



# Rooting Resilience Program Applicant Webinar Tribes and Tribal Organizations



# WELCOME TO THE APPLICANT WEBINAR

## *Rooting Resilience Program for Tribes & Tribal Organizations*

### While you wait ...

- Please mute yourself but in the chat box, feel free to share your name and the entity you're representing
- Please use the chat box for any questions.
- This session will be recorded for your reference and a PDF of the presentation will be posted on the program webpage with useful links embedded.

# ABOUT RIVER NETWORK

River Network grows and strengthens a transformational national network of water, justice, and river advocates.

*We envision a powerful and inclusive movement that ensures abundant clean water for all people and nature to thrive.*

Meet the network and access resources for organizations on our website: [rivernetwork.org](https://rivernetwork.org)



# OUR FOCUS



*To learn more about these focus areas and how we're working to achieve them, please explore our Strategic Plan:*

<https://bit.ly/RNStrategicPlan>



# Today's Agenda

- River Network, our funders, and our partners
- Review of the RFA
  - Program Priorities
  - Eligibility
  - Application Process
  - Evaluation Criteria
- Budget Guidance
- Letters of Support
- Federal Compliance
- Additional Technical Assistance
- How to Apply



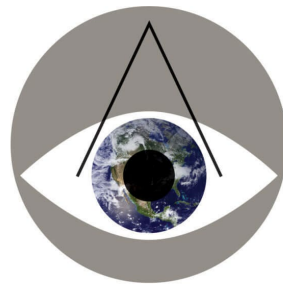
# Rooting Resilience Program Funding and Partners

This opportunity is possible thanks to a grant from the Urban & Community Forestry Program of the Forest Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, under the Inflation Reduction Act

Funding Opportunity #: [USDA-FS-2023-UCF-IRA-01](#)

*River Network is a proud national pass-through partner of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.*

Outreach and Engagement Partners:



**Anthropocene Alliance**



**NATIVE AMERICANS  
IN PHILANTHROPY**

River Network and these institutions are equal opportunity providers.

## About Native Americans in Philanthropy

For over 30 years, Native Americans in Philanthropy has promoted equitable and effective philanthropy in Native communities.

We are the only national organization that supports and educates all levels of philanthropy and funders to better understand and engage with issues that are important to Native peoples, Indigenous communities, and Tribal Nations.

The cornerstone of our work is our relatives and our networks. We support several communities that work together to build knowledge, community, priorities, and power in the philanthropic sector. These networks include Native professionals in philanthropy, elected Tribal leaders, Native youth leaders, and Native nonprofit leaders.

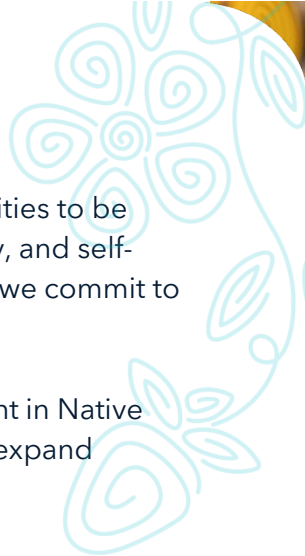


Native Americans in Philanthropy's Chief Executive Officer, Erik R. Stegman (Carry The Kettle First Nation – Nakoda)

## Our Vision

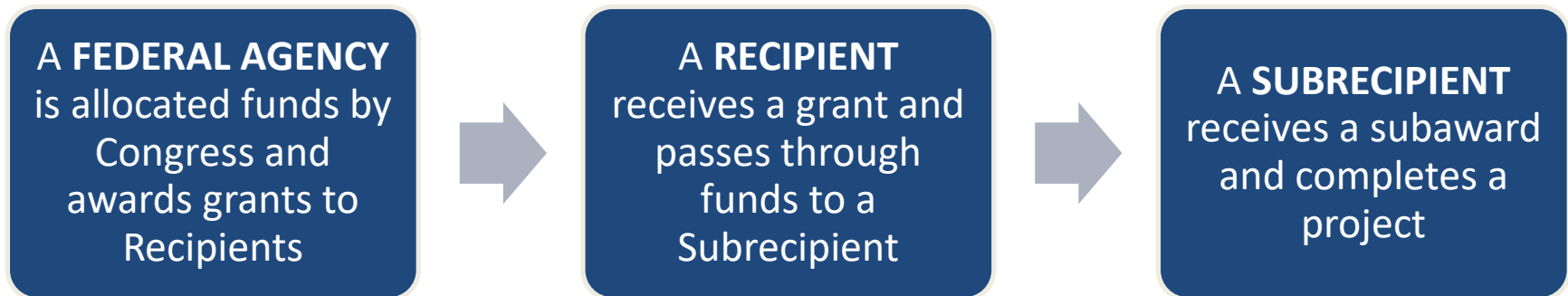
Our vision is for all Native communities to be restored to full health, sustainability, and self-determination. To accomplish this, we commit to the following goals:

