TA2024 OUTREACH & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT
Informational Webinar
August 22, 2024

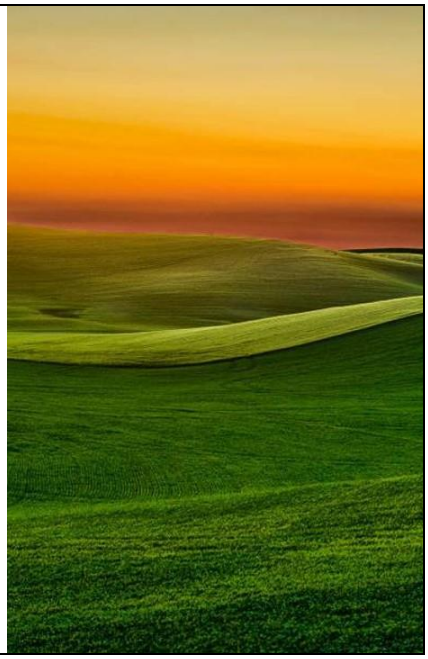
AGENDA

- Program Overview
- Eligibility Requirements & Activities
- Application Process
- Questions & Discussion

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Objectives – Opportunities – Impacts

- Conduct outreach and education
- Deliver technical assistance conservation issues on private lands
- Increase enrollment in Farm Bill programs, focusing on new acres and historically underserved producers
- Increase civic engagement (e.g., strengthen Local Working Groups)



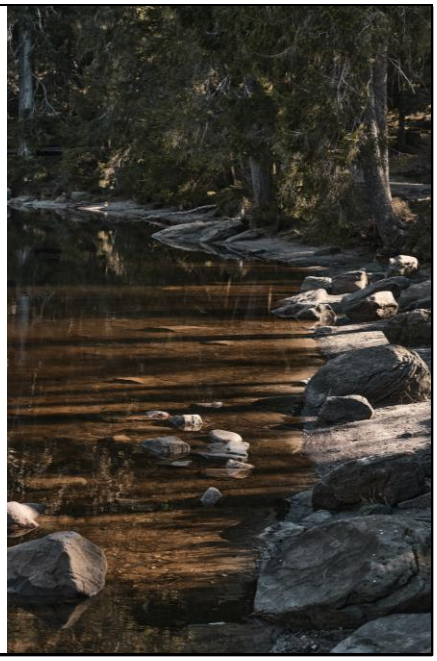
The Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant program is a partnership between NACD and NRCS, which has been in place since 2017.
The grant program is to help strengthen the local conservation delivery system and partnership with NRCS.
The goal is to leverage this grant to address critical service or capacity concerns or priority concerns within the state/territory.
The bottom-line – this grant is to help to better serve our clients and to get more conservation on the ground.
The TA program provides (EQIP) Environmental Quality Incentive Programs, CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program), and COTA (Conservation Operations Technical Assistance) funding, with the goal of advancing NRCS programs.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- $18 million competitively awarded
- Funding to advance NRCS programs
  - COTA, EQIP & CSP
- 20% non-federal Match requirement (in-kind &/or cash)

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Eligible applicants
- Eligible activities & Use of Funds
- Anticipated Timeline
  - Applications due September 30th by 11:59pm ET through online portal
  - Early December – Awardees notified
- Letter of Concurrence (State/Territory Leadership) not required



Eligible applicants:

- Conservation Districts
- State or territory Association of Conservation Districts
- Conservation Districts' respective state agencies (e.g., State Departments of Natural Resources, State Departments of Agriculture), so long as a Conservation District is engaged at the local level
- Resource Conservation & Development Councils
- Indian Tribal governments or intertribal consortia

Funding may be used to **provide technical assistance** to landowners and operators, **conduct outreach**, and **advance education and stewardship**.

- Including **conservation planning**, **enrolling producers into EQIP or CSP**, and **support from design through certification of conservation practice**s
- COTA funding may also be used to improve capabilities to perform landscape scale planning

Change in process - **applicants WILL NOT need a letter of concurrence from State/Territory Conservation Partnership Leaders before applying.**

- However, we strongly encourage applicants to consult with NRCS and their

state association before developing or submitting a proposal. A letter of concurrence will be required before awards can be made.

ADVANCING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & EQUITY

As a condition of this grant, recipients must participate in certain activities over the life of the grant. *Must certify in the application.

- A semi-annual demographic survey of all staff and board members.

And

- Development and/or implementation of board succession plans that are inclusive and provide opportunities for new, diverse voices to participate in mentorship or board development opportunities.

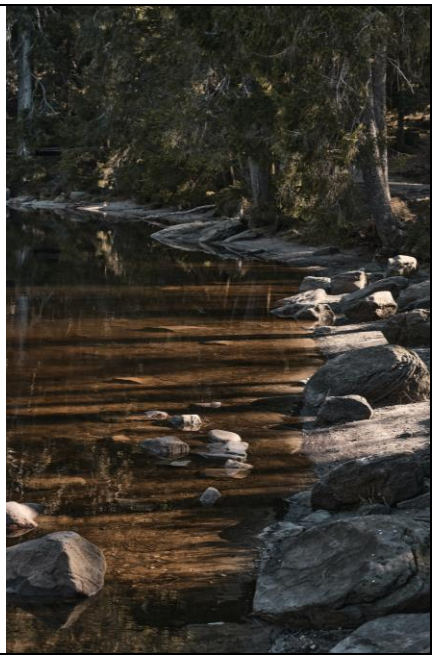
or

- Development and/or implementation of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) plans that advance environmental and social justice (both within the entity and community)

NRCS & NACD are committed to ADVANCING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & EQUITY
NACD is committed to incorporating and implementing diversity, equity, and inclusion principles in all its programs.
NACD is also working collaboratively with NRCS to achieve equitable outcomes across the locally led conservation delivery system.

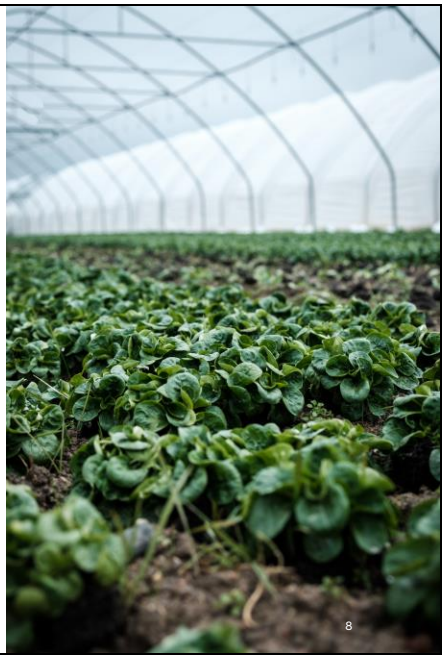
APPLICATION PROCESS

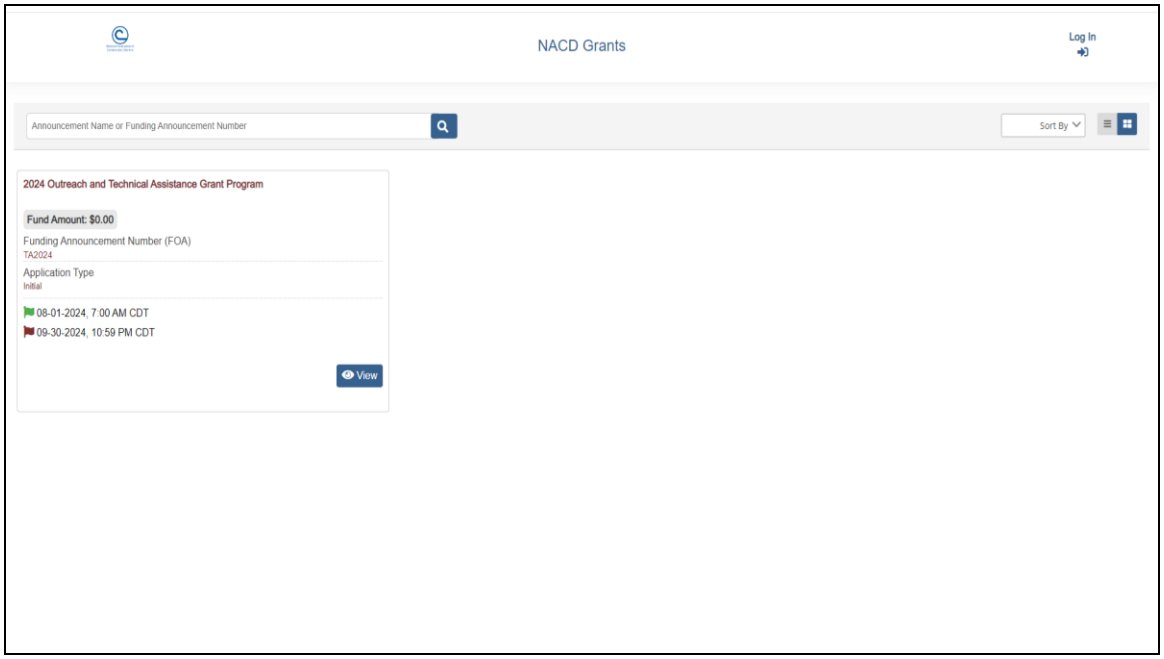
- Application preview & instructions – GrantVantage (grants management system)
- Budget worksheet is required – as presented in GrantVantage



NACD has a new grant management system, which is the online portal to submit applications.
Screenshots of the step-to-step application process are included in the next few slides

