

# 2026 Recycle Ohio Grant Program

# **Academic Institution Grant**

## **Academic Institution Grant Eligible Projects**

Public and private K-12 schools, colleges, and universities may receive funding for recycling efforts as well as outreach and education, recycling equipment, and conference sponsorships. If awarded, grantees have 24 months to complete the project.

Project Category	Maximum Grant Request	Match	Project Examples (examples are illustrative and not all-inclusive)
Scrap Tire for Civil Engineering/Construction Projects	\$300,000	100%	Projects using scrap tires for drainage, backfill in construction projects or paving initiatives in civil engineering projects. Construction of trails, walkways, or ramps utilizing scrap tire material or use of pavers made of scrap tire material (ground tire rubber). *Grant period is 24 months (April 1 through March 30).
Recycling Equipment	\$200,000	25%	Equipment for collecting and processing of recyclable material (cardboard, glass, metal, plastic, etc.), including bagging units, balers, containers, conveyors, grinding units, optical sorters, plastic extrusion systems, printing and production materials, pulping units, screening equipment, signage, and trucks.
Drop-off Recycling	\$200,000	25%	New or expansion of existing drop-off recycling including equipment (trucks and machinery) and recycle containers.
Organic Material Diversion	\$200,000	25%	Equipment for the collection, reuse, or recycling of organic material. Includes equipment for food rescue such as trucks, freezers, carts, wagons, and bins. Also includes equipment for composting such as bagging units, conveyors, drying units in-vessel composting units, screening tools, and signage.
Special Venue Recycling	\$75,000	25%	Recycling equipment, materials, and supplies for special venues and events. Cardboard containers, clear stream containers, permanent containers (ex. recycling bins) signage, litter disposal.
Outreach and Education Training	\$75,000	25%	Materials for outreach and education (printing, design, and/or production of recycling educational materials).
Litter Clean-up Events	\$50,000	25%	Equipment, materials, supplies for litter collection events on public property (bags, gloves, litter grabbers, safety vests, signage, disposal fees, printing/marketing, event truck, and dumpster rental).
Conference Sponsorships and Assistance	\$5,000	25%	Conference room rental, AV equipment, printing production, registration materials, name badges, agendas, conference registration software.

#### **Combination Grant Requests**

A single application may include a combination of grant requests. For example, drop-off containers and outreach and education may be included in one application. Combination grant requests will be evaluated as a single application, not by the individual activities. A combination grant request is eligible if:

- requested total amount equals \$100,000 or less
- does not include scrap tire civil engineering/construction projects and source reduction equipment

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Allowable Costs	Unallowable Costs
Equipment	Non-reimbursable costs
<ul> <li>Purchase of equipment</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Costs not identified under Allowable Costs</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Purchase or rental of equipment, tools, and supplies</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Employees' salaries, benefits, or administrative costs</li> </ul>
for litter cleanups	<ul> <li>Financial services and grant writing fees</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Safety and awareness signage</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Food or entertainment expenses, including</li> </ul>
Other (Goods and Services)	procurement of coolers, grills, etc.
<ul> <li>Disposal fees for litter collection projects</li> </ul>	Bulk fuel for transportation or equipment.
<ul> <li>Produce, print, and distribute advertising and</li> </ul>	Land acquisition
awareness materials	<ul> <li>Payment to individuals, crews, volunteers, or</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Purchase litter clean-up awareness items such as</li> </ul>	organizations to pick up litter
t-shirts, reusable bags, magnets, etc.	<ul> <li>Website development and maintenance.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Purchase tools and supplies necessary to implement</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Unmanned aerial vehicles (drones)</li> </ul>
the project	Non-reimbursable activities
<ul> <li>Sponsorships</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>In-kind donations as part of match</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Site improvements for scrap tire civil</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Replacing operational funds with grant funding</li> </ul>
engineering/construction projects	<ul> <li>Litter collection projects conducted on private</li> </ul>
Personal Services Contract	property
<ul> <li>Contracts covering the costs necessary for services of</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Materials not generally found in the municipal solid</li> </ul>

#### **Additional Information**

Those eligible to apply include the following:

public or private contractors related to the project

 Municipal corporations, counties, townships, villages, solid waste management districts or authorities, park districts, health districts, state agencies, statewide recycling and litter prevention trade organizations, and non- profit organizations

waste stream

When are applications accepted?

• Ohio EPA will accept applications October 7, 2024, through December 6, 2024. Grants are awarded on an annual basis and will be awarded on April 1, 2025. The application process for this funding program is highly competitive.

#### **Other Considerations**

- A 25 percent match is required (match is calculated as a percentage of the grant request)
- Financial match must be a cash or credit. Using "in kind" and funds from other grant programs is prohibited
- Grant period is 24 months (April 1 through March 30) and 24 months for scrap tire/civil engineering projects
- Grant and match funds must be spent within the grant period
- No outstanding financial or environmental compliance issues with applicant
- No partial awards are issued
- If awarded, timeline extensions and/or additional grant funds are not allowable
- If awarded, initial payment of 50 percent is released on April 1 and remaining funds are released after a completed electronic closeout report is submitted and approved by Ohio EPA
- Applications and grant closeout reports are submitted online at <a href="https://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/apply">https://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/apply</a>

For more information, please visit recycleohio.gov or contact us at recycle@epa.ohio.gov.