- Increase philanthropic investment in Native communities to strengthen and expand community-based solutions.
- Strengthen support for Native, philanthropic, and nonprofit leaders to increase Native representation in the sector.
- Improve the availability of regular, reliable data and Indigenous-led research on Native communities and their relation to philanthropy.
- Support Tribal Nations with more opportunities for awareness, connection, and collaboration with each other and with the philanthropic sector.

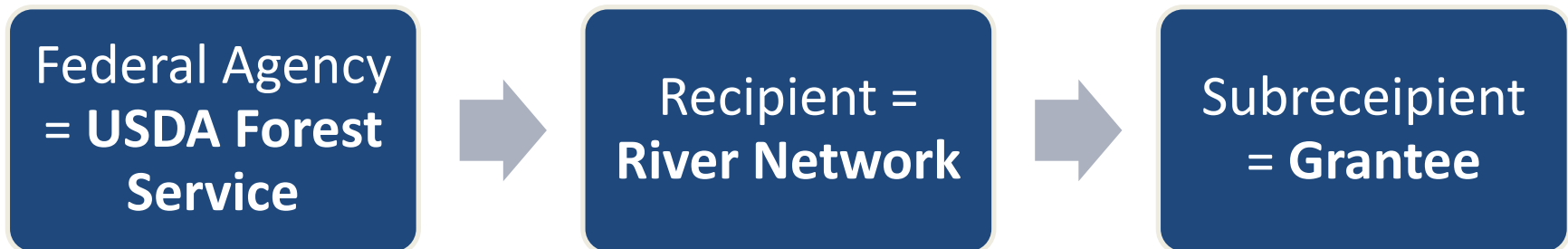




# Source of Subaward Funds



In this case...



River Network is a “pass-through entity” because it **passes federal grant dollars through** to a subrecipient

# Program Priorities and Funding

- All projects must directly impact federally defined disadvantaged communities and be for the benefit of historically underserved or underrepresented communities.
- River Network will prioritize community-led projects that improve the condition of the tree canopy to address the challenges of flooding and erosion, extreme heat, community health concerns, and/or increase access to green jobs through forestry.
- Funding is meant to provide support for organizations and communities that are on the frontlines of climate change impacts and may not have received federal funding before.

**A minimum of \$1,400,000 in program funding is available**  
**Match or cost share is NOT required**

# Program Priorities

## The Rooting Resilience program will prioritize:

- Work rooted in community. This includes work proposed by and with support from Tribal members who understand, based on lived experience, what approaches will work best for their area.
- Entities or organizations that are seeking federal pass-through funding for the first time and/or have limited experience receiving charitable funds or grants.
- Projects that clearly demonstrate the benefits of their proposed activities to their community and their local trees.

# Eligible Applicants

Federally recognized Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations / villages, Tribal organizations as defined in [25USC 5304 \(I\)](#) and operating within the United States or its territories, and organizations working in Tribal communities.

# Eligible Project Locations

- Projects that benefit disadvantaged communities in the United States or its territories
  - Federally-designated disadvantaged communities are defined by the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST). Any geographic area within Tribal lands is included in this definition, including Alaska Native Allotments; Alaska Native Villages; American Indian Reservations; American Indian Off-reservation Trust Lands; and Oklahoma Tribal Statistical areas.