GRANTVANTAGE DEMO

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Announcement Name or Funding Announcement Number
Sort By
2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Program
Fund Amount: $0.00
Funding Announcement Number (FOA)
TA2024
Application Type
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08-01-2024, 7:00 AM CDT
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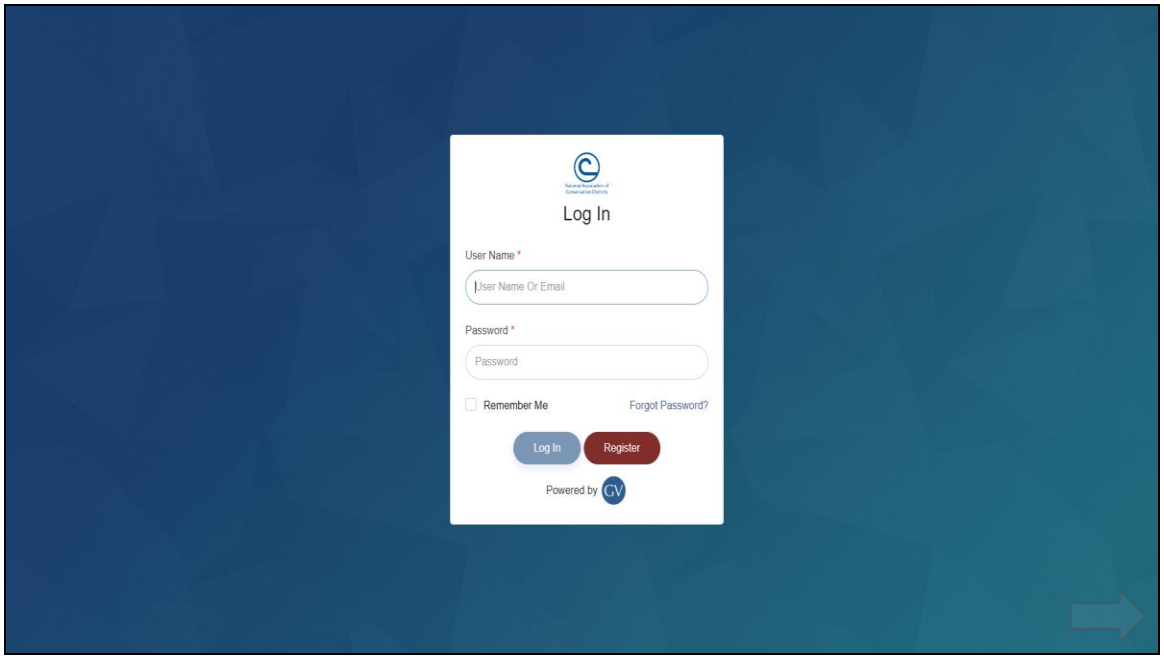
Log In
User Name *
User Name Or Email
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Password
Remember Me
Forgot Password?
Log In
Register
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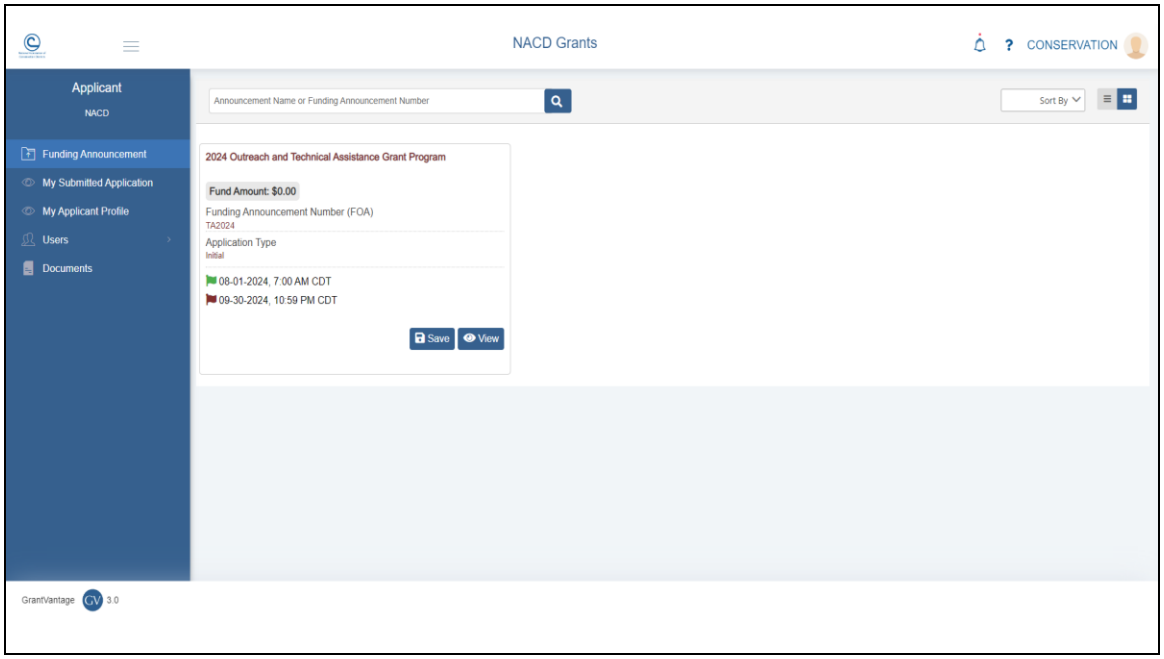
NACD Grants
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Fund Amount: $0.00
Funding Announcement Number (FOA)
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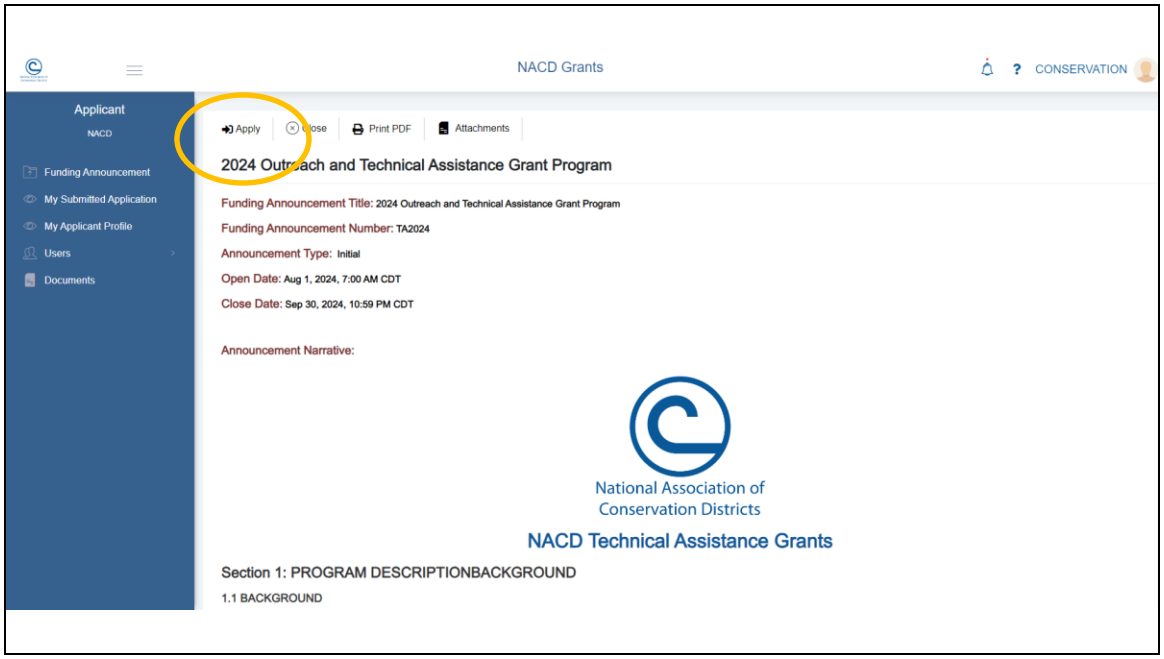
GrantVantage 3.0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My Submitted Application
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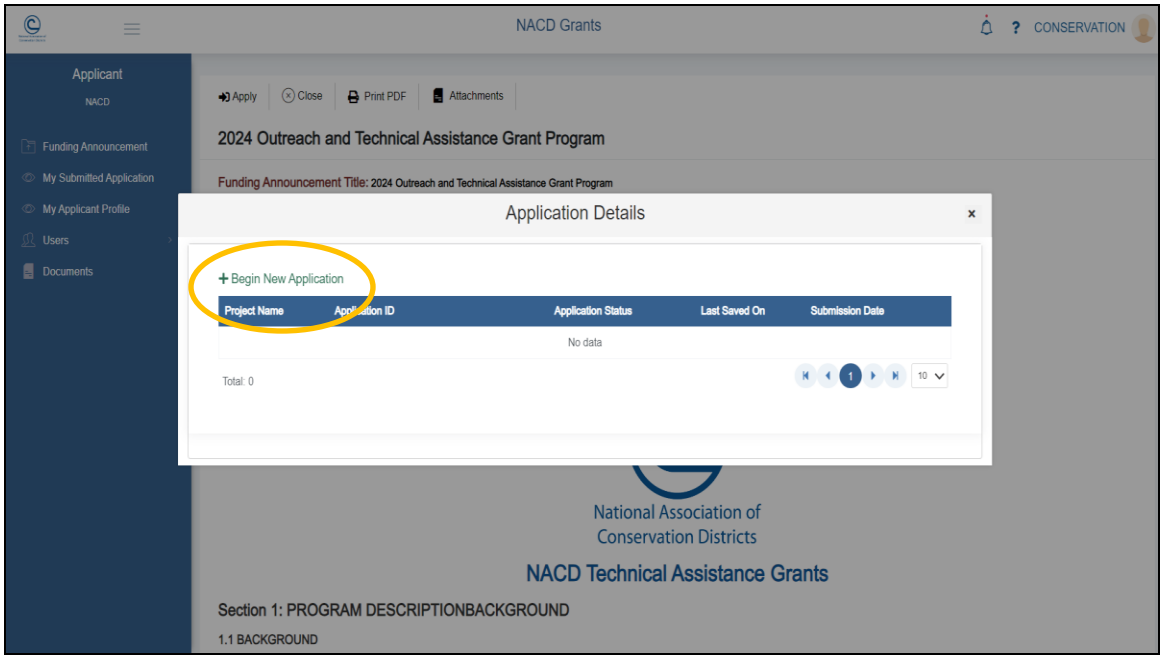
Attachments
2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Program
Funding Announcement Title: 2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Program
Funding Announcement Number: TA2024
Announcement Type: Initial
Open Date: Aug 1, 2024, 7:00 AM CDT
Close Date: Sep 30, 2024, 10:59 PM CDT
Announcement Narrative:
National Association of Conservation Districts
NACD Technical Assistance Grants
Section 1: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONBACKGROUND
1.1 BACKGROUND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My Submitted Application
My Applicant Profile
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Apply
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Print PDF
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2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Program
Funding Announcement Title: 2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Program
Application Details
+ Begin New Application
Project Name
Application ID
Application Status
Last Saved On
Submission Date
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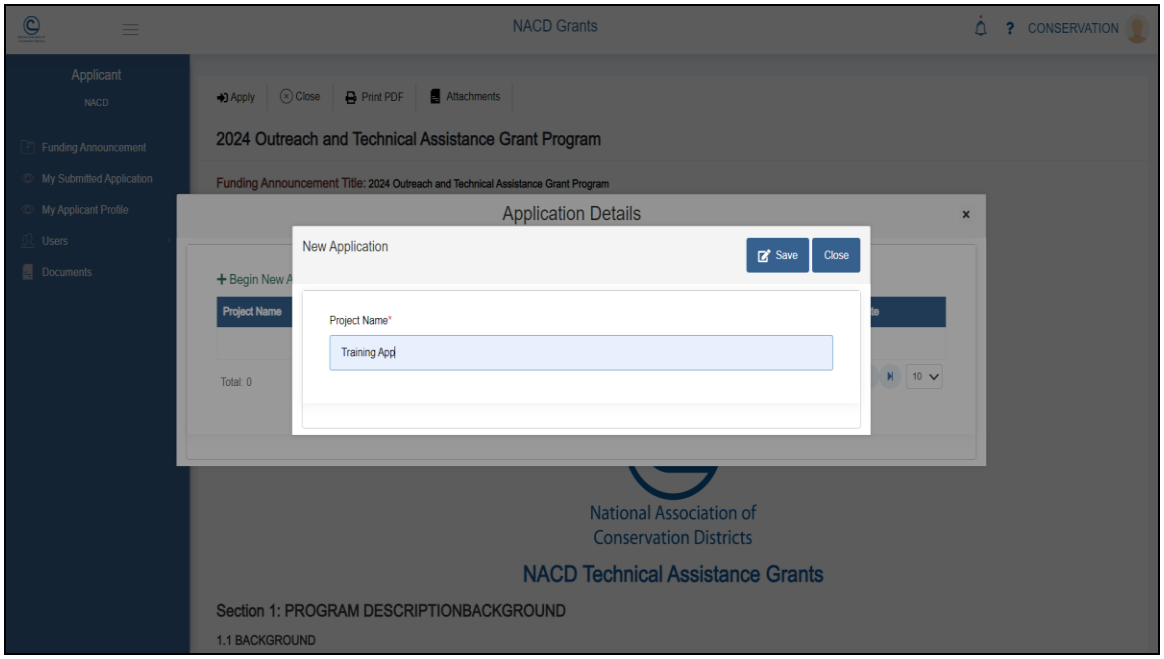
Total: 0
National Association of Conservation Districts
NACD Technical Assistance Grants
Section 1: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONBACKGROUND
1.1 BACKGROUND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My Submitted Application
My Applicant Profile
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Apply
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Print PDF
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2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Program
Funding Announcement Title: 2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Program
Application Details
New Application
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Project Name*
Training App
Project Name
