



Growing Equity: Urban & Community Forestry Subaward Program Funding Opportunity Kickoff Webinar

June 25, 2024

*Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)
Urban & Community Forestry (UCF) Program*



Housekeeping



Zoom ground rules:

- ❖ Safety Brief: Check your surroundings, identify trip hazards and emergency exits, and if driving please pull over or be in listening mode only.
- ❖ This meeting is being recorded.
- ❖ Closed captioning is available under "more".
- ❖ Please keep your videos off and microphones muted to minimize distraction.
- ❖ Please share your name, role, and organization in the chat.
- ❖ Post questions in the Q&A (may be under "more").
 - ❖ You can submit anonymously or with your name; choose what is comfortable for you.
 - ❖ If you have the same question, "like" with the “👍” to upvote the question.

UCF Program Mission



The Urban & Community Forestry (UCF) Program's mission is to advance equity, well-being, and resilience for all communities in Oregon by promoting investments in trees and green infrastructure.



UCF Program Vision



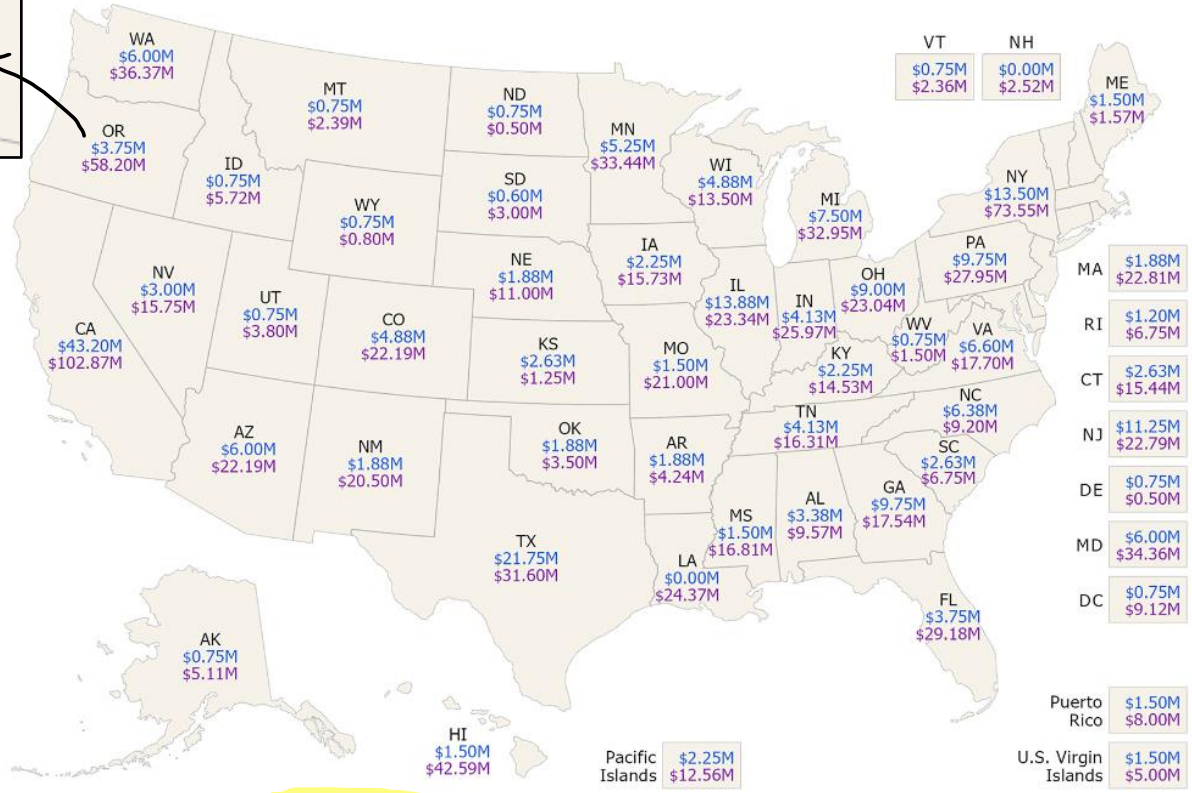
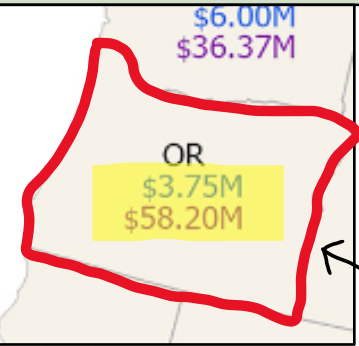
Our vision is for every community forest in Oregon to thrive with good planning and management, while fostering statewide recognition of trees and forests as vital contributors to the State's social, economic, and environmental well-being.



