irrelevant, grading only pertains to the quality of the schedule. (*10 points*)
- Plans and specifications: Relevant drawings and material specifications for construction. (*10 points*)
- Project team: The organization(s) and personnel involved in completing the project. Provide the roles, time commitment, and relevant experience. (*10 points*)

Urgency of Project (*up to 20 points*)

- Urgency of the project (e.g., infrastructure age, infrastructure function) (*20 points*)

Public Interest of Project (*up to 30 points*)

- Economic values supported by the existing and/or additional infrastructure. This includes consideration of the communities, irrigated acres, provision of water for future development and economic activity served by the water infrastructure. (*15 points*)
- Uses/benefits identified in Section 42-1760(2)(d), Idaho Code. (*15 points*):
 - water quality
 - fish and wildlife
 - recreation
 - hydropower
 - water supply stability and sustainability

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- drought resiliency
- public safety
- other benefits to the citizens of the State

Budget Planning and Cost-Effectiveness (up to 20 points)

- Cost-effectiveness of the project compared to other options explored by the applicant. (10 points)
- Cost estimate describing all foreseen costs of materials and labor, as well as justification for those costs. Include all sources of funding for the project and their amounts. (10 points)

Grant Process:

- IWRB staff presents funding recommendations to IWRB Finance Committee
- Funding awarded at the IWRB meeting
- IWRB staff will notify project applicants of grant approval and will administer cost-reimbursement contracts
- IWRB will reimburse grantees for project costs upon submittal of funding reimbursement request

Cost-Reimbursement Process:

- Funds will be distributed upon the applicant submitting funding reimbursement requests to the IWRB
- The applicant's funding requests shall include a cover letter which shall include a description of the project activities, dates for performing the project activities, and contractor or supplier invoices
- The Board will review and upon approval, pay invoices in accordance with Idaho Code § 67-2302
- In-kind services, labor, and materials must be invoiced to the applicant to be eligible for reimbursement
- The Board shall determine the value of in-kind contributions of materials and labor
- A certificate of project completion and a financial summary of the total project cost shall be issued by the applicant in order to receive final reimbursement

Application Submission:

- Applications can be emailed to IWRBGrants@idwr.idaho.gov
- Applications that are mailed must be received by 11:59 pm on the application due date. Mailing address:
ATTENTION: GRANTS TEAM
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
PO BOX 83720
BOISE, ID 83720-0098
- Applications can also be dropped off in person on the 6th floor of the Idaho Water Center in Boise. Applications must be dropped off on weekdays, excluding holidays, between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm. The Idaho Water Center is located at:
IDAHO WATER CENTER
322 E FRONT ST STE 648
BOISE, ID 83702-7371

IWRB Districts are as follows:

District No. 1: Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis and Idaho counties.

District No. 2: Adams, Valley, Washington, Payette, Gem, Boise, Canyon, Ada, Elmore and Owyhee counties.

District No. 3: Camas, Gooding, Jerome, Twin Falls, Cassia, Blaine, Lincoln, Minidoka, Lemhi, Custer and Butte counties.

District No. 4: Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Teton, Bingham, Bonneville, Power, Bannock, Caribou, Oneida, Franklin and Bear Lake counties.

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