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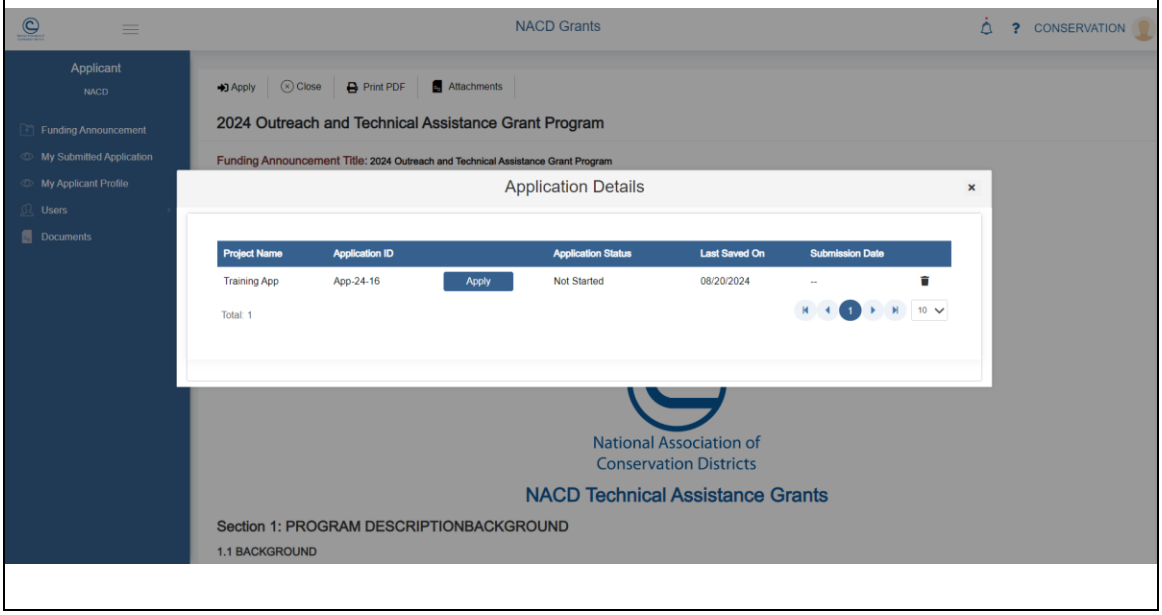
National Association of Conservation Districts
NACD Technical Assistance Grants
Section 1: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONBACKGROUND
1.1 BACKGROUND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My Submitted Application
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Attachments
2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Program
Funding Announcement Title: 2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Program
Application Details
Project Name
Application ID
Application Status
Last Saved On
Submission Date
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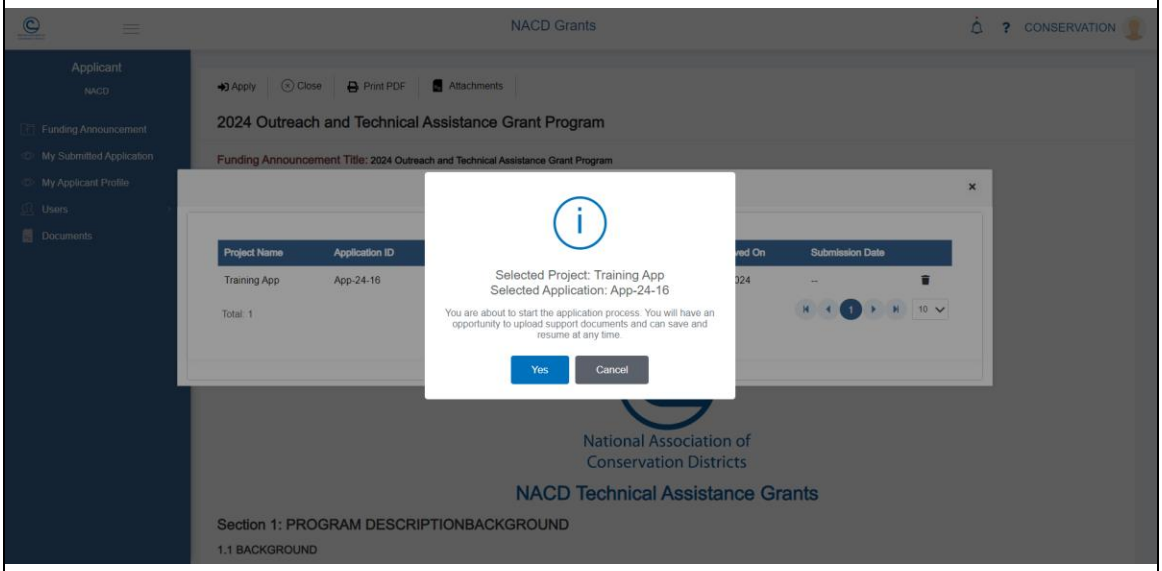
Total: 1
National Association of Conservation Districts
NACD Technical Assistance Grants
Section 1: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONBACKGROUND
1.1 BACKGROUND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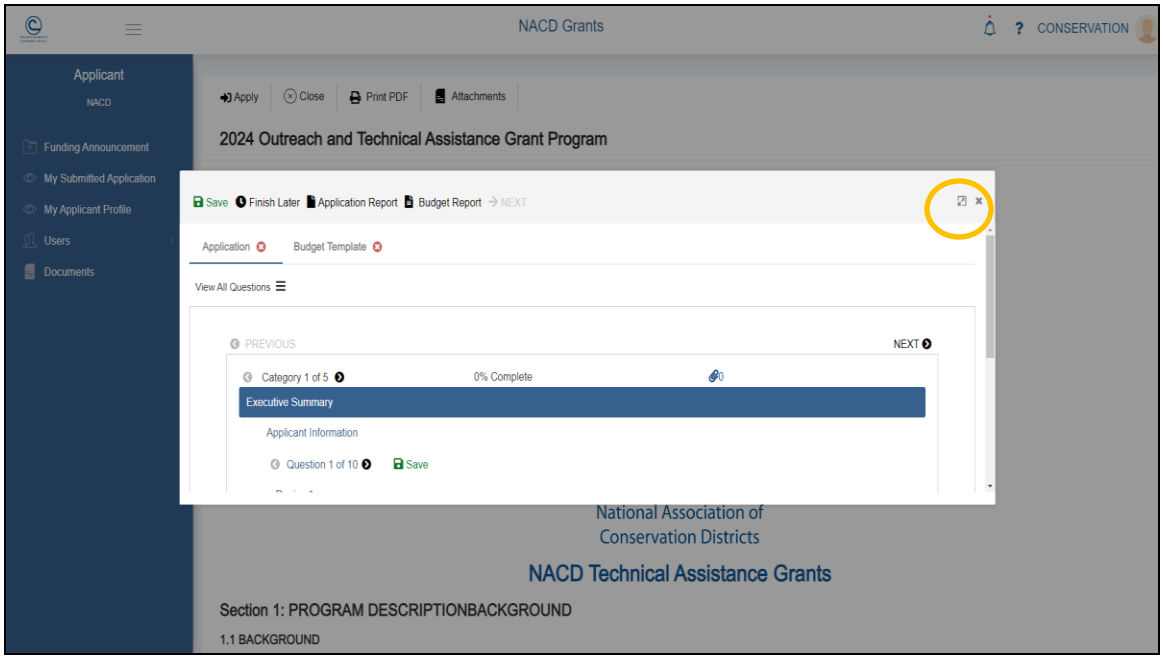
Funding Announcement Title: 2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Program
Project Name
Application ID
Submission Date
Training App
App-24-16
Total: 1
Selected Project: Training App
Selected Application: App-24-16
You are about to start the application process. You will have an opportunity to upload support documents and can save and resume at any time.
Yes
Cancel
National Association of Conservation Districts
NACD Technical Assistance Grants
Section 1: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONBACKGROUND
1.1 BACKGROUND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My Submitted Application
My Applicant Profile
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Finish Later
Application Report
Budget Report
NEXT
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View All Questions
PREVIOUS
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Category 1 of 5
0% Complete
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Executive Summary
Applicant Information
Question 1 of 10
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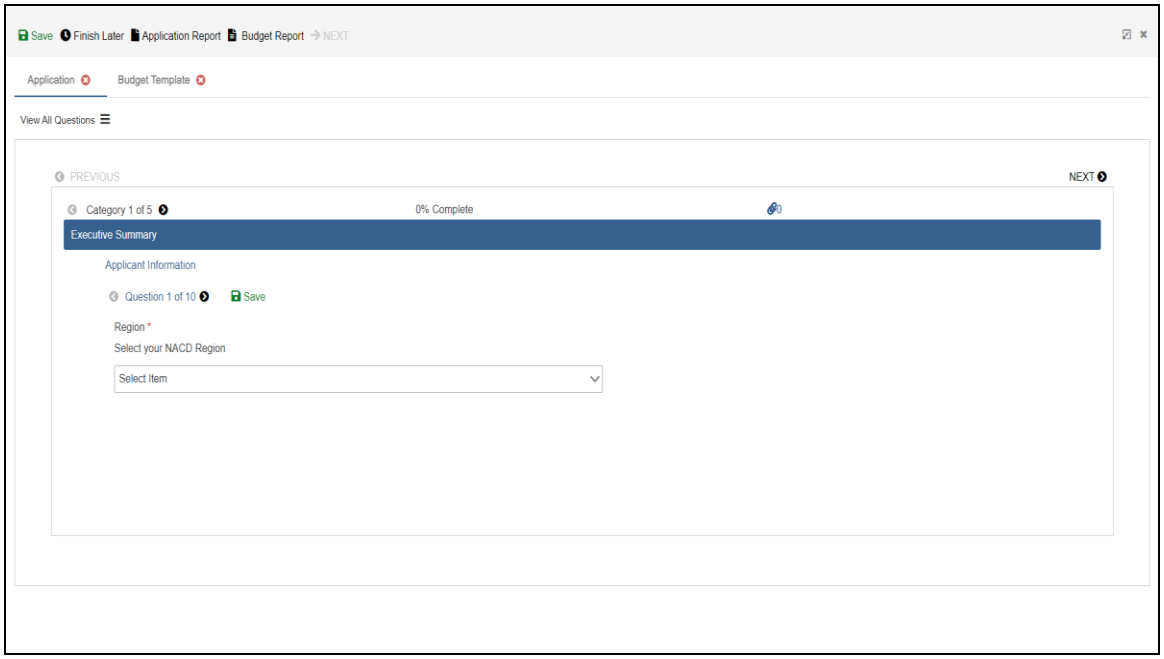
National Association of
Conservation Districts
NACD Technical Assistance Grants
Section 1: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONBACKGROUND
1.1 BACKGROUND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Question 1 of 10
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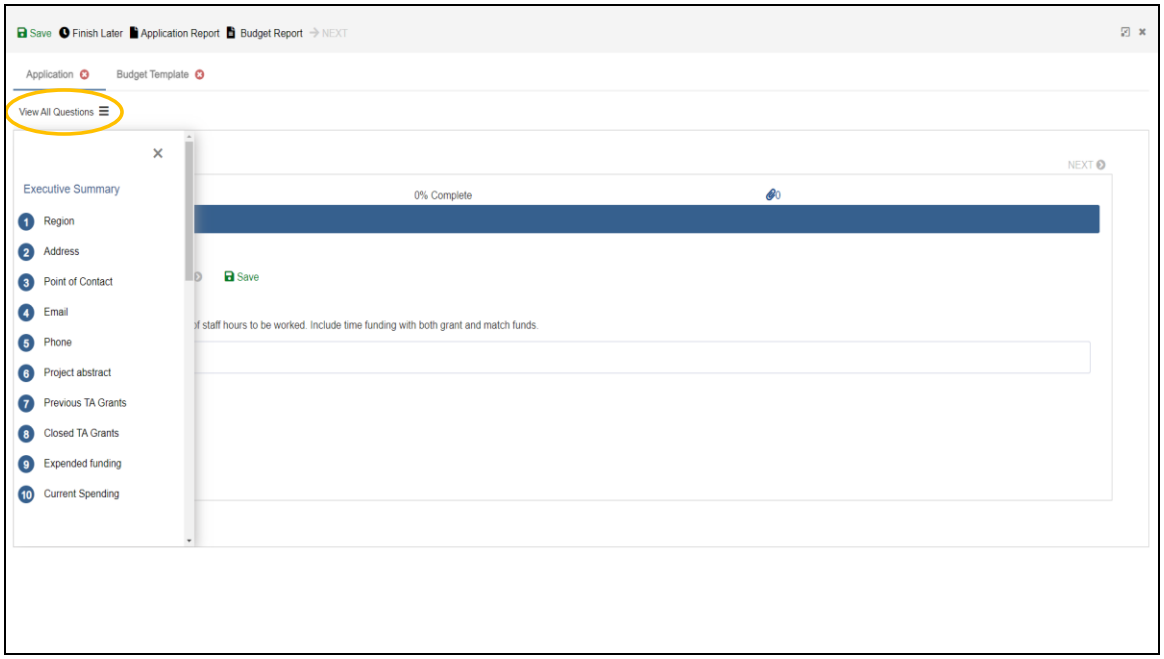
Region *
Select your NACD Region
Select Item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Budget Report
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Budget Template
View All Questions
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1 Region
2 Address
3 Point of Contact
4 Email
5 Phone
6 Project abstract
7 Previous TA Grants
8 Closed TA Grants
9 Expended funding
10 Current Spending
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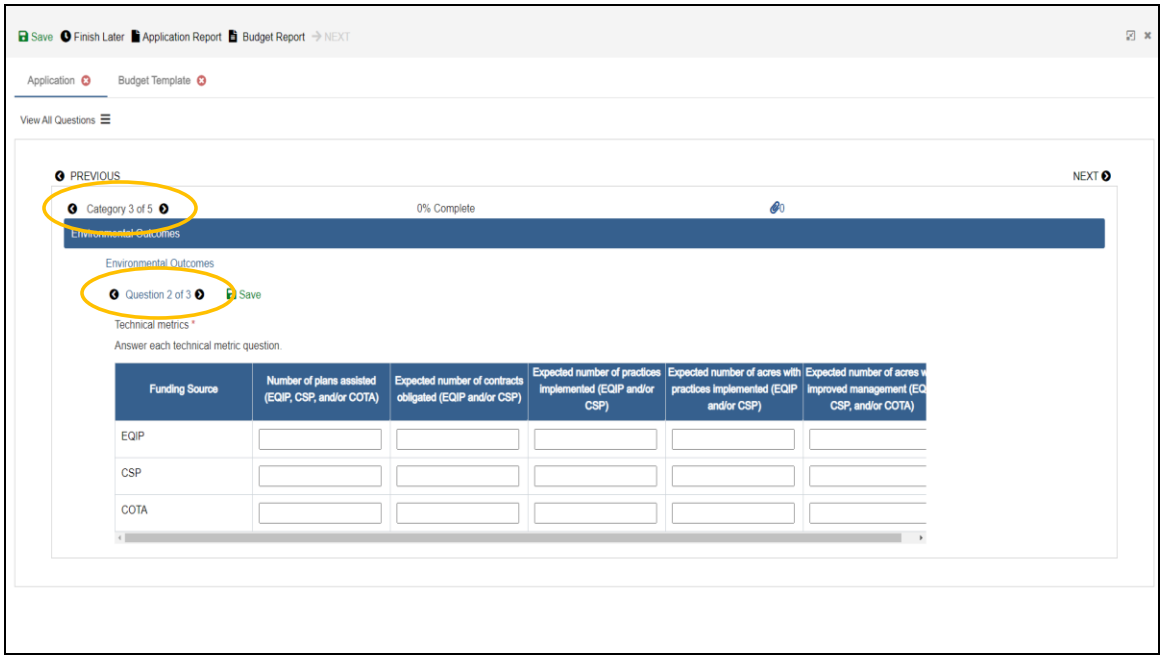
Save