IRA Funding for UCF



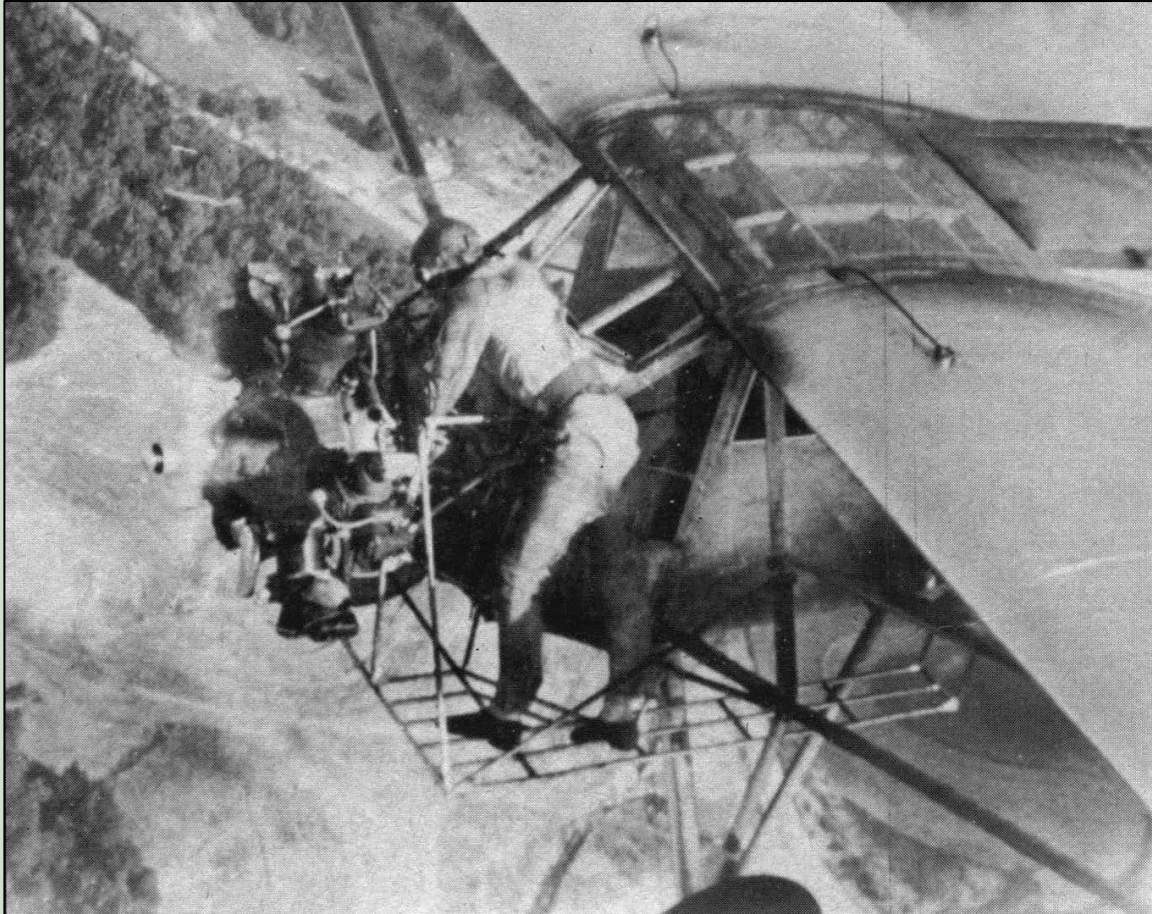
Urban and Community Forestry FY 2023 IRA Grant Allocations in Millions of Dollars



The USDA Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program awarded more than \$1 billion to fund projects that support urban communities through equitable access to trees and the benefits they provide. The funding was made possible by the Inflation Reduction Act.

