Meg Leader

From: Meg Leader

Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2022 11:47 AM

To: tagrantees2020@email.nacdnet.org; tagrantees2@email.nacdnet.org; tagrantees2021

@email.nacdnet.org

Cc:state-contacts@email.nacdnet.orgSubject:TA2022 Priority Requests (PR) are open!

Attachments: TA Grant Application - Priority Request Preview.pdf; TA Budget Worksheet.xlsx; TA2022

PR announcement.pdf

Hey all,

This is going to be a long email. I'd recommend that you save it and/or print it off to refer to. In fact, I've attached a PDF of it for you.

First off, the link to the application -

https://nacd.formstack.com/workflows/ta_grant_funding_request Bookmark it because it isn't posted on any webpage. I will try to send out weekly reminders with the link. Applications are due no later than 11:59 PM ET on March 31, 2022.

Attached is a PDF of the PR application. There's a link to it on the first screen of the application as well. I've also attached the Budget Worksheet that will need to be uploaded when you complete the application.

Here's the topics for the rest of this email. Contact me and/or your NACD Region Representative (please don't reply all) with your additional questions.

- 1. Should you apply for the PR?
- 2. What is the difference between the PR and the RFP?
- 3. Should I wait and apply during the RFP, or do both?
- 4. Application Save and Resume?
- 5. This year's PR refers to Austerity Budget and Full Funding, what does this mean?
- 6. Why doesn't the PR give us clear guidance on what is available in each type of funding (EQIP, CSP or COTA)?

Should you apply for the PR?

We do not have rules on who should or should not apply for continuing funding. The general rule of thumb is that if you have enough funding across any agreement, or sets of agreements, to cover expenses until June 2023, you might consider waiting until next year. If you don't have enough funding to keep working for the next 15 months, then I'd encourage you to apply.

What is the difference between the PR and the RFP?

The **Priority Request for Continued Funding (PR)** is only available to grantees who have open TA grants (or closed their last one since October 1, 2021). Applying now gives you equal access to the funding as long as your State/Territory Conservation Partnership agrees that your work is a priority. The **Request for Proposals (RFP)** is open to everyone as long as they have the support of their State/Territory Conservation Partnership. The RFP proposals

only have access to whatever funds remain after the PR grants are awarded and the State/Territory Conservation Partnership ranks all the RFP applications. Lower ranked RFP applications may not be funded. If you should miss submitting the PR by March 31, you are welcome to use the RPF.

Should I wait and apply during the RFP, or do both?

You are welcome to skip the PR and apply during the RFP, though please read the difference above. Doing both is not necessary. With time, we understand that needs may change. Your PR application may include project expansions. A project expansion could be

- a. Adding TA grant staff
- b. Adding hours to existing TA grant staff
- c. Changing your TA grant project focus

That said, due to this year's unique situation, please read how we are handling project expansions (Austerity Budget vs Full Funding) for the PR. Cost of living increases are not consider an expansion.

Application Save and Resume?

New this year! The application form now has Save and Resume as an option. Please remember that you need to save the link it will issue for you. We can not access this information.

This year's PR refers to Austerity Budget and Full Funding, what does this mean?

Due to this year's continuing resolution we are asking you to give us a bit more information. An **Austerity Budget** doesn't include any project expansions, but it can include cost of living increases. We want your Budget Worksheet and all of the application metrics completed for your Austerity Budget information. Until NRCS approves their full budget we will work with the Austerity Budget information. For many of you I expect the Austerity Budget will be all you want and you'll be able to skip the Full Funding section.

To simplify the process of shifting off of the Austerity Budget proposals to your **Full Funding** request, the PR has a new section (Section 6) where you can give us some basic outline of what you'd truly like with the expansions you'd like to add. Complete this section as shown in the example on the application. The numbers you use should be for the Full Funding and not just what may be in addition to your Austerity Budget. Project expansions could be

- a. Adding TA grant staff
- b. Adding hours to existing TA grant staff
- c. Changing your TA grant project focus

Why doesn't the PR give us clear guidance on what is available in each type of funding (EQIP, CSP or COTA)?

Until NRCS approves their full budget we don't have all the information of what will be available for each type of funding. This is part of the reason we were delaying the process. Our solution is for you to ask for what you'd like. Once the PR is ended, we will work with you if your request needs to be adjusted.



Meg Leader (She/Her) NACD Projects and Partnerships Coordinator

p: 812.512.1811 **o:** 202.547.6403

appointments: TA Grant Support Scheduling

w: www.nacdnet.org