staff hours to be worked. Include time funding with both grant and match funds.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Category 3 of 5
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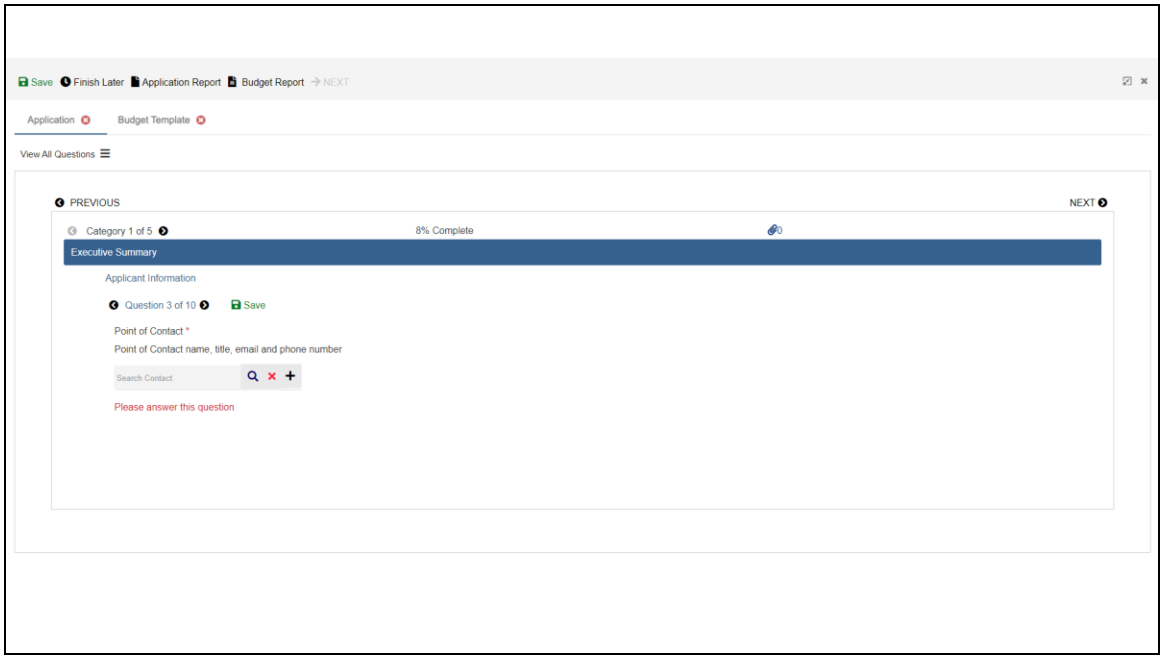
Environmental Outcomes
Environmental Outcomes
Question 2 of 3
Save
Technical metrics *
Answer each technical metric question.
Funding Source
Number of plans assisted (EQIP, CSP, and/or COTA)
Expected number of contracts obligated (EQIP and/or CSP)
Expected number of practices implemented (EQIP and/or CSP)
Expected number of acres with practices implemented (EQIP and/or CSP)
EQIP
CSP
COTA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Category 1 of 5
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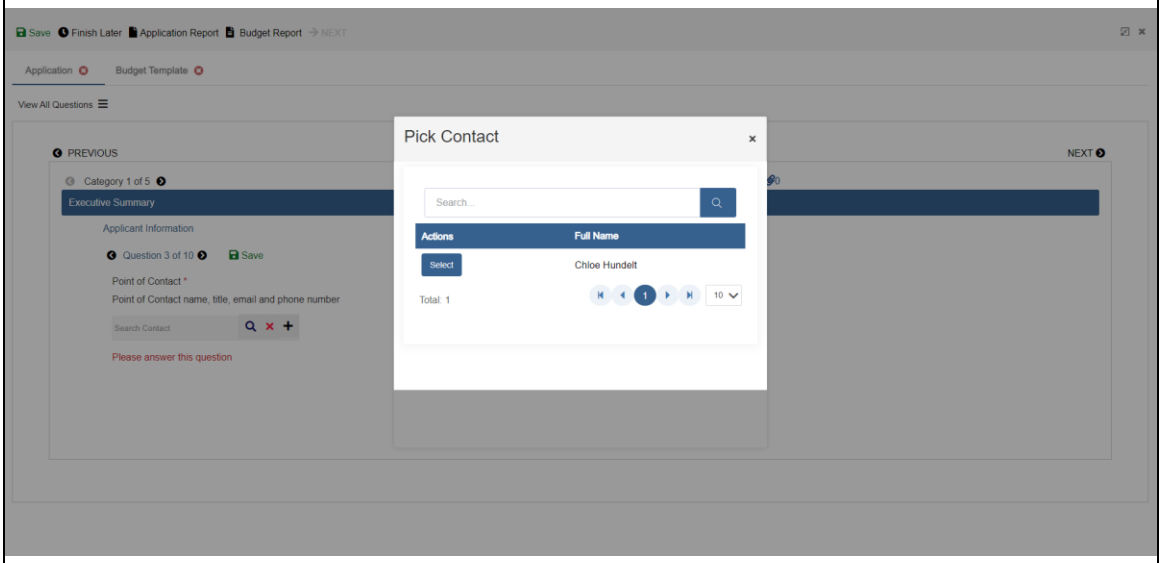
Executive Summary
Applicant Information
Question 3 of 10
Save
Point of Contact *
Point of Contact name, title, email and phone number
Search Contact
Please answer this question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Question 3 of 10
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Point of Contact name, title, email and phone number
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Pick Contact
Search...
Actions
Full Name
Select
Chloe Hundelt
Total: 1
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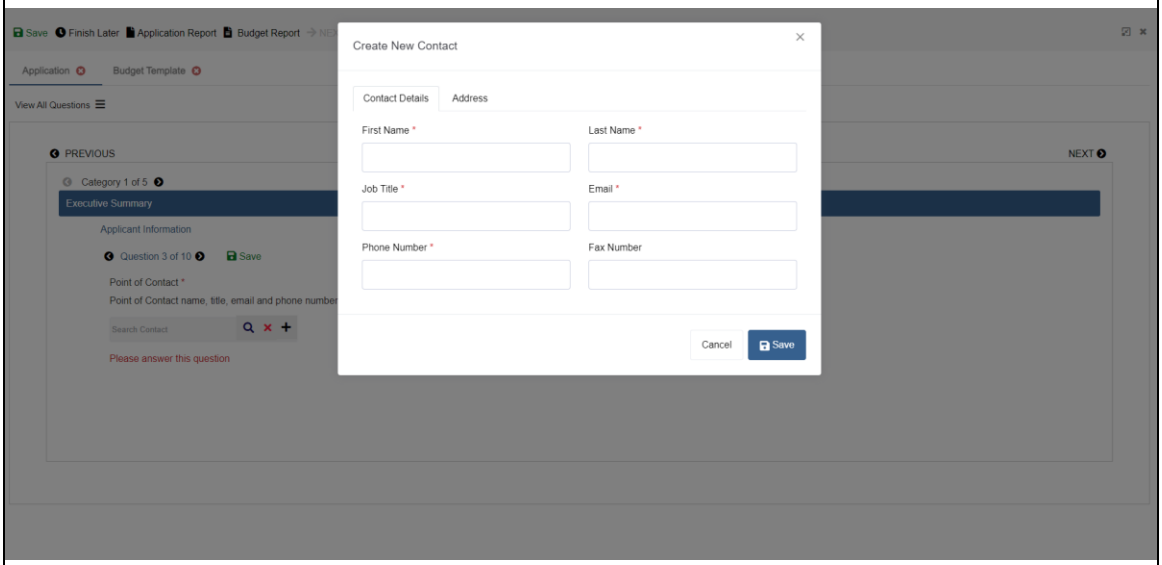
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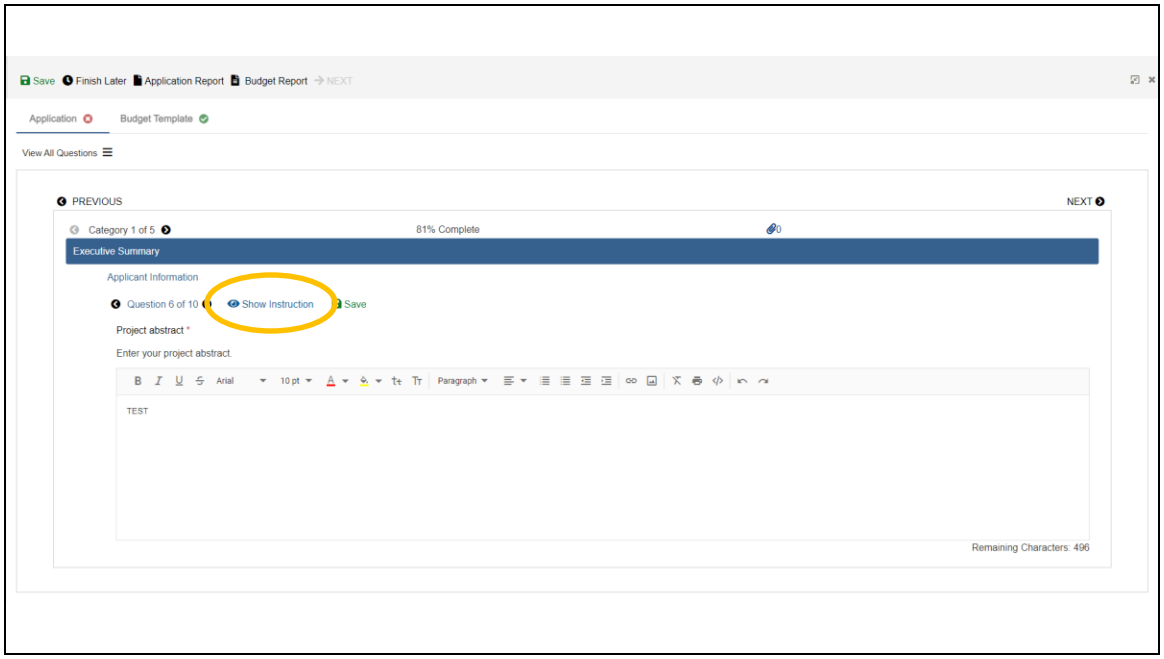
Category 1 of 5
Executive Summary
Applicant Information
Question 3 of 10
Save
Point of Contact *
Point of Contact name, title, email and phone number
Search Contact
Please answer this question
Create New Contact
Contact Details
Address
First Name *
Last Name *
Job Title *
Email *
Phone Number *
Fax Number
Cancel
Save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Category 1 of 5
81% Complete
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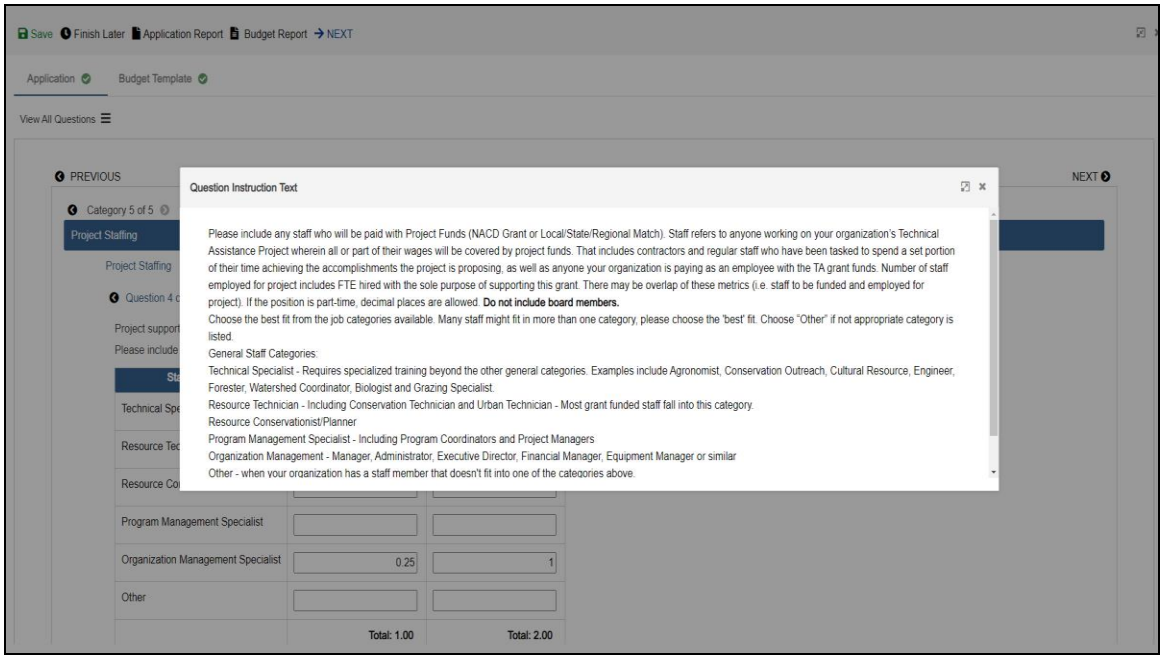
Executive Summary
Applicant Information
Question 6 of 10
Show Instruction
Save
Project abstract *
Enter your project abstract.
Arial
10 pt
Paragraph
TEST
Remaining Characters: 496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Application Report
Budget Report
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View All Questions
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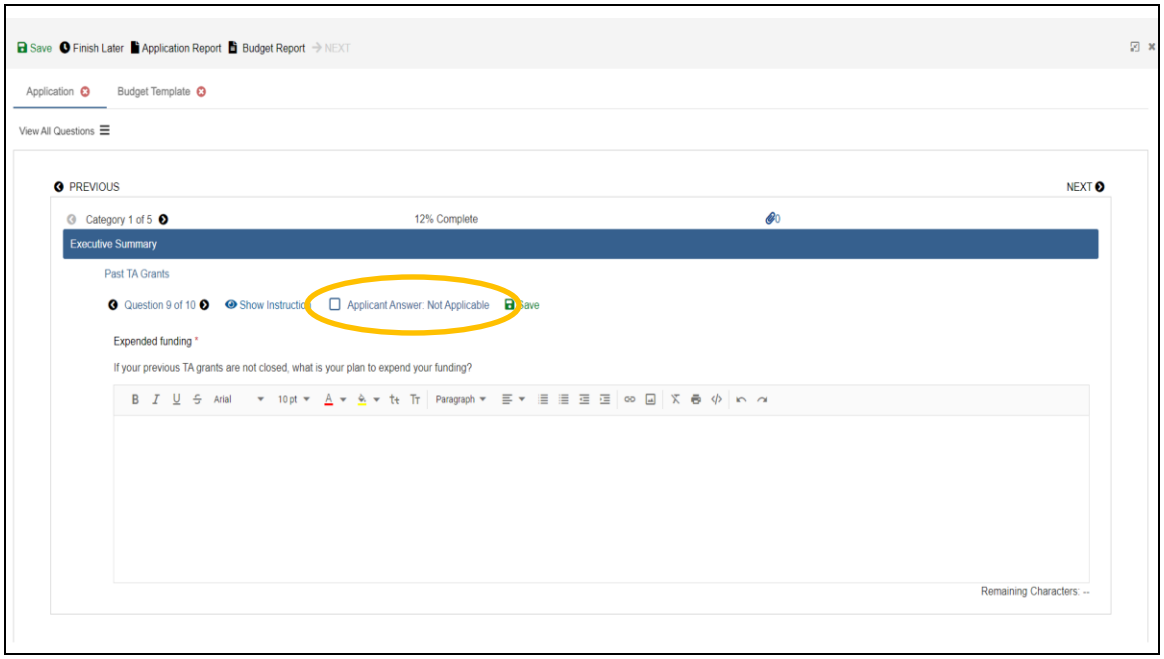
Category 5 of 5
Project Staffing
Project Staffing
Question 4 c
Project support
Please include
Technical Spe
Resource Tec
Resource Co
Program Management Specialist
Organization Management Specialist
0.25
1
Other
Total: 1.00
Total: 2.00
Question Instruction Text