FY 2023 IRA State Allocation - \$250 Million Total
 FY 2023 IRA Notice of Funding Opportunity Grants - \$1.13 Billion Total

UCF Program Approach



UCF Program Team



Webinar Outline



- ❑ **Introduction to Growing Equity Subaward Program (30 minutes)**
 - ❑ Program Priorities & Funding Details
 - ❑ Program Eligibility
 - ❑ Proposal Requirements & Evaluation Process
 - ❑ Payments, Reports & Monitoring
 - ❑ Applicant Support & Proposal Process Review

- ❑ **Q & A (30 minutes)**



Growing Equity Subaward Program Priorities



Fund outstanding proposals that promote urban and community forest investment and tree equity in overburdened and underserved communities



Support urban and community forestry assessment, planning, and prioritization.



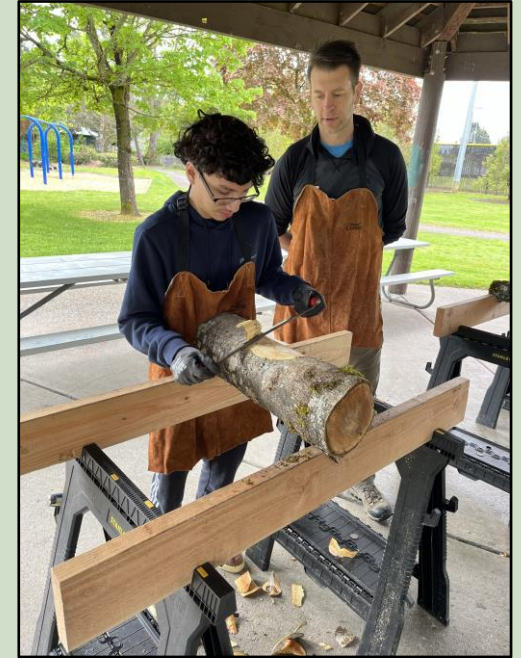
Significantly expand urban and community forestry tree production, planting, and maintenance.



Growing Equity Subaward Program Priorities



Fund outstanding proposals that promote urban and community forest investment and tree equity in overburdened and underserved communities



Support culturally responsive UCF education, engagement, immersive/experiential outdoor recreation, and community-building initiatives

Support urban and community forestry workforce diversification and development.

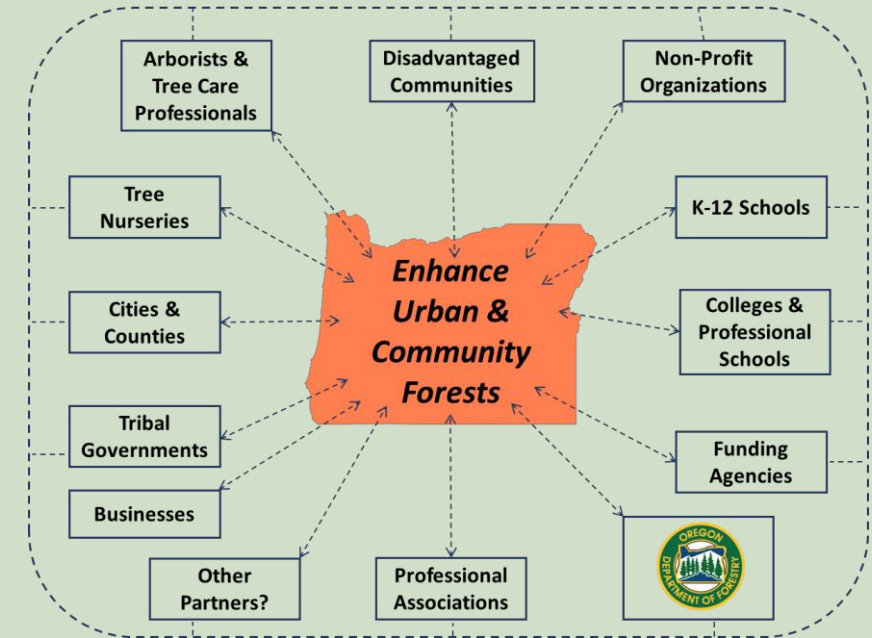
Growing Equity Subaward Program Priorities



Fund outstanding proposals that promote urban and community forest investment and tree equity in overburdened and underserved communities



Support urban and community forestry monitoring, adaptive management, and lesson sharing



Build capacity with collective impact through an urban and community forestry network.

