NCTCOG FY26-27 Solid Waste Grant Application Information Session

April 15, 2025

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Environment & Development Planner II





Meeting Procedures

 Webinar will be recorded and posted to the solid waste grants webpage:

https://www.nctcog.org/envir/materialsmanagement/grants

 Feel free to use the chat box or ask any questions at any point

Please keep your microphone on mute when not speaking



Solid Waste Program Overview

- NCTCOG receives funding from <u>TCEQ</u> to administer the <u>Solid Waste Program</u> in the North Central Texas region
 - Local and regional projects

Resource Conservation Council allocates funding



Solid Waste Grant Resources

- NCTCOG Solid Waste Grant Website: https://www.nctcog.org/envir/materials-management/grants
- Grant Application Guidelines: https://www.nctcog.org/getmedia/e7189fd7-5b7a-49a2-9b35-ab175397275c/2026-2027-Solid-Waste-Grant-Application-Guidelines.pdf
- Call for Projects Timeline: https://www.nctcog.org/getmedia/be4b517c-9f62-429f-9b0c-e8911722e493/FY26-27Timeline.png
- Office Hours Booking: <u>https://outlook.office365.com/book/FY2627CallforProjectsOfficeHours@nctcog.org/</u>

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FY26/27 Call for Projects Timeline

Event	Timeline
Solid Waste Grant Showcase	January 15, 2025, from 1 – 2:30
	p.m.
RCC Meeting – Approve Call for Projects (CFP) Criteria	March 11, 2025
CFP Opens	Tuesday, April 01, 2025
Grant Application Webinar	April 15, 2025, from 1-2 p.m.
Technical Assistance	Open office-hours every
	Wednesday 4/1/25 – 5/21/25
	(or upon request)
CFP Closes	Wednesday, May 21, 2025
Scoring Sessions (Grant Selection) & Private Sector Review	July 2025
RCC Meeting – Approve Project Recommendations	August 19, 2025
RCC Meeting – Approve Project Recommendations NCTCOG Executive Board – Approve Project	August 19, 2025 September 2025
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NCTCOG Executive Board – Approve Project	<u> </u>
NCTCOG Executive Board – Approve Project Recommendations	September 2025
NCTCOG Executive Board – Approve Project Recommendations Execute FY26 Interlocal Agreements	September 2025 October/November 2025



New for 2026-2027 CFP:

APPLICATION ASSISTANCE OFFICE HOURS!

Every Wednesday from CFP Open to CFP Close

4/1/2025 - 5/21/2025 from 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm



Funding & Eligibility

- <u>Estimated</u> Funding Available: \$1.1 to 1.3 Million
- Eligible Applicants:
 - Cities
 - Counties
 - Public and Independent School Districts (excludes Universities and other postsecondary educational institutions)
 - General and special law districts created in accordance with state law and having the authority and responsibility for water quality protection or MSW management, to include river authorities
 - Councils of Governments

All funding for these projects is subject to sufficient funds in the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Account and to the receipt and availability of funds appropriated by the Texas Legislature for the purposes of this call for projects. In the event funding is not available, NCTCOG has no obligation to provide funding to any projects that may be selected in association with this call for projects.



Eligibility

- Private sector entities and non-profit organizations are not eligible for direct funding.
 - Grant recipients may contract with private and non-profit entities to provide specific services.



Project Types

- Local Government Project: One or two eligible applicant(s)
 - Minimum Request: \$15,000
 - Maximum Request: \$200,000

- Regional Collaborative Project: At least three eligible applicants
 - Minimum Request: \$125,000
 - Maximum Request: \$500,000



Project Categories

- The following project categories are eligible for grant funding:
 - Local Enforcement
 - Source Reduction and Recycling
 - Household Hazardous Waste
 - Litter and Illegal Dumping Programs
 - Citizens' Collection Stations and "Small" Transfer Stations
 - Local Solid Waste Management Plans
 - Technical Studies with a Regional Scope/Impact
 - Educational and Training Projects



Project Goals

- Identify a minimum of one of the goals from the <u>Regional</u> <u>Solid Waste Management Plan</u> that the project intends to address
- Goals include:
 - 1. Support Materials Management Education and Training
 - Promote Creation and Expansion of Waste Management Programs
 - 3. Measure Regional Waste Reduction Efforts
 - Support and Encourage Innovative Technology for Other Waste
 - 5. Promote Public and Private Sector Relationships



Eligible Expenses

- Eligible Expense Categories:
 - 1. Equipment
 - 2. Construction
 - 3. Contractual
 - 4. Other

Each line item must meet or exceed \$500 to be eligible

Details can be found in the <u>Grant Application</u>
 Guidelines



Expenses Justification & Evaluation

- NOTE: All applicants will need to include information in the grant application indicating the following items have been evaluated:
 - Ongoing maintenance costs of grant-funded equipment,
 - If additional equipment will be needed in order to utilize grant-funded items (i.e. if applying for a trailer, is a tractor needed to pull the trailer), and;
 - If staff needs to be trained/licensed in order to use equipment (i.e. forklifts, vehicles that require special driver's licenses).