Please include any staff who will be paid with Project Funds (NACD Grant or Local/State/Regional Match). Staff refers to anyone working on your organization's Technical Assistance Project wherein all or part of their wages will be covered by project funds. That includes contractors and regular staff who have been tasked to spend a set portion of their time achieving the accomplishments the project is proposing, as well as anyone your organization is paying as an employee with the TA grant funds. Number of staff employed for project includes FTE hired with the sole purpose of supporting this grant. There may be overlap of these metrics (i.e. staff to be funded and employed for project). If the position is part-time, decimal places are allowed. Do not include board members.
Choose the best fit from the job categories available. Many staff might fit in more than one category, please choose the "best" fit. Choose "Other" if not appropriate category is listed.
General Staff Categories:
Technical Specialist - Requires specialized training beyond the other general categories. Examples include Agronomist, Conservation Outreach, Cultural Resource, Engineer, Forester, Watershed Coordinator, Biologist and Grazing Specialist.
Resource Technician - Including Conservation Technician and Urban Technician - Most grant funded staff fall into this category.
Resource Conservationist/Planner
Program Management Specialist - Including Program Coordinators and Project Managers
Organization Management - Manager, Administrator, Executive Director, Financial Manager, Equipment Manager or similar
Other - when your organization has a staff member that doesn't fit into one of the categories above.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View All Questions
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Category 1 of 5
12% Complete
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Executive Summary
Past TA Grants
Question 9 of 10
Show Instructio
Applicant Answer: Not Applicable
Save
Expended funding *
If your previous TA grants are not closed, what is your plan to expend your funding?
Arial
10 pt
Paragraph
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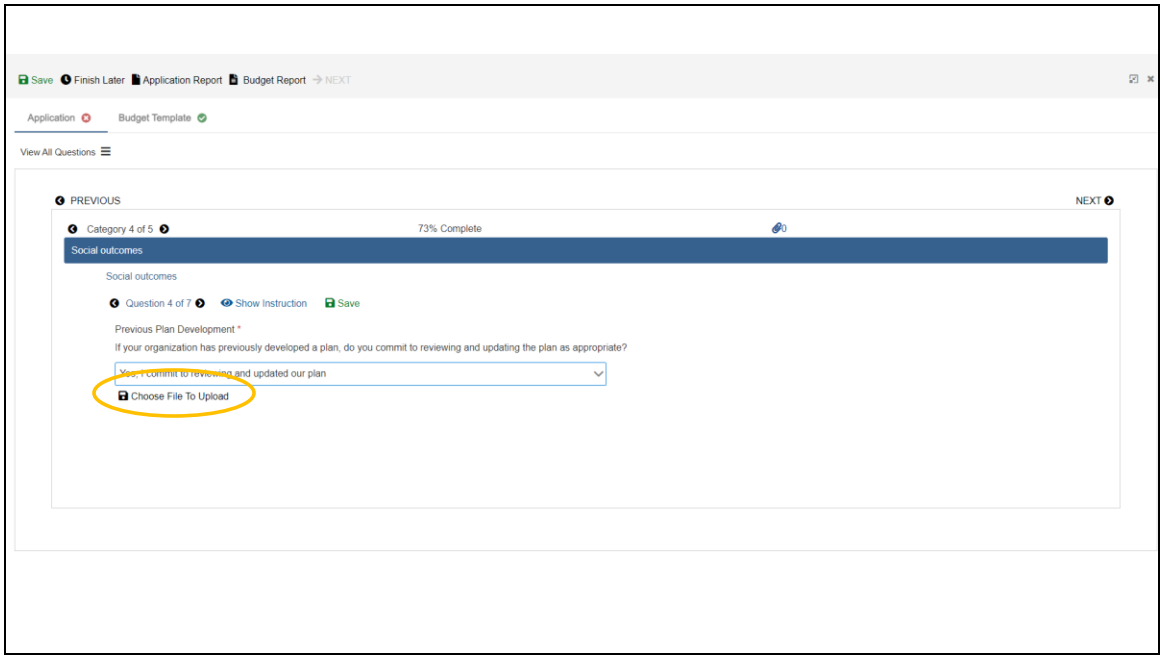
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Budget Template
View All Questions
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Category 4 of 5
73% Complete
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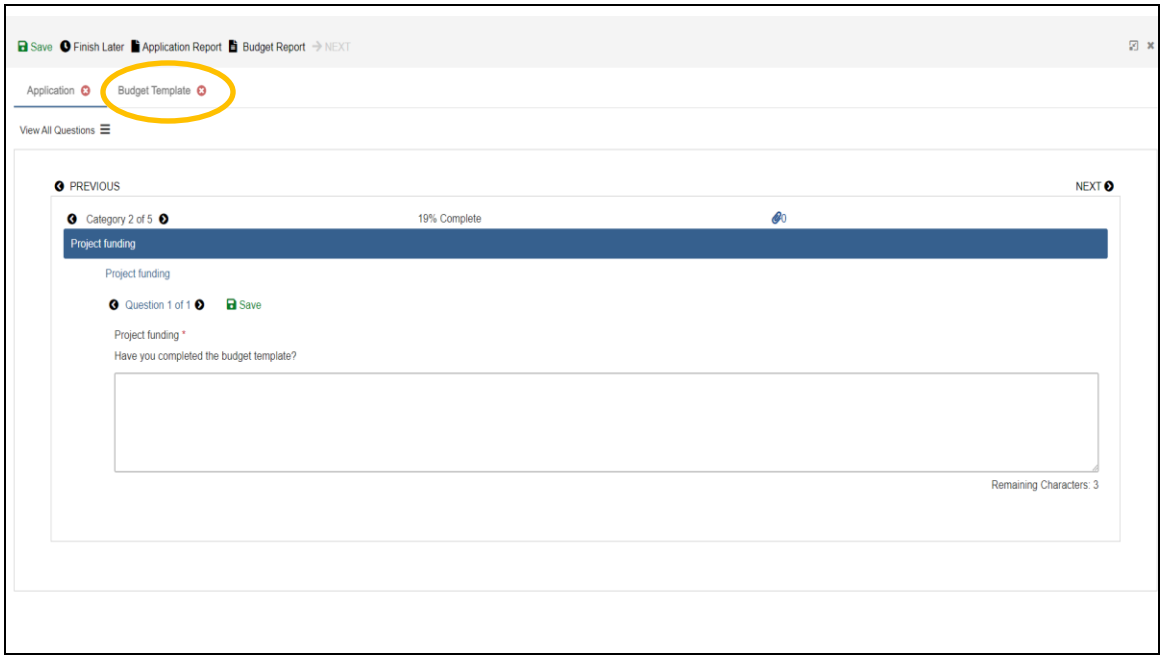
Social outcomes
Social outcomes
Question 4 of 7
Show Instruction
Save
Previous Plan Development *
If your organization has previously developed a plan, do you commit to reviewing and updating the plan as appropriate?
Yes, I commit to reviewing and updated our plan
Choose File To Upload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View All Questions
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Category 2 of 5
19% Complete
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Project funding
Project funding
Question 1 of 1
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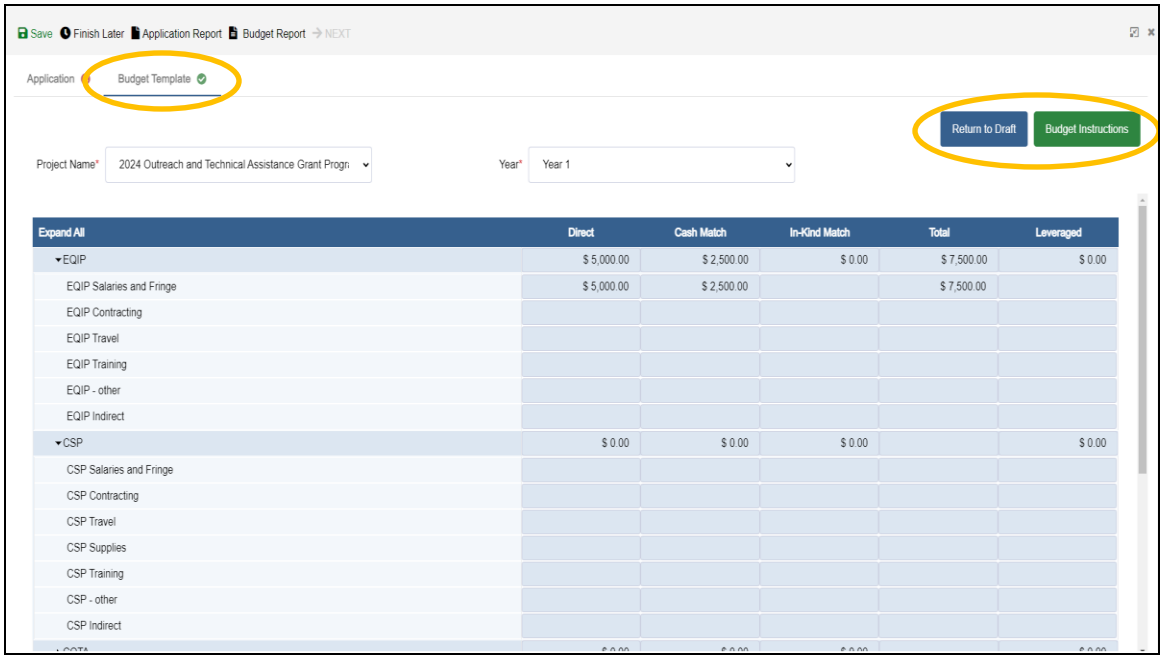
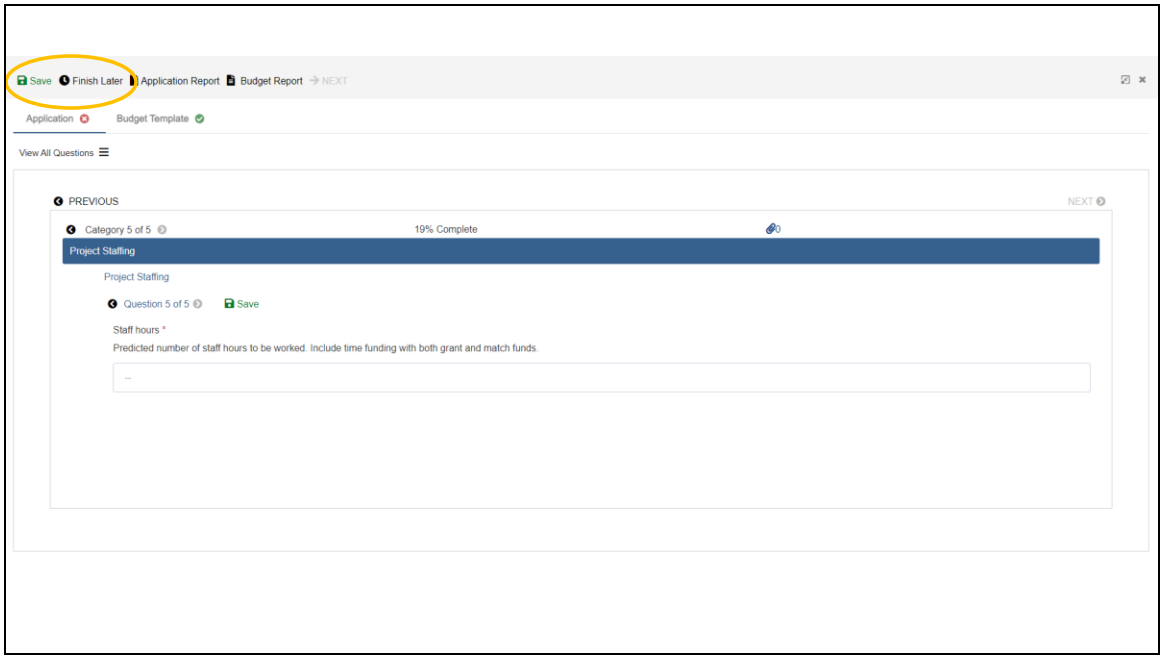
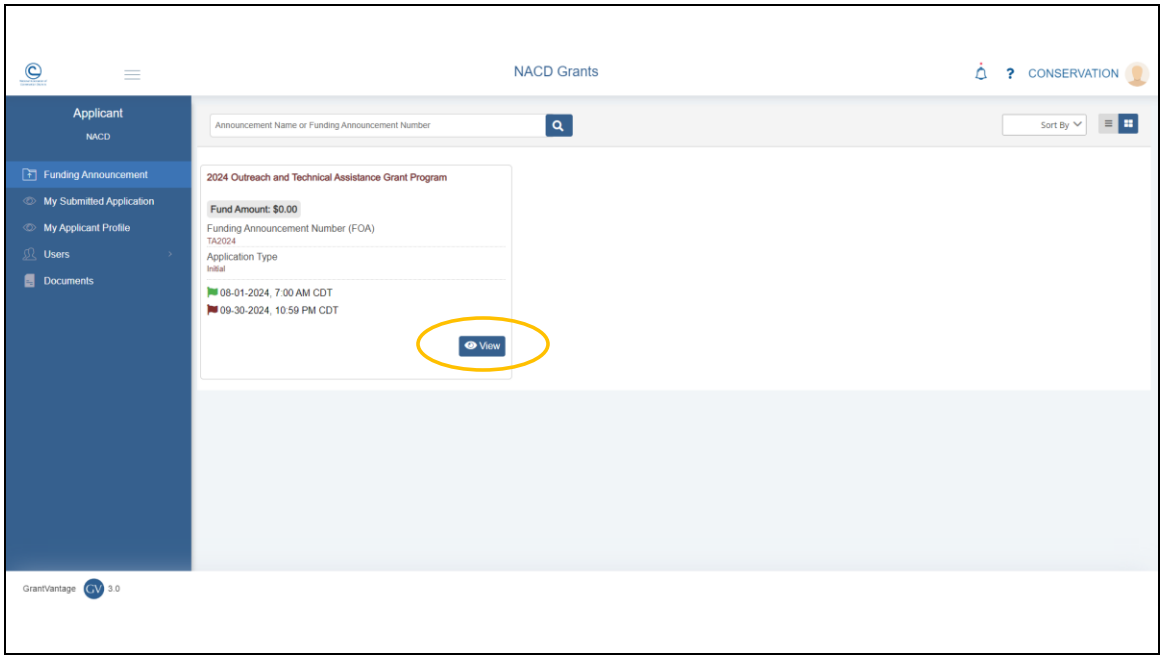
Project funding *
Have you completed the budget template?
Remaining Characters: 3