Subaward Program Details



Funding Period: January 1, 2025 – September 1, 2028.

Funding Ranges: Two funding levels will be available (no match requirement)

- a. Planning, Partnership, Project Development, and Small-Budget Project Subawards (\$10,000 to \$100,000)
- b. Program or Project Implementation Subawards (\$100,001 to \$750,000)

Proposal Submission Period (UPDATED):

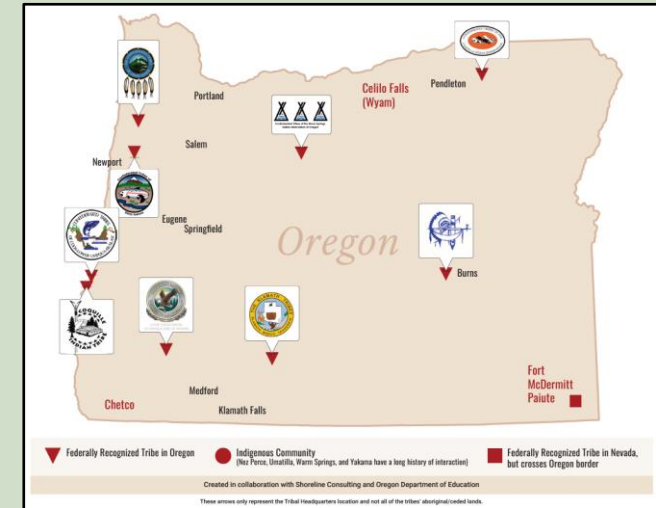
- ❖ WebGrants registration opens July 1, 2024
- ❖ ***Proposal submission period will be open from July 15 to October 15, 2024 (11:59 p.m., PDT)***

Entity Eligibility



1. Eligible Entities (as lead applicant):

- ❖ Federally recognized Tribes and Tribal organizations
- ❖ Local government entities
- ❖ Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
- ❖ Non-profit and community-based organizations



2. SAM.gov & Federal Employer Identification Number:

- ❖ Primary applicant must have (and maintain) an active registration in the system for award management ([SAM.gov](https://sam.gov)) and have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- ❖ Primary applicant must have a Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN)



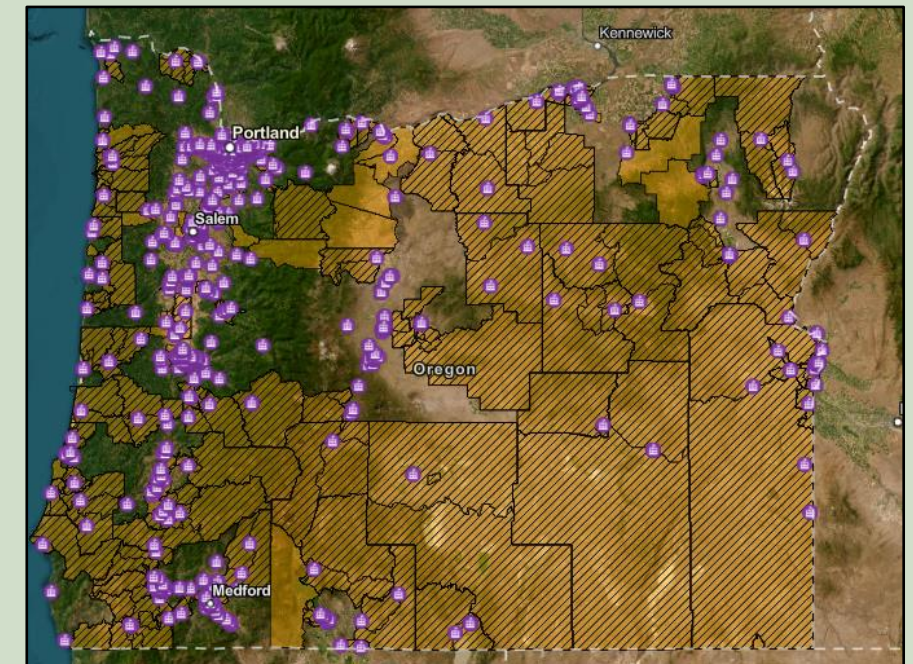
Geographic Eligibility



Match Waiver: 100% of proposed benefits must go to 1) Federally recognized Tribes, or 2) disadvantaged communities.