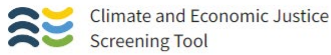
# Eligible Project Locations

- Projects on non-Federal lands such as:
  - State and local government,
  - Homeowner associations,
  - Private lands, and
  - Tribal/Alaska native corporation (includes Trust lands)

Lands owned or administered by the federal government are not eligible for this funding opportunity except for lands held in trust for Native American Tribes and individuals (Trust lands). See original [USDA-Urban & Community Forestry IRA Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for more information.

# Eligible Projects

*All work must directly benefit disadvantaged Tribal communities*



[Explore the map](#) [Methodology & data](#) [About](#) [Contact](#)

## Explore the map

Share data sources with CEJ

Census tracts that are overburdened and underserved are highlighted as being disadvantaged on the map. Federally Recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native Villages, are also considered disadvantaged communities.

Zooming in and selecting shows information about each census tract.

### Get the data

Download the data with documentation and shapefile from the [downloads](#) page.

## Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool

port townsend, wa

48  
AK  
HI  
PR  
GU  
AS  
MP  
VI

WASHINGTON

Tract information  
Number: 53019940000  
County: Ferry County  
State: Washington  
Population: 1,624

Tract demographics  
Race / Ethnicity (Show)   
Age (Show)   
Identified as disadvantaged?  
**YES**

This tract is considered disadvantaged because it meets more than 1 burden threshold **AND** the associated socioeconomic threshold.

The lands of Federally Recognized Tribes that cover 100% of this tract are also considered disadvantaged.

Send feedback

Climate change +

# Available Funding Levels



## Seedling Projects

### *Awards of \$75,000*

Support for the planning and implementation of smaller-scale urban and community forestry projects for **1-3 years**.

- Proposed work at a single site or several small sites.
- Should include activities that build people's skills and abilities to lay the foundation for future forestry work.



## Sapling Projects

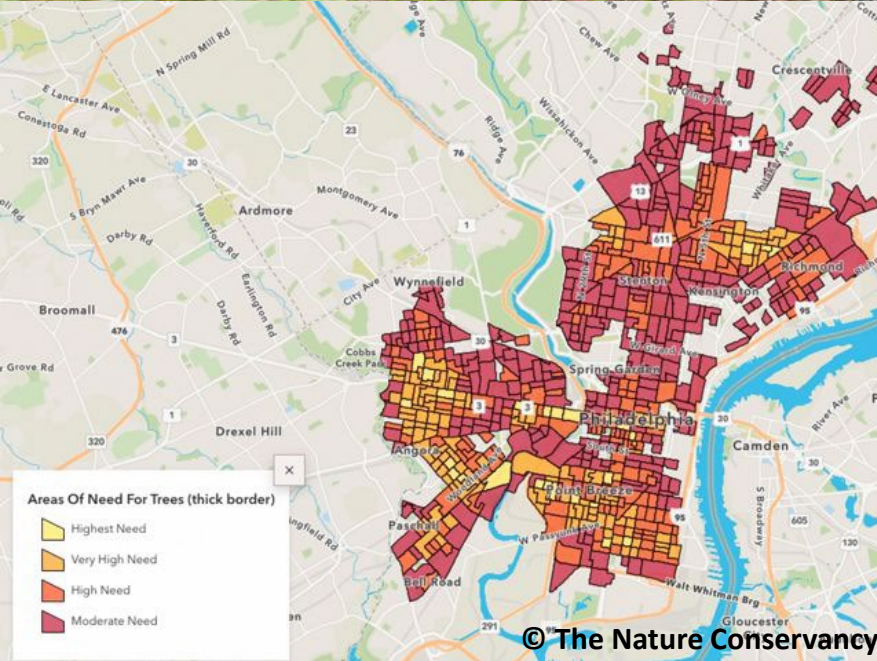
### *Awards of \$75,000-\$200,000*

Support for the planning and implementation of slightly larger-scale projects for **1-3 years**.

- Can support planning activities, such as completing engineering or designs, securing necessary permits, conducting community engagement, or developing a workforce development curriculum.
- Could also support the implementation of tree planting activities, tree maintenance, or the deployment of a workforce development program.