Save
Finish Later
Application Report
Budget Report
NEXT
Application
Budget Template
Return to Draft
Budget Instructions
Project Name*
2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Progr
Year*
Year 1
Expand All
Direct
Cash Match
In-Kind Match
Total
Leveraged
EQIP
$ 5,000.00
$ 2,500.00
$ 0.00
$ 7,500.00
$ 0.00
EQIP Salaries and Fringe
$ 5,000.00
$ 2,500.00
$ 7,500.00
EQIP Contracting
EQIP Travel
EQIP Training
EQIP - other
EQIP Indirect
CSP
$ 0.00
$ 0.00
$ 0.00
$ 0.00
CSP Salaries and Fringe
CSP Contracting
CSP Travel
CSP Supplies
CSP Training
CSP - other
CSP Indirect


Save
Finish Later
Application Report
Budget Report
NEXT
Application
Budget Template
View All Questions
PREVIOUS
NEXT
Category 5 of 5
19% Complete
0
Project Staffing
Project Staffing
Question 5 of 5
Save
Staff hours *
Predicted number of staff hours to be worked. Include time funding with both grant and match funds.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My Submitted Application
My Applicant Profile
Users
Documents
Announcement Name or Funding Announcement Number
Sort By
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Fund Amount: $0.00
Funding Announcement Number (FOA)
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Application Type
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09-30-2024, 10:59 PM CDT
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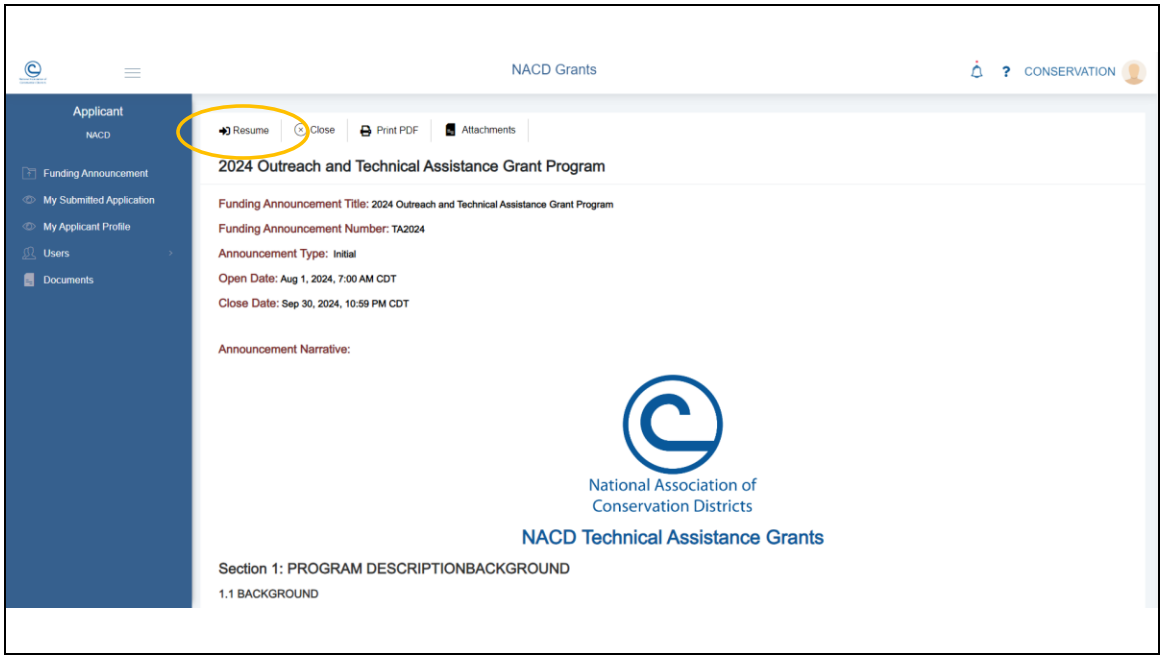
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My Applicant Profile
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Resume
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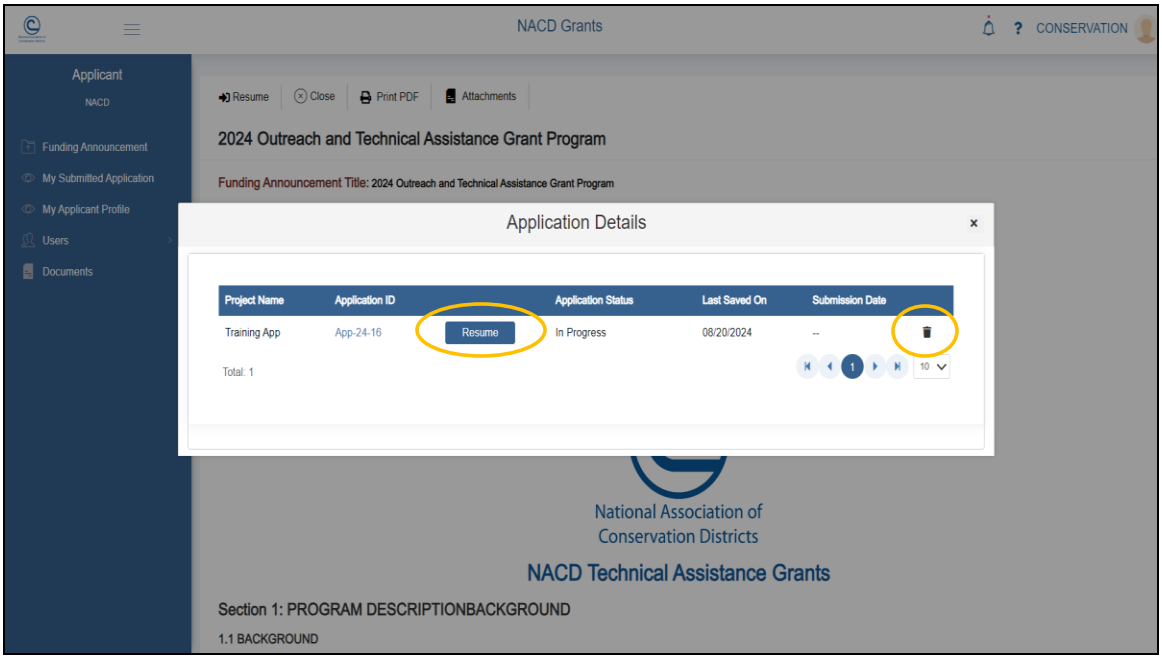
National Association of Conservation Districts
NACD Technical Assistance Grants
Section 1: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONBACKGROUND
1.1 BACKGROUND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Application Status
Last Saved On
Submission Date
Training App
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08/20/2024
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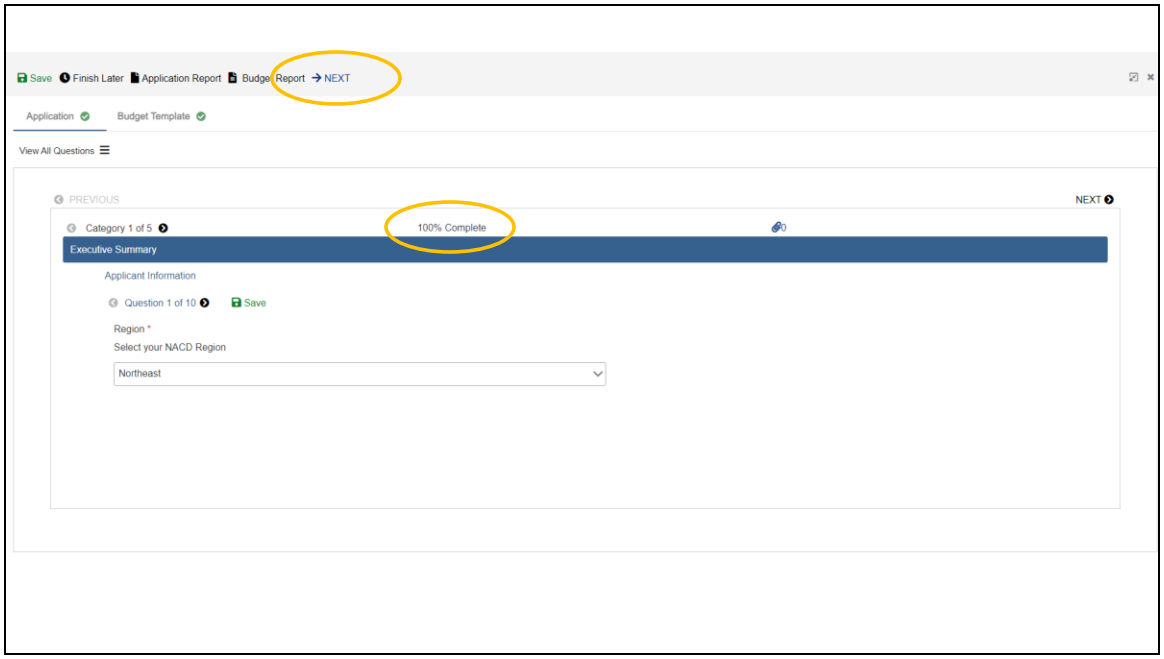
National Association of Conservation Districts
NACD Technical Assistance Grants
Section 1: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONBACKGROUND
1.1 BACKGROUND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Budget Report
NEXT
Application
Budget Template
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PREVIOUS
NEXT
Category 1 of 5
100% Complete
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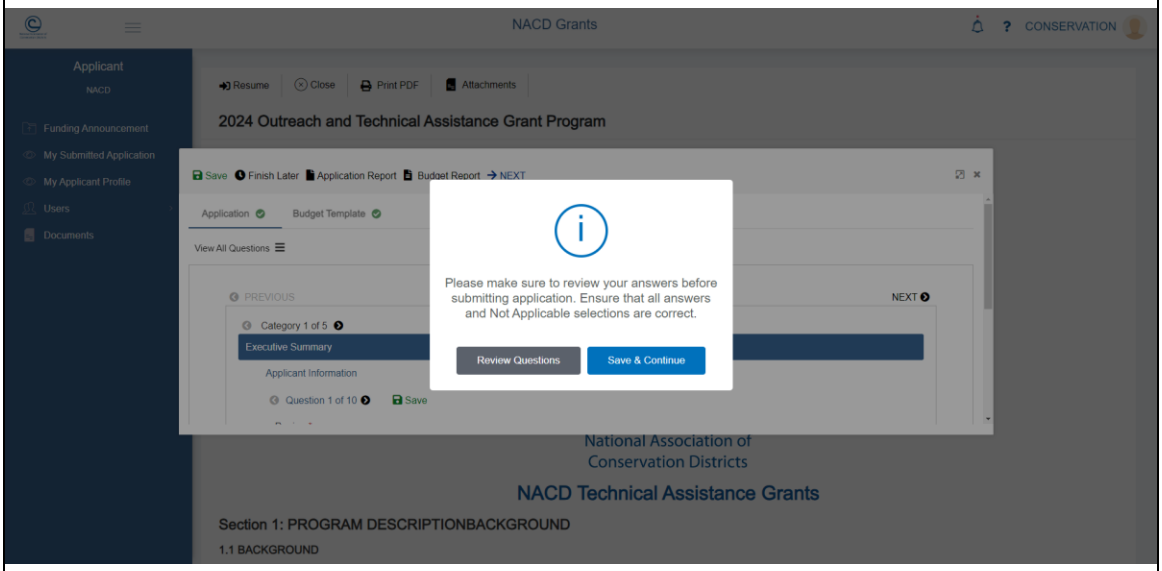
Executive Summary
Applicant Information
Question 1 of 10
Save
Region *
Select your NACD Region
Northeast