Approved geographies (see [UCF Subaward Project Mapping Tool](#)):

- ❖ Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool (CJEST)
- ❖ Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) IRA
- ❖ Title 1-A school campuses
- ❖ Other government-sponsored vulnerability tools
 - *Geographic eligibility determination will be made by the U.S. Forest Service*

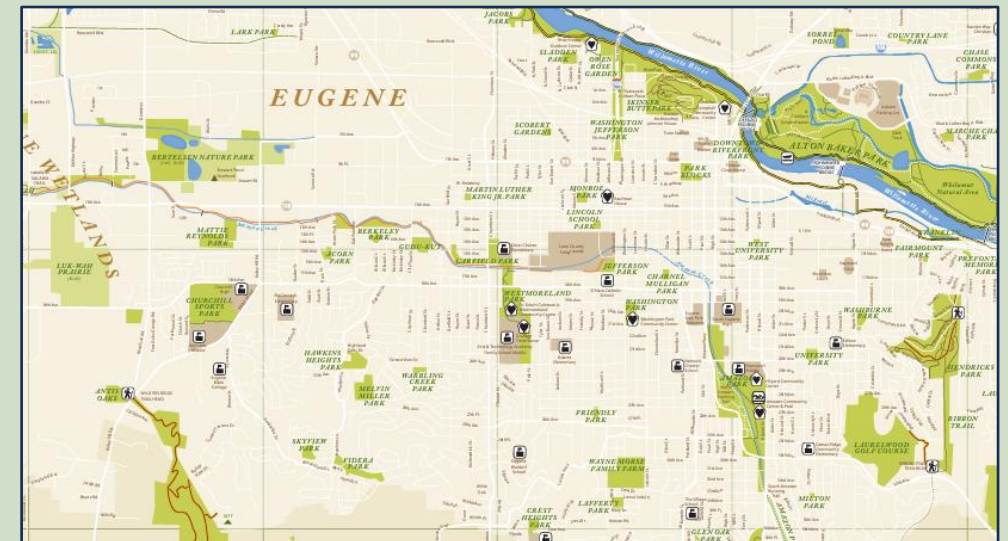
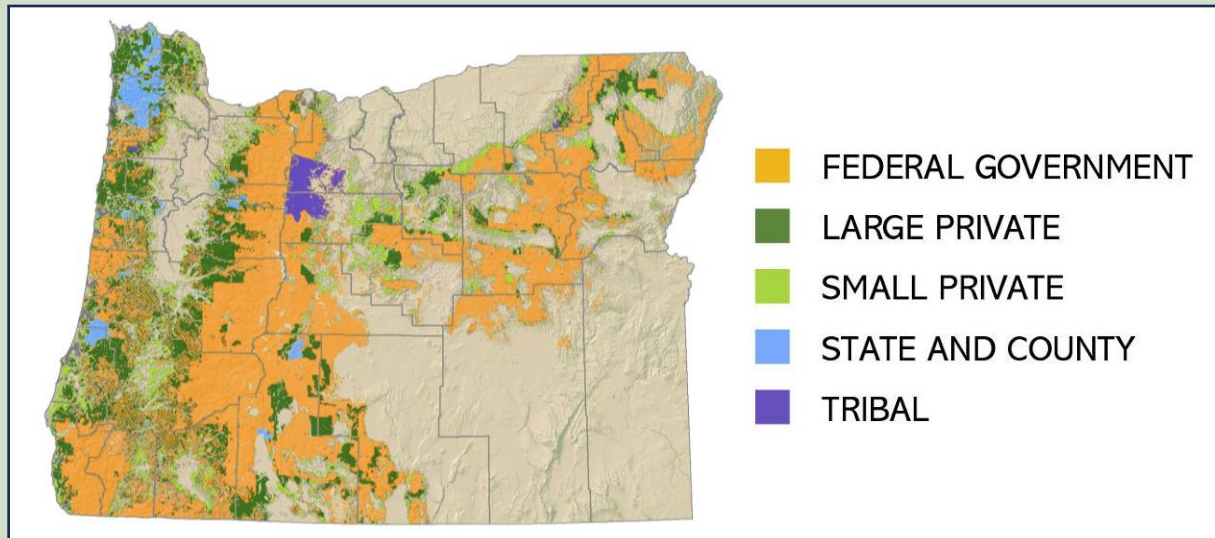


