



CALL FOR PUBLIC DRINKING WATER PROJECTS NOTICE

Call for Projects – Open March 8, 2024, to April 26, 2024

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (DWSRF) PROGRAM
STATE FISCAL YEAR 2025: July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025**

**ELIGIBLE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS INCLUDE:
COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS &
NON-PROFIT NON-COMMUNITY SYSTEMS**

Do you have drinking water projects that will need funding during State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025? Your projects may be eligible for a low-interest loan through the Department of Public Health's (DPH) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program. Interest rates of these loans are set at half of the market rate and borrowers typically have up to 20 years to repay them after their project is completed.

DPH Informational webinars will be held on March 12, 2024, for large community public water systems, and March 13, 2024, for small community public water systems and non-profit non community public water systems. During these webinars DPH staff will present on the following: types of projects that can receive funding, eligibility application process, project ranking system, types of funding available, loan process and subsidization of loans as principal forgiveness, review the Call for Projects Timeline, and Call for Questions process as noted below.

March 8, 2024, to April 26, 2024 – Open Call for DWSRF Projects

March 8, 2024, to March 27, 2024 – Open Call for Questions – submitted to DPH.DWSRF@ct.gov

March 12, 2024 – DPH Webinar Presentation – Large Public Water System focused Webinar 1 pm to 2 pm

March 13, 2024 – DPH Webinar Presentation – Small Public Water System focused Webinar 1 pm to 2 pm

March 27, 2024 – deadline to submit questions to DPH.DWSRF@ct.gov

March 28, 2024 – DPH to publish questions received on www.ct.gov/dph/dwsrf

April 5, 2024 – DPH publishes answers to questions on www.ct.gov/dph/dwsrf

April 26, 2024 – DWSRF Eligibility Applications Due to DPH.DWSRF@ct.gov

The DWSRF is intended to be used to finance improvements to existing drinking water infrastructure. The DWSRF cannot be used to finance water system expansion projects unless those projects are necessary to resolve documented public health problems. [Examples](#) of eligible drinking water projects are provided on the DWSRF website. A project must first be deemed eligible for funding and ready to proceed before the DPH can provide any offer of financing. To begin the eligibility review process, please visit our website at: www.ct.gov/dph/dwsrf and complete a DWSRF Eligibility Application for each project you would like to be considered.

The federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) became effective on November 15, 2021, and includes significant funding for drinking water infrastructure through the State DWSRF programs over 5 years. The DPH anticipates receiving BIL funding again during SFY 2025. Please see the [DWSRF BIL webpage](#) for more information on the DWSRF funding that will be made available through the BIL. Two specific appropriations in the BIL are for Lead Service Line Replacements (LSLR) and projects that address Emerging Contaminants. A third appropriation will direct funding towards any project that is routinely eligible for DWSRF funding. These funding categories will be explained during the Webinars and questions can be submitted.

A new priority ranking system will be outlined during the webinars and questions can be submitted from 3/8/24 until 3/27/24. Eligible projects will be ranked, and then these projects will be published in the draft DWSRF Intended Use Plan this summer.

A significant portion of the BIL funding must be used to subsidize projects receiving DWSRF assistance. The subsidization levels of specific projects may vary and will be determined once DPH receives all SFY 2025 applications from this Call for Projects. These subsidization details will be formally announced in the draft SFY 2025 DWSRF Intended Use Plan (IUP).

The two programs listed below were developed to make it easier for small PWSs to obtain loans less than \$100,000 without the need to hire an attorney or engineering consultant. Streamlined eligibility applications and requirements have been created for projects that qualify for funding under these programs.

Emergency Power Generator Program (EPGP): This program provides subsidized loans for the purchase and/or installation of emergency power generators to operate critical drinking water infrastructure during power outages. An EPGP Eligibility Application is available online to apply for generator projects costing less than \$100,000. Please visit out the [DWSRF Program webpage](#) for more information on this program.

Small Loan Program (SLP): This program provides loans for the replacement or installation of drinking water equipment such as pumps and water treatment components costing less than \$100,000. These loans are only available for projects that do not require construction activities such as building additions, new facilities to be built or site work. A SLP Eligibility Application is available online to apply for a qualifying small loan project. Please visit out the [DWSRF Program webpage](#) for more information on this program.

Deadline for Applications: DPH must receive all applications **no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 26, 2024**. Please provide as much detail as possible about your project when completing your application. If your project qualifies for funding, you will be requested to submit a completed Financial Assistance Application at the appropriate time.

As part of the DPH's efforts to reduce the use of paper, an electronic copy of the application(s) with digital signature along with all associated documentation is required and may be sent via email to DPH.DWSRF@ct.gov.