NACD Grants
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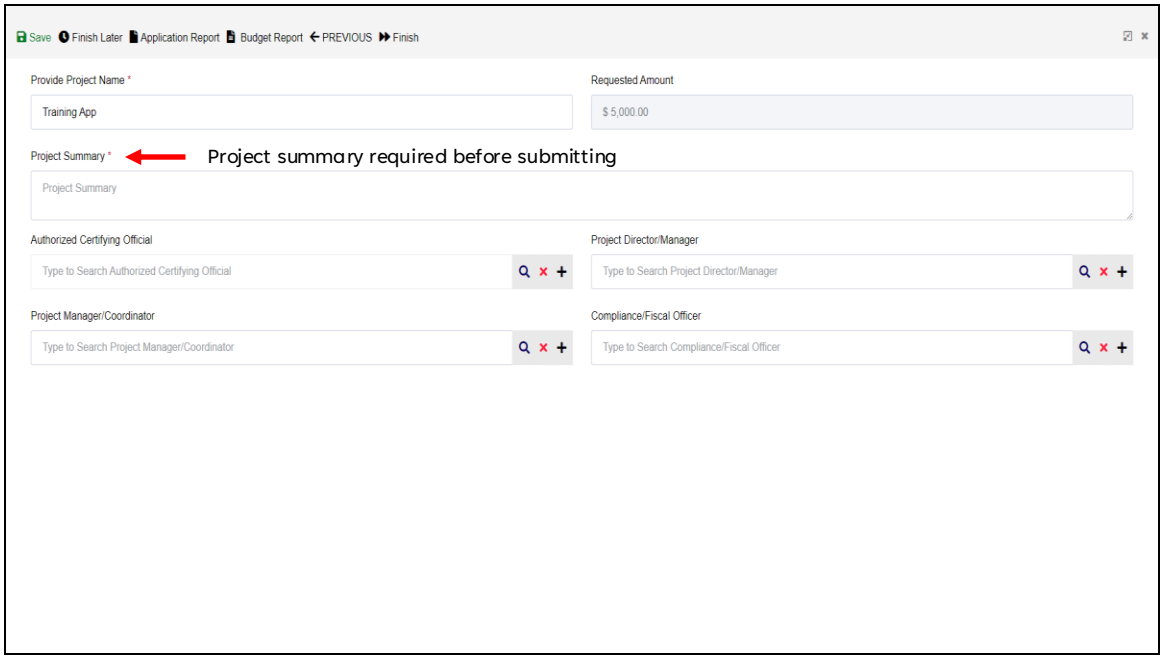
2024 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant Program
Save
Finish Later
Application Report
Budget Report
NEXT
Application
Budget Template
View All Questions
PREVIOUS
NEXT
Category 1 of 5
Executive Summary
Applicant Information
Question 1 of 10
Save
Please make sure to review your answers before submitting application. Ensure that all answers and Not Applicable selections are correct.
Review Questions
Save & Continue
National Association of Conservation Districts
NACD Technical Assistance Grants
Section 1: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONBACKGROUND
1.1 BACKGROUND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Training App
Requested Amount
$ 5,000.00
Project Summary *
Project summary required before submitting
Project Summary
Authorized Certifying Official
Type to Search Authorized Certifying Official
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Type to Search Project Director/Manager
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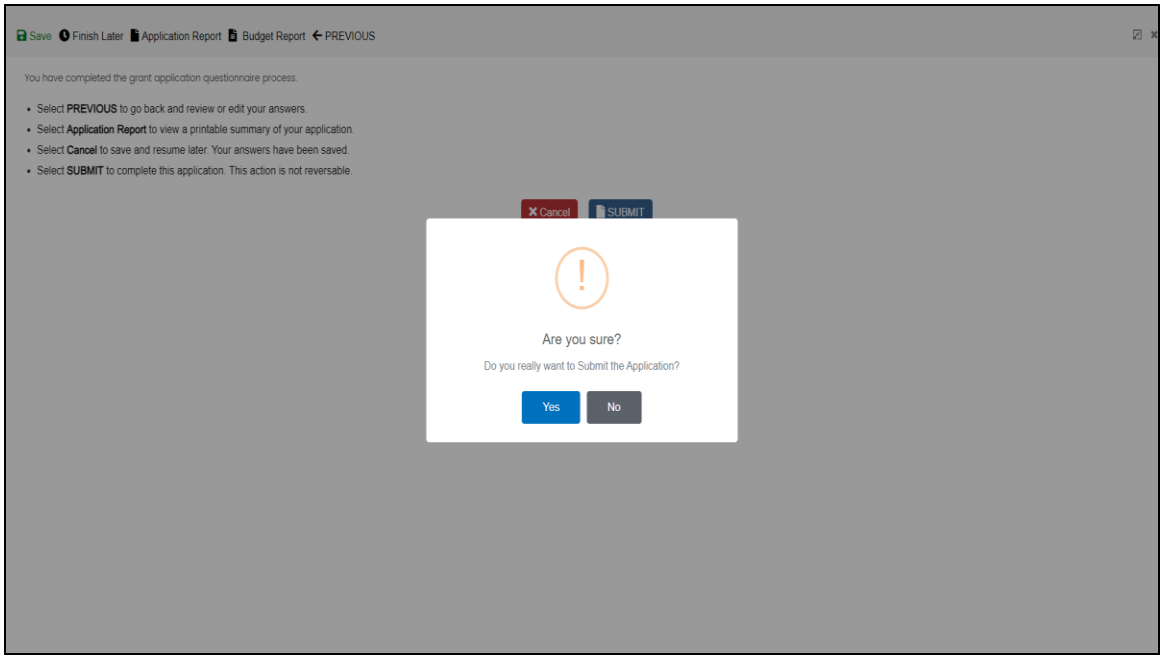
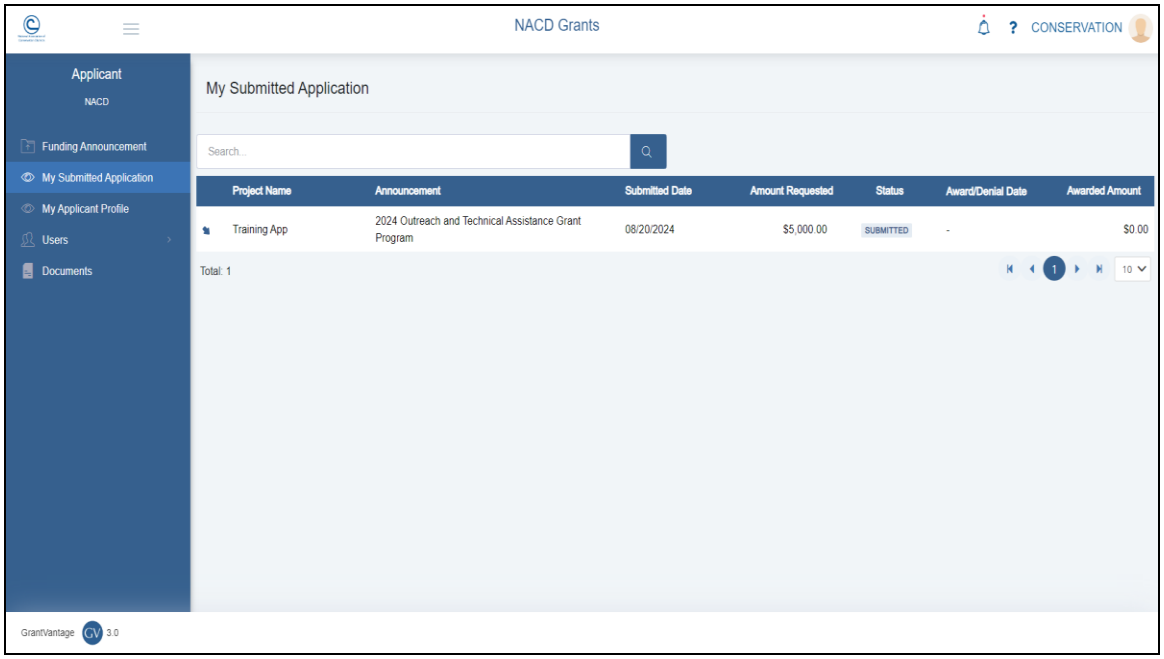