# Eligible Projects- Planning and Implementation



© Sahar Coston-Hardy 2023

© The Nature Conservancy

# Eligible Projects- Education and Outreach

## EVENTO DE PLANTACIÓN DE ÁRBOLES



ACOMPÁÑANOS  
REGISTRACIÓN ES REQUERIDA →



[tinyurl.com/treefresno](https://tinyurl.com/treefresno)

Sábado, 25 de Mayo | 9 am - 11 am

COMPUTECH MIDDLE SCHOOL

555 E Belgravia Ave, Fresno, CA 93706



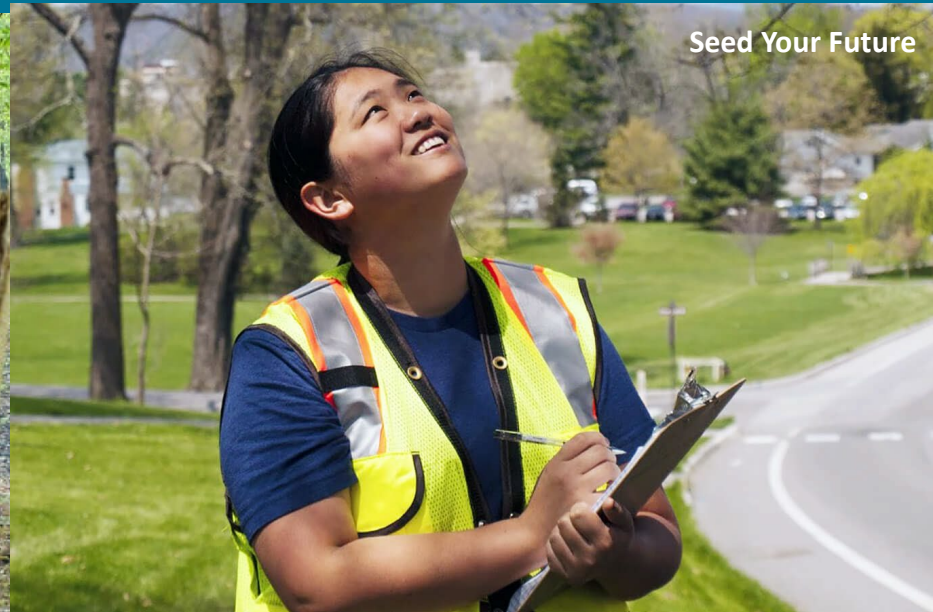
Portland Neighborhood Tree Stewards



# Eligible Projects- Workforce Development



Work2Live WELL program Maryland



Seed Your Future



Greening of Detroit



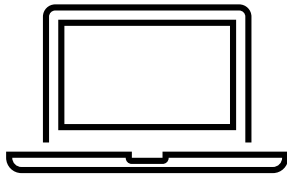
Trees Atlanta

# Ineligible Project Activities

Examples of project activities NOT eligible for funding:

- Basic Research
- Capital Improvements or Construction
- Land Acquisition
- Reimbursements directly to private landowners
- Small business start-up funding
- Equipment purchases

# Application Options

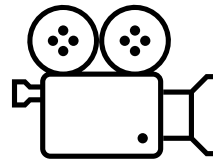


Full written application submitted  
via our online grant portal

**OR**



Phone call to answer  
narrative questions



Recorded video to  
answer narrative  
questions, submitted in  
the online grant portal

All applicants must use [our grant portal](#) to submit basic information about your organization, project location, project budget, and required supplemental uploads.