Application Process

Applications for the 2026-2027 Call for Projects must be received in the web-based application system by 5:00 p.m. CST on May 21, 2025.

- No faxed, emailed or hard copy applications will be accepted
- Applicants are encouraged to submit early in case of technical difficulties
- The link to access the application system can be found here: https://www.nctcog.org/envir/materials-management/grants



Important Application Information

In-kind expenses are not eligible for reimbursement

Each entity will be limited to two applications

Quotes or other proof of estimated costs are required

 Additional supporting documentation (photos, maps, plans, etc.) is strongly encouraged



Standard Grant Applications

- Assist entities new to this grant program with minimal resources or with other barriers to applying for grants
- Meet minimum funding requirements but can be scaled up
- Additional details are available in the template application
- Applicants choosing to apply utilizing a template standard application must still adhere to all grant eligibility requirements, standards, and other requirements.
- NCTCOG has two standard grant applications:
 - Illegal Dumping Cameras
 - School District Recycling Program



Grant Application Checklist

- The following items are <u>required</u>:
 - Completed Application Form submitted
 - Including budget, timeline, narrative, etc.
 - Quotes or other proof of estimated costs
 - Private Sector Notification, if applicable
 - Support Letters from participating entities, if applicable
 - Acknowledged Certification and Assurances
 - Resolution/Court Order is required by June 21, 2025.
- Other supporting documentation such as maps, drawings, plans, photos, etc. is strongly encouraged



Risk Assessment Requirements

 A risk assessment will be required for each grant recipient.

 NCTCOG will reach out to each <u>awarded grant recipient</u> to initiate the risk assessment process, if necessary.



Procurement Documentation Review

 Each grant recipient is required to follow state and federal procurement regulations and guidelines.

 Prior to purchase, the grant recipient must provide documentation to NCTCOG's procurement team for review.



Private Sector Notification

The grant-funded project may not be otherwise readily available or create a competitive advantage over a private industry that provides recycling or solid waste services.

- Failure to notify private sector service providers will result in immediate disqualification of the application.
- Categories that require notification:
 - Source Reduction and Recycling
 - Citizens' Collection Stations and "Small" Registered Transfer Stations
 - A demonstration project under the Educational and Training Projects category



Private Sector Notification

 Contact the private sector entities which are providing similar services within the same geographical area for which grant funds are being requested.

 A list of service providers within the region is available at: <u>www.timetorecycle.com/locator/recycler_list.asp</u>.

 Private Sector Notification must be documented in the grant application.



Evaluation Process

 All applications will be reviewed by the RCC's Grant Subcommittee in July 2025.

 Applicants will provide a brief presentation to the Subcommittee.

 Applicants will be notified of their presentation date & time after the call for projects closes.



Evaluation Criteria

- All applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
 - Budget
 - Timeline
 - Description/Demonstration of Funding Need
 - Project Impacts and Benefits
 - Regional Advancement of Materials Management & Project Sustainability
 - Partnerships and Regional Impacts (Regional Collaborative projects only)
 - Past Grant History
 - New this year: 10 bonus points for meeting with NCTCOG during call for projects to discuss application



Applicant Appeals

 Applicants may appeal the funding recommendations to the RCC.

- All appeals must be based on a specific, identified error of the Grant Subcommittee and not on factors that allow discretion by the Grant Subcommittee members.
 - The appeal deadline is 5:00 p.m., August 31, 2025.

 Applicants must submit the appeal to NCTCOG in writing (via email or letter).



Solid Waste Grant Requirements

 Successful applicants will be required to enter into a standard Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with NCTCOG.

 Project funding will be provided on a <u>reimbursement</u> basis only.

 Grant recipients must allow NCTCOG and/or TCEQ to perform on-site visits to monitor the progress of projects.

 Grant recipients must agree to provide reports related to the results of the project to NCTCOG.



Reimbursement of Expenses

- Reimbursement Requests must include:
 - A signed reimbursement request form
 - Purchase Order
 - Invoice
 - Proof of Payment

 The reimbursement request form and instructions will be provided by NCTCOG.



Reporting Requirements

1. Quarterly Progress Reports: All grant recipients must submit reports detailing progress toward project completion on a quarterly basis until final reimbursement is issued.

2. Results Report: Grant recipients will submit cumulative results from the start of the project to August 31, 2026.

3. Year-Later Results Report: Grant recipients will be required to submit a report documenting results one year after the project completion date.

Templates will be provided by NCTCOG.



Previous Grant Examples

- Cameras for illegal dumping enforcement
- Park or school recycling bins
- Residential food waste collection and/or equipment
- Educational materials (mailers, mascots, vans, giveaways, etc.)
- Disaster Debris Management Plans or other solid waste plans
- Community cleanup event items (trailers, trash pickers, giveaways for volunteers, etc.)
- Balers, densifiers, other equipment







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