

MICHIGAN MATERIALS MANAGEMENT COUNTY ENGAGEMENT GRANT Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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1. What is the purpose of the Materials Management County Engagement (MMCE) Grant?
The intent of the MMCE grants is to encourage counties and regions to begin thinking about materials management, instead of solid waste management, in preparation for changes in the Part 115 amendments and/or a plan update.

2. What is the Grant Application and what is the Grant Agreement?

Grant Application: The Grant Application is the application for funding that is completed through Survey Monkey. Documentation from each county designating the DPA for this grant period is required. For regional collaboration, signed approval documentation of each county's Administration is required; which may include the following: Board of Commissioners (BOC) meeting approval or resolution; letter from the County Administrator, and other entities approved by the department on a case-by-case basis.

Grant Agreement: Once the Grant Application is submitted and reviewed by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), this agreement will be sent to the DPA. This will include official contract and boilerplate language. At this time, if the county(ies) does not agree to the terms/activities, the county(ies) can rescind the application without penalty. Once the agreement is finalized, monies will be distributed.

3. When is grant documentation due?

The Grant Application due date has **been extended and is now due AUGUST 15, 2022**. EGLE recommends submitting the application as soon as possible to begin the grant agreement process. Final deliverable reports are due 12-months after the Grant Agreement is executed, unless an extension is requested and approved.

4. Is the MMCE Grant a reimbursement grant? Are invoices required?

No. The MMCE Grant is NOT a reimbursement grant; it is a **pass-through** grant. This means that 90% of funding will be dispersed to the coordinating DPA once the grant agreement is completed and the other 10% will be dispersed after the final deliverable report is submitted and agreed upon as complete by EGLE.

EGLE is not requiring invoices, but county(ies) could send invoices to the coordinating DPA if this is the means of funding disbursement agreed upon by the county(ies)/BOC.

5. If counties enter into this regional grant opportunity, are they required to create a Regional County Plan?

No, counties that participate in this regional grant opportunity will not be required to develop a regional county plan. EGLE is encouraging regional collaboration for these grants. A goal of this grant is to determine feasibility of a regional plan. EGLE understands that this will not be feasible for all regions.

6. How does a single county apply?

First, an authorized signer on behalf of the county must assign a DPA contact for this grant. This DPA can, but is not required to, be the official DPA for current Solid Waste Management Planning purposes.

Second, the DPA must complete the grant application. The DPA will be required to submit documentation of materials management discussions determining the feasibility of regional collaboration and County Administration approval (see #2 for complete list).

Third, the DPA will complete the grant agreement and agree to complete all activities. Once signed, monies will be distributed, and grant activities can begin.

7. How does a multi-county apply with an established entity/SIGMA ID Number?

First, ONE DPA contact must be assigned by authorized signers of each county to coordinate regional activities for this grant. This DPA can, but is not required to, be the official DPA for current Solid Waste Management Planning purposes.

Second, the DPA must complete the grant application. If the applicant has a Federal ID number, they will receive the full funding on behalf of all collaborating counties. The DPA will be responsible for the application as well as dispersing necessary funds to each county to complete the tasks outlined in this grant. Counties should negotiate funding allocation with the DPA prior to signing the grant agreement. This could be outlined in the required BOC documentation or through a standalone agreement.

Third, the DPA will complete the grant agreement and agree to complete all activities. Once signed, monies will be distributed and grant activities can begin.

8. How does a multi-county apply without an established entity/SIGMA ID Number?

SIGMA is the State of Michigan system used for managing transactions with payees, vendors, and grantees. If the DPA does not have a SIGMA ID Number, a grant application must be submitted for each county. Each application must assign the same DPA.

OR

The selected DPA can apply to obtain a SIGMA ID Number with a Federal ID number.

For more information on how to obtain a SIGMA ID Number, please visit the [State of Michigan's SIGMA Vendor Self Service \(VSS\) webpage](#).

9. What is the status of the Part 115 statutory amendments introduced to the Legislature?

The Part 115 amendments have been passed in the House but are currently in the Senate's Regulatory and Reforms Committee. EGLE has not been informed of a timeframe for when these bills might move through the Senate.

For more information, visit the [Michigan Solid Waste and Recycling Advisors webpage \(Michigan.gov/SWRA\)](https://www.michigan.gov/SWRA).

Stay up to date by [subscribing to EGLE's Solid Waste Laws Amendments GovDelivery list](#).

10. If the Part 115 statutory amendments do not pass, will County and/or Regional Plan updates be requested?

As a state, Michigan understands the importance of shifting from solid waste management to materials management. Current Solid Waste Management Plans are outdated and need to be updated. If Part 115 does not get passed in the Senate, EGLE is discussing the need to call for plan updates.

11. Are there requirements or limitations on how funding can be used?

Monies are not restricted but should be used to accomplish the required tasks outlined in this grant. If completion of the requirements is not met, grant monies are forfeited and must be returned to the State of Michigan. The county's ability to complete these activities will affect the applicant's ability to receive future materials management plan funding.

Please note that EGLE understands the requirement for funding, especially to rural counties, is imperative to making the shift from solid waste to materials management. Counties will be expected to complete all required tasks. If a county and/or region is having difficulty completing these tasks, please reach out to EGLE planning staff to determine a resolution.

12. My county and/or region is struggling to meet the 2/3 municipal participation rate. Is this a mandatory participation rate?

The purpose of this grant is to engage counties and local governments; EGLE requires the DPA to contact all municipalities but understands that not all municipalities will participate. The final deliverable will require documentation of these communications. If 2/3 municipal participation cannot be met, it will not adversely impact the county's or region's ability to receive further funding so long as the attempted communications have been documented.

13. Does the DPA for this grant have to be the official DPA for the County and/or Regional Plan?

The DPA assigned to this grant can, but is not required to, be the official DPA for current Solid Waste Management Planning purposes.

14. For Regional MMCE Grants, is the DPA responsible for coordinating activities on behalf of all counties?

Yes, the regional DPA will be the party responsible for receiving funds, coordinating activities by county, and compiling the final deliverable report. The DPA will be responsible for dispersing necessary funds to each county to complete the tasks outlined in this grant. Counties should negotiate funding allocation with the DPA *prior* to signing the grant agreement. This could be outlined in the required County Administration approval (see #2 for complete list) documentation or through a standalone agreement.

15. One grant activity is to act as a point of contact for the Mega Data Project. What does that mean?

The DPA will be required to:

- Serve as the contact for their county regarding the Mega Data Project. To learn more about the Mega Data Project, go to Michigan.gov/EGLEMegaData.
- Assist in validating data and information collected by Resource Recycling Systems (RRS) by reviewing each relevant county profile prepared by RRS.
- Attend available webinars or trainings on materials management.
- Send verification via email to RRS once the county profile review is completed.

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