Save
Finish Later
Application Report
Budget Report
PREVIOUS
You have completed the grant application questionnaire process.
Select PREVIOUS to go back and review or edit your answers.
Select Application Report to view a printable summary of your application.
Select Cancel to save and resume later. Your answers have been saved.
Select SUBMIT to complete this application. This action is not reversable.
Cancel
SUBMIT
Are you sure?
Do you really want to Submit the Application?
Yes
No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My Submitted Application
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Project Name
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Amount Requested
Status
Award/Denial Date
Awarded Amount
Training App
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08/20/2024
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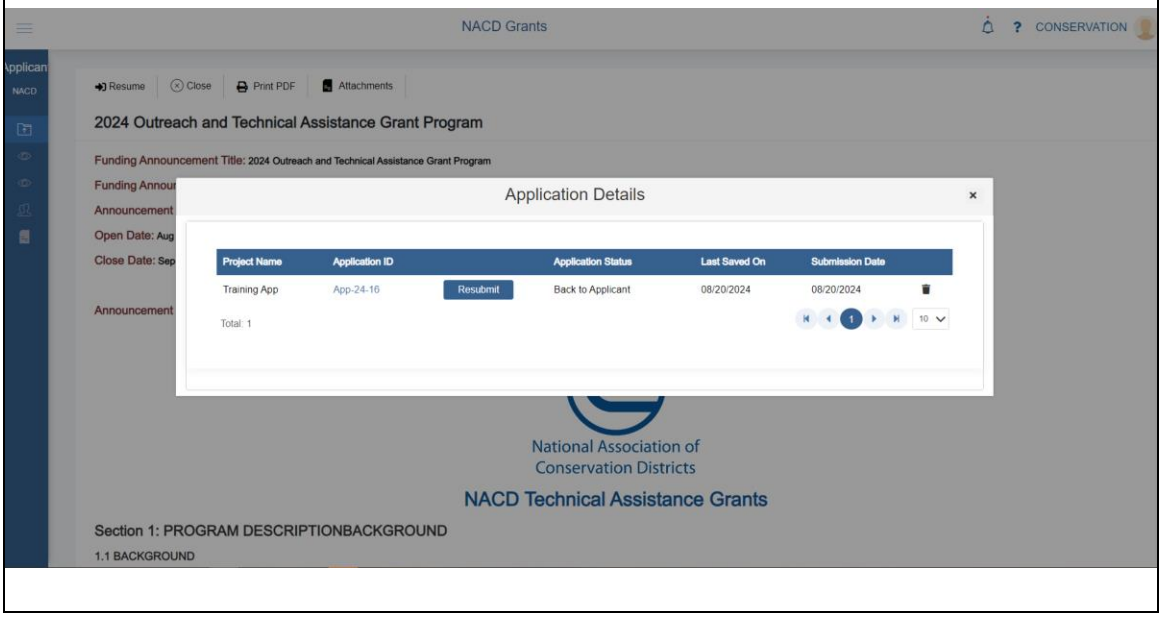
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Resume
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Application Details
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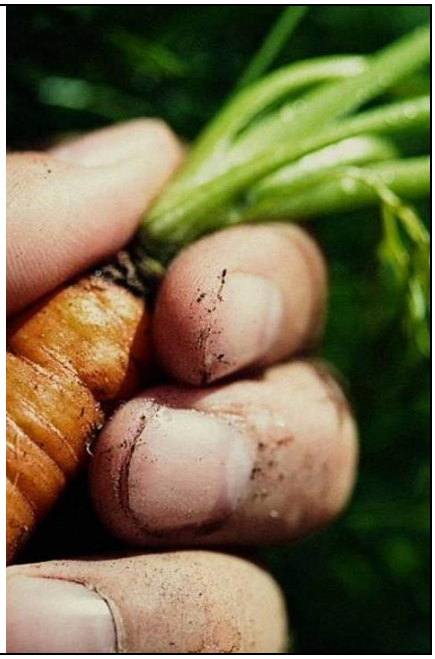
Training App
App-24-16
Resubmit
Back to Applicant
08/20/2024
Total: 1
National Association of Conservation Districts
NACD Technical Assistance Grants
Section 1: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONBACKGROUND
1.1 BACKGROUND

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The applications will be evaluated based on:

- ***Alignment to local conservation priorities and needs (40 pts)***
- ***Strength and clarity of applicant's plan to (40 pts)***:
  - Advance equity and environmental justice within their respective communities
  - Impact on Tribal and historically underserved producers
  - Develop/strengthen partnerships, conduct outreach, and enroll new and historically underserved producers in NRCS programs
- ***Feasibility of targets/metrics and ability to equitably advance NRCS programs and increase participation of historically underserved producers (10 pts)***
- ***Past performance (grantee's compliance with past TA grants and MOA requirements – applicable to previous grantees only) (5 pts)***
- ***Budget (cost effectiveness and source(s) of match) (5 pts)***



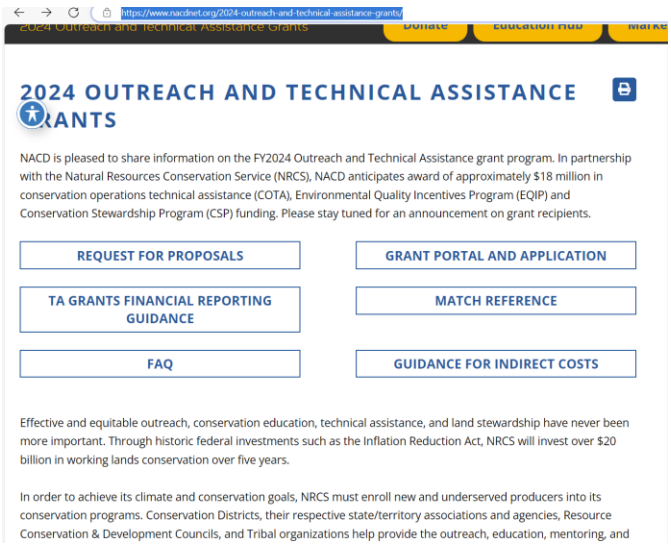
Alignment to local conservation priorities and needs **(40 pts)**

- This includes state/territory leaders' assessment of anticipated EQIP and CSP workloads relative to NRCS and conservation district staffing levels

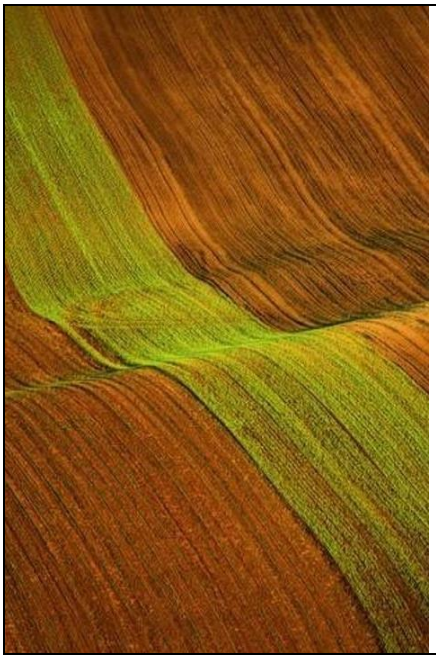
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY

- ***Applicants must include in their application a Statement on Equity and Environmental Justice (250 words max)***
  - Applicants shall describe their organization's statement and philosophy on equity and environmental justice.
- ***Include in their application an explanation of Local Priorities/Needs and Targeted Outreach (1000 words max)***
  - Applicants shall discuss local conservation priorities and how the project will fulfill the community's needs

Please see the RFP for more details



https://www.nacdnet.org/2024-outreach-and-technical-assistance-grants/



QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

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