# Narrative Questions

- 1. What need will this project address and what are the intended outcomes (what will be the result of the project)?**
- 2. Please describe the project activities and explain how the project will build community resilience through urban and community forestry?**
- 3. Who are the key individuals on the project team and what skills are they bringing to ensure a successful project?**
- 4. Please describe the relationship that your project team has to the community you are engaging with.**

# Narrative Questions

**5. Who are your partners on this project and what will be their specific role(s)?**

**6. What have been the challenges/barriers to obtaining previous funding and how do you think receiving a Rooting Resilience grant could build capacity for your community or organization/entity?**

**7. Please provide a general and brief timeline for your major project activities, who's responsible for those activities, and the anticipated result of those activities.**

**8. What is the status of any permits, authorizations, or permissions needed before you can begin your proposed work?**

# Review Process

EVALUATION CRITERIA		SCORE
<b><i>Partnership and Community Impact</i></b>	The applicant either directly represents a federally designated disadvantaged community or proposes to directly benefit one through collaboration.	1-5
<b><i>Community Forestry and Climate Resilience Benefits</i></b>	Proposed project will promote, plan, or carry out activities that increase or improve the community's trees and support climate resilience	1-5
<b><i>Budget</i></b>	Project budget includes costs that are reasonable, allowable, and necessary for the work proposed. Budget narrative includes sufficient detail.	1-5
<b><i>Project Feasibility</i></b>	Project team has the necessary experience and/or skills to achieve project outcomes- this includes having established community relationships, Traditional Indigenous Knowledge or other relevant skills.	1-5
<b><i>Capacity Building Potential</i></b>	The project would potentially set the stage for future urban and community forestry work by building organizational or community capacity.	1-5
<b>OVERALL SCORE</b>	<b>A COMPREHENSIVE SCORE FOR THE STRENGTH OF A PROPOSAL IN ITS ENTIRETY</b>	<b>1-5</b>



# Program Timeline

<b>Application submission deadline</b>	11:59pm ET on October 23, 2024
<b>Review Period</b>	Late October through mid-November 2024
<b>Award Notification</b>	Mid-November 2024
<b>Execution of Award Agreements</b>	Mid-November through end of December 2024
<b>Project Period Start Date</b>	January 2025
<b>Reimbursements</b>	Throughout 1-3 year project

**Grant funds will generally be disbursed by reimbursement; however, advance payments will be considered on a case-by-case basis due to immediate need**

# Grantee Expectations and Support

- Bi-annual performance and financial reports
- Potential site visits and storytelling opportunities
- The opportunity to connect with your fellow grantees to engage in capacity-building, networking, and technical assistance
  - Virtually meet up to four times per year
  - You can include the necessary staff time to participate in these convenings

**Support from River Network and our program partners during your award period to address any project challenges, ensure compliance, and highlight project successes**



# Budget Guidance



- Budget must comply with the Code of Federal Regulations
  - Should be necessary, reasonable, and able to be allocated/directly assigned to a grant award
- Ensure budget matches your budget narrative and addresses your project activities
- Ask for what you need and anticipate impacts of rising costs
- Capacity building costs

Allowable costs are further discussed in the original [Notice of Funding Opportunity, IRA U&CF Award Administration Guide](#)

# Budget Categories

## Categories:

- Personnel
- Fringe
- Travel
- Contractors/Equipment Rental
- Supplies (>\$5,000 ea.)
- Participant Support Costs
- Indirect Costs\*

# Budget Example

## PERSONNEL

Staff Position	Annual Salary/Rat % Time on Project	Total Cost	Personnel Budget Narrative
Program Director	\$ 70,000.00 20%	\$ 42,000.00	Program Director Alicia Reyes has 10 years of experience leading community environmental initiatives and will supervise the forestry contractor, oversee project deliverables, and provide guidance for the educational program design. Alicia will dedicate 20% of her time (\$14,000/yr) over the course of the 3 year grant for a total cost of \$42,000.
Education Coordinator	\$ 50,000.00 30%	\$ 45,000.00	Education Coordinator Mario Jones leads Sunnyside Elementary's afterschool program, where the educational outreach program will be initiated. He will oversee all educational activities to promote environmental awareness among students at the school and adults at the community center. Mario will dedicate 30% of his time (\$15,000/yr) to this project over 3 years for a total of \$45,000.
Subtotal 'Personnel'		\$ 87,000.00	

## FRINGE BENEFITS

Position	Personnel Costs	Fringe Rate	Total Cost	Fringe Budget Narrative
Program Director	\$ 42,000.00	20%	\$ 8,400.00	Sunnyside Environmental Coalition's fringe rate is 20%, which includes paid time off, health benefits, 401k, payroll taxes, and workers compensation.
Education Coordinator	\$ 45,000.00	20%	\$ 9,000.00	Sunnyside Environmental Coalition's fringe rate is 20%, which includes paid time off, health benefits, 401k, payroll taxes, and workers compensation.
Subtotal 'Fringe'			\$ 17,400.00	

## TRAVEL

Expense Type	Units	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Travel Budget Narrative
Staff Mileage	275	0.67	\$ 184.25	Mileage costs associated with the Program Director visiting key project partners to generate community support and to conduct educational awareness. Calculated based on an estimate of 275 miles over 3 years using the federal mileage rate of \$.67/mile.
Subtotal 'Travel'			\$ 184.25	

## SUPPLIES

Item	Units	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Supplies Budget Narrative
Native Trees	50	\$ 250.00	\$ 12,500.00	Native Trees - Estimated cost to plant 50 native trees in the area surrounding Sunnyside Elementary School. The types of trees planted will be determined by the Forestry consultant, and this is an average estimated cost of \$300/tree for 2" ball and burlap trees.
Tree Establishment Supplies	50	35	\$ 1,750.00	Tree Establishment Supplies - Estimated costs for watering bags and tree stakes for 50 trees to provide additional establishment support. Water bags are \$30/bag with stakes costing \$5/tree.
Mulch	50	5	\$ 250.00	Mulch- 50 bags of mulch at \$5 each to place around newly planted trees.
Educational signage	2	500	\$ 1,000.00	Educational Signage - Estimated cost to professionally print 2 weather-resistant signs to display the names of trees and provide educational information about their care. Costs based on previously purchased signage.
Educational Workshop Supplies	1	1500	\$ 1,500.00	with students at Sunnyside Elementary School- approximately 100 students. Environmental education supplies include notebooks, magnifying glasses, and art supplies for tree lessons- collectively around \$15/student for 100 students.
Subtotal 'Supplies'			\$ 17,000.00	

# Additional Uploads

- [Financial Capability Questionnaire](#) (required)
  - You can apply even if you answer “no” to one or more questions. TA will be available to help you address any concerns!
- [Certification regarding debarment](#) (required)
- Letter of Support (optional)
  - Template provided
- Project Map (optional)

# Letters of Support (Optional)

**Goal:** To demonstrate a sincere working relationship between partner organizations and the tribes they support

- Who is the partner org or Tribe the project will support?
- What role will they play?
- How have you worked together previously?
- Why is this project important?



[Template available on the RFA page](#)

# Federal Compliance

## SAM.gov Registration

Your organization must be registered and validated with [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) and have a Unique Entity ID (UEI), generated by SAM.gov to be awarded funding

The screenshot shows the SAM.gov homepage. At the top, there are navigation links: Home, Search, Data Bank, Data Services, and Help. The SAM.gov logo is prominently displayed. A badge in the top right corner states 'Official U.S. Government Website 100% Free'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled 'The Official U.S. Government System for:', lists various services: Contract Opportunities, Contract Data (Reports ONLY from fpds.gov), Wage Determinations, Federal Hierarchy (Departments and Subtiers), Assistance Listings, Entity Information (Entities, Disaster Response Registry, Exclusions, and Responsibility/Qualification (was fapiis.gov)), and Entity Reporting (SCR and Bio-Preferred Reporting). At the bottom of this column is a link to 'View FASCSA Orders'. The right column, titled 'Register Your Entity or Get a Unique Entity ID', contains the text 'Register your entity or get a Unique Entity ID to get started doing business with the federal government.' Below this text are three buttons: 'Get Started', 'Renew Entity', and 'Check Entity Status'. The 'Get Started' and 'Renew Entity' buttons are circled in red.

