



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

Water Resources Division

State High Water Infrastructure Grants 2026 Special Request for Proposals

Introduction

Under Section 1006 of PA 87 of 2021, the Michigan Legislature appropriated \$14.35 million to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) for a grant program to provide infrastructure and planning grants that directly address the impacts and vulnerabilities presented by severe weather events, with a focus on projects that address flooding, coastline erosion, urban heat, and stormwater management. This special request for proposals is to distribute approximately \$800,000.00 of unspent grant funds from the 2023 funding appropriations.

Eligibility

Regional councils of government and local units of government are eligible to apply. A local unit of government may act as a primary project sponsor and fiduciary for a grant that includes partnerships or consortiums with other public or nonprofit organizations. Applicants must demonstrate that their project will address the impacts and vulnerabilities presented by high-water and severe weather events.

Eligible Activities

Funding is available statewide and restricted to infrastructure and planning projects that directly address the impacts and vulnerabilities presented by high-water and severe weather events (e.g., projects that address flooding, coastline erosion, urban heat, and stormwater management). Eligibility of activities will be project-specific and determined on a case-by-case basis. Any activities or costs not directly related to the proposed project or costs incurred outside of the project period are not eligible. Eligible activities include:

- Development of local or regional plans that recommend strategies, policies, or programs to address the impacts and vulnerabilities presented by high-water and severe weather events while protecting the natural coastal processes. This activity is a priority.

- Updating local planning documents to consider high-water levels, resiliency to the dynamic nature of the Great Lakes, infrastructure risk assessments, or nature-based solutions to address flooding, coastline erosion, urban heat, or stormwater management.
- Development of feasibility studies, engineering designs, or implementation of nature-based solutions or relocation of at-risk infrastructure and/or assets to address resiliency and preparedness, or address flooding, coastline erosion, urban heat, or stormwater management.
- Development or implementation of resiliency projects for stormwater management, including restored and constructed wetlands, stream/floodplain connectivity restoration, or other green infrastructure.
- Development or implementation of habitat or shoreline restoration projects that directly address the impacts and vulnerabilities presented by high-water and severe weather events, including removing hardened structures such as seawalls, revetments, or groins to restore natural coastal processes.

Application Requirements

The maximum grant amount allowable per applicant for this special funding opportunity is \$450,000 with a required minimum of 20 percent matching funds. The grant award start date is anticipated as early as June 1, 2026, with a project period 12, 18, not to exceed 24-months.

The total grant award will be based on reasonably estimated costs and documentation provided by the grantee at the time of application. The grant will operate on a reimbursement basis, with work reported quarterly. Expenses must be based on costs incurred and paid and associated invoices or other appropriate supporting documentation must be submitted to EGLE prior to grant funds being reimbursed to the grantee.

Applications are to be submitted in PDF form to KirkpatrickE@Michigan.gov and must be received no later than **April 10, 2026**.

Previous applicants are welcome to apply for this special funding opportunity request for proposal.

Process, Schedule, and Deadlines

Applications will be scored based on how well the project addresses the impacts and vulnerabilities presented by severe weather events. Applications will be scored in April 2026 with award announcement expected May 2026.

EGLE may request additional information for clarification purposes. EGLE may offer grant amounts other than those requested and request changes to the proposed work plan. Submitted application information is not confidential. Grant applications are considered public information under the Freedom of Information Act, 1976 PA 442, as amended.

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a grant agreement with EGLE. A grant agreement consists of standard “boilerplate” language and the applicant’s project description, work plan, timeline, and budget information.

Contact: For questions, contact Emily Kirkpatrick, Water Resources Division, at 517-290-5476 or KirkpatrickE@Michigan.gov.

EGLE does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, marital status, disability, political beliefs, height, weight, genetic information, or sexual orientation in the administration of any of its programs or activities, and prohibits intimidation and retaliation, as required by applicable laws and regulations.

People with disabilities may request this material in an alternate format by emailing [EGLE- Accessibility@Michigan.gov](mailto:EGLE-Accessibility@Michigan.gov) or calling 800-662-9278.



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY