Environmental Protection Agency

2027 Recycle Ohio Grant Program

Ohio EPA's Recycle Ohio Grant program supports communities, businesses, and academic institutions that initiate or expand recycling programs, encourage sustainable practices, stimulate economic growth, and support litter prevention efforts through five different grants.

Community and Litter Grant

Local governments and nonprofits can receive funding to purchase equipment for the collection and processing of recyclables and construction and demolition debris. These organizations can also receive funding to implement litter collection events, outreach, and education. Tire amnesty programs, with a required minimum $0.50/tire collection fee, are an eligible activity. Grantees have 24 months to complete the project.

Academic Institution Grant

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. Funds are also available to complete beneficial use projects that incorporate the use of ground tire rubber. Grantees have 24 months to complete the project.

Source Reduction Grant

Public and private K-12 schools, colleges, universities, local governments, and non-profits can receive funds to purchase equipment promoting reuse practices. Grant funds may be used to purchase equipment such as water bottle refilling stations, dishwashers, and hand dryers. Installation, maintenance, and labor are not eligible costs under the grant and must be covered by the grantee. Grantees have 12 months to complete the project.

Market Development Grant

This grant provides Ohio businesses (for example, manufacturers, recyclers, material processors, etc.) opportunities to create or expand recycling processing capacity and recycled material production. This includes funding for equipment specifically needed to remanufacture recyclable materials into bulk raw material or finished product. This grant requires the business to have a government sponsor. Grant funds are reimbursed only after project completion through the government sponsor. Grantees have 24 months to complete the project.

Scrap Tire Grant

This grant program offers Ohio businesses (for example, manufacturers, scrap tire recovery facilities, material processors) funding to create or expand scrap tire processing capacity and product manufacturing. Funds are also available for local governments and nonprofits to complete beneficial use projects that incorporate the use of ground tire rubber. Business applicants must have a government sponsor. Grant funds for business applicants are reimbursed only after project completion through the government sponsor. Grantees have 24 months to complete the project.

For more detailed information regarding these five grants, please refer to the individual grant type factsheets.

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When are applications accepted?

Ohio EPA will accept applications September 14, 2026, through November 6, 2026. Grants are awarded on an annual basis. The grant timeframe to implement projects will be April 1, 2027, to March 31, 2029, for all grant types except source reduction, which runs from April 1, 2027, to March 31, 2028. The application process for this funding program is highly competitive.

Who is eligible to apply?

Provided they are in good financial standing with the State and have no outstanding environmental compliance issues, the following Ohio groups are eligible to apply: schools; counties; health departments; municipal corporations; non-profits; park districts; private sector businesses; solid waste management authorities and districts; state agencies; townships; and villages. Private sector businesses must have a government sponsor.

What is Ohio EPA's funding criteria?

Criteria for successful grants includes, but are not limited to:

- Consistency with the strategic goals of local and state solid waste management plans
- Financial need
- No outstanding financial or environmental compliance issues
- Positive regional or statewide economic and environmental impact
- Project readiness

Where do I apply?

Application must be filled out online at ***https://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/apply***.

What funding is available? Do these grants require a financial match?

Ohio EPA grant funds vary from year to year. The financial match must be a cash or credit contribution. Using "in kind" or funds from other grant programs is prohibited. The table below shows the anticipated grant amounts and required match levels for 2026.

Grant Type	Amount Available	Required Match
Community and Litter	Up to $200,000	25%
Academic Institution*	Up to $200,000*	25%*
Source Reduction	Up to $10,000	0%
Market Development	Up to $200,000	100%
Scrap Tire	Up to $300,000	100%

** Funding for construction projects using Ground Tire Rubber is also available up to $300,000, with a 100 percent match.*

What information do I need when applying?

Depending on the project, the applicant will need to supply the following information.

- Applicant/Authorized Official/Project Contact Information
- An executive summary of the project
- Budget narrative and details
- Description of project related activities/events with anticipated completion dates and project timeline
- Description of project readiness to proceed
- Define your project site operation and project impact
- Description of collection and processing method and diversion rate, as applicable
- Identify all required Ohio EPA permits and licenses secured for the project
- Description of long-term operational and financial project commitment
- Demonstration of financial need

- Explain the current recycling and waste trends impacting the community or organization
- Explain how the project supports the strategic goals of the local and state solid waste management plans
- Metrics used to measure and evaluate the project
- A plan to educate and outreach to customers and stakeholders to promote project activities
- Identify committed partners, including volunteers and other participants, donated goods, and services, etc.
- Businesses must provide financial documentation (sales projections, return on investment, bank letter, credit rating report, profit and loss or income statements)
- Tire Amnesty projects must provide a Collection Fee Ordinance or Resolution
- Discuss the business product distribution, primary product lines, and market potential related to the project
- Explain the current industry trends impacting the community or organization and how the project addresses them
- Explain how the project will acknowledge Ohio EPA's financial participation
- Equipment quotes and specifications, as applicable

More Information

Visit the ***Recycle Ohio Grant program webpage*** or email ***recycle@epa.ohio.gov*** for questions.