If you do not have a SAM.gov UEI Number, here is a short GSA video outlining the steps to create one: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56NQ77JX5yo>

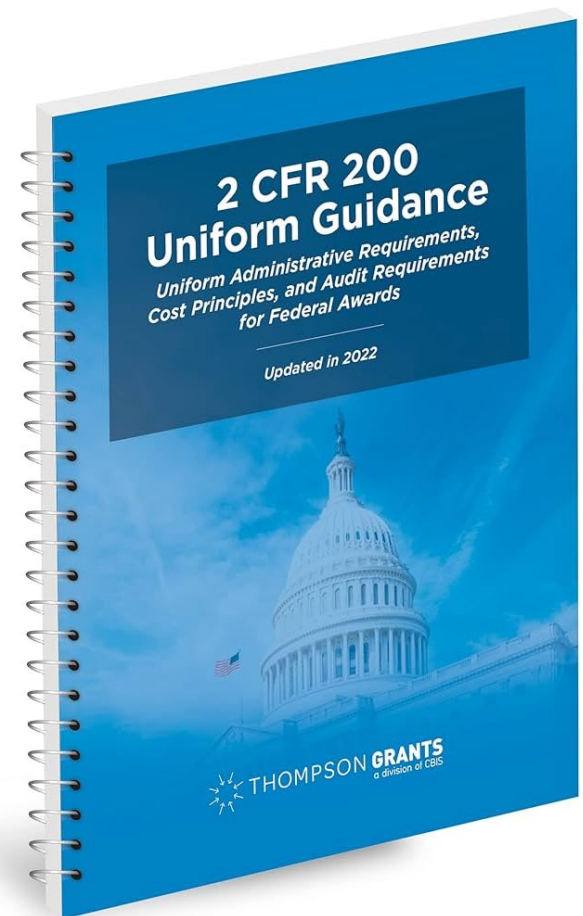


# Federal Compliance

- Follow all federal and state statutes, laws, rules, and regulations
- Code of Federal Regulations
  - [Chapter 2, Part 200](#)
    - [Allowable costs](#)
    - [Procurement policies](#)
  - Compliance with CBO's own and USDA policies

We can help!

TA on compliance provided



# 2 CFR 200 Summarized: Procurement

When purchasing goods or services with grant funds, subrecipients must follow **requirements for procurement**. Although requirements vary by the type of entity and the purchase amount, they generally include:

conducting a cost or price analysis for every procurement\*

avoiding conflict of interest in the procurement

retaining documentation to support the approach to procurement

\*Would a reasonable and prudent person purchase the item at this price to meet this need?

See [2 CFR 200.320](#) for more details

# 2 CFR 200: Procurement



# Additional Technical Assistance

- Virtual Office Hours
- Upcoming Webinar:  
Crafting a Compelling  
Proposal
- Frequently Asked  
Questions
- Templates
- Additional Resources

Reference resources or register for opportunities on the [RFA webpage](#)



# Submitting an Application

rivernetwork.grantplatform.com



## Rooting Resilience Program

River Network is announcing a funding opportunity for urban and community forestry projects led by federally recognized Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations/villages, Tribal organizations, organizations working in Tribal communities, and community-based non-profits. The [Rooting Resilience Program](#) will provide funding and technical assistance to community-based projects that build resilience and enhance communities' abilities to plan and carry out forestry projects. This opportunity is available for projects located in federally designated disadvantaged communities, including urban, suburban, and rural communities in the United States and its territories. Special priority will be given to community-led groups that are seeking federal funding for the first time. Funding for this program is provided by the Inflation Reduction Act and the USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program. USDA and River Network are equal opportunity providers and employers.

### Preferred language

- English
- Español

### Log in or register

Email

Continue

## Rooting Resilience Program

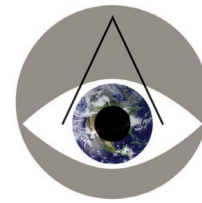
### Start here

- 1 Register an account.
- 2 Start your application (save it in-progress).
- 3 Submit your application to be reviewed.

Best of luck!

For any questions, please contact [rootingresilience@rivernetwork.org](mailto:rootingresilience@rivernetwork.org)

<https://rivernetwork.grantplatform.com/>



**Anthropocene Alliance**

An aerial photograph of Chicago, showing the city skyline in the background, a large park with many trees in the middle ground, and a body of water in the foreground. The image is slightly faded and serves as a background for the text.

Questions?



**Anthropocene Alliance**



[rootingresilience@rivernetwork.org](mailto:rootingresilience@rivernetwork.org)