

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH
Commissioner

Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

Drinking Water Section

DWS Circular Letter #2020-08

TO: Community and Non-Profit Non-Community Public Water Systems
Municipal Chief Elected Officials
Public School Superintendents
Local Directors of Health

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Mathieu".

FROM: Lori Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief, Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch

DATE: March 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act – \$40 Million Reduction in Lead Exposure via Drinking Water Grant

On February 19, 2020 the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the availability of \$40 million in grant funding under the 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act to help reduce lead in drinking water in disadvantaged communities. This grant funding is split into two “National Priority Areas” described below.

- National Priority Area 1:** over \$17 million for projects that implement or improve corrosion control or conduct lead service line replacements (1-3 awards anticipated). Eligible projects include:
 - Improving corrosion control to reduce lead in drinking water through corrosion control treatment
 - Replacing lead service lines
 - Replacing galvanized pipes downstream of a lead service line
 - maintaining the drinking water system’s service line inventory to accurately track existing lead service lines and replacements if part of a project listed above
 - Remediation follow-up monitoring, public education, and related outreach (if part of an above project)
- National Priority Area 2:** \$22.8 million for projects that remove sources of lead in drinking water (e.g., fixtures, fountains, outlets and plumbing materials) in schools or childcare facilities (3-12 awards anticipated). Eligible projects include:
 - Removing or replacing drinking water fixtures, fountains, or outlets demonstrated to be sources of lead
 - Replacing plumbing materials determined to be sources of lead
 - Conducting follow-up monitoring, public education, and outreach to ensure the long-term performance of the remediation.



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To be eligible under either of these two National Priority Areas the grant recipient must be a nonprofit organization and the project must be located in one or more communities which meet the DPH's affordability criteria under the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program. This affordability criteria is contained in the DWSRF's Disadvantaged Community Assistance Program which is included as Attachment I to the [State Fiscal Year 2020 DWSRF Intended Use Plan](#). Eligible applicants include any of the following:

1. Community water systems
2. Water systems located in an area governed by an Indian Tribe
3. Non-transient non-community water systems
4. Qualified nonprofit organizations servicing a public water system
5. Municipalities
6. State, interstate, or intermunicipal agencies

This WIIN grant will be competed through a Request for Application process. The funding opportunity will remain open until April 20, 2020 on www.grants.gov. The grant information is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/grants>. If you have any questions please contact Gevon Solomon of EPA Region 1 at (619) 918-1513.

Cc: Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA, Deputy Commissioner