Eligible Lands



Funding may be used for projects on non-Federal lands, which include:

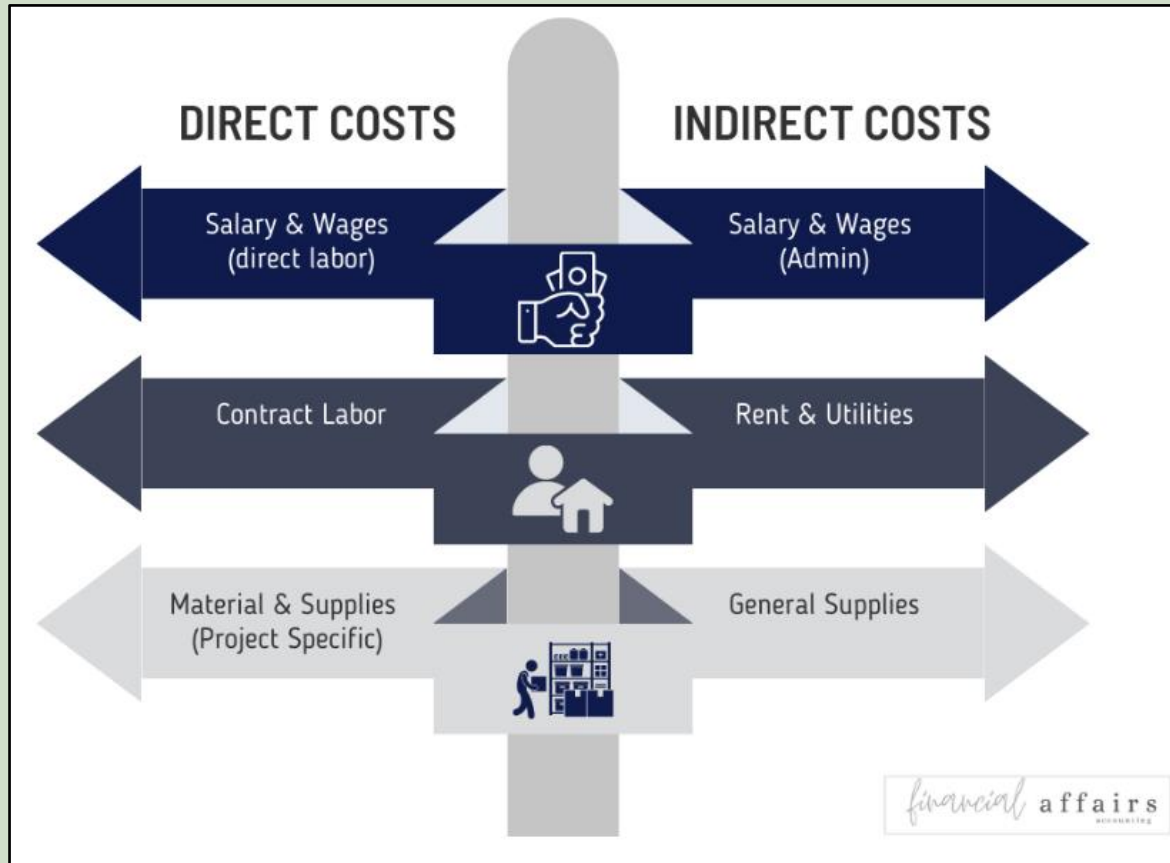
- ❖ Tribal lands (includes fee and Trust land)
- ❖ Private lands (*Note: while private lands are eligible, work on private land should provide community benefits, and will require landowner agreement*)
- ❖ State and local government-owned land
- ❖ Homeowner association managed private land



Eligible Costs



Eligible costs are those necessary for developing the program or completing the project(s) incurred during the funding period. Costs must be documented, reasonable and consistent with the project scope.



Ineligible Costs



- ❖ Basic research
- ❖ Construction and capital improvements (*e.g., construction of facilities, roads, new buildings, culverts, or boardwalks*)
- ❖ Land acquisition
- ❖ Cost-share, reimbursement, and other types of payments provided to private landowners
- ❖ Small business start-up funding
- ❖ Equipment purchases
- ❖ Gift cards
- ❖ Food or catering services
- ❖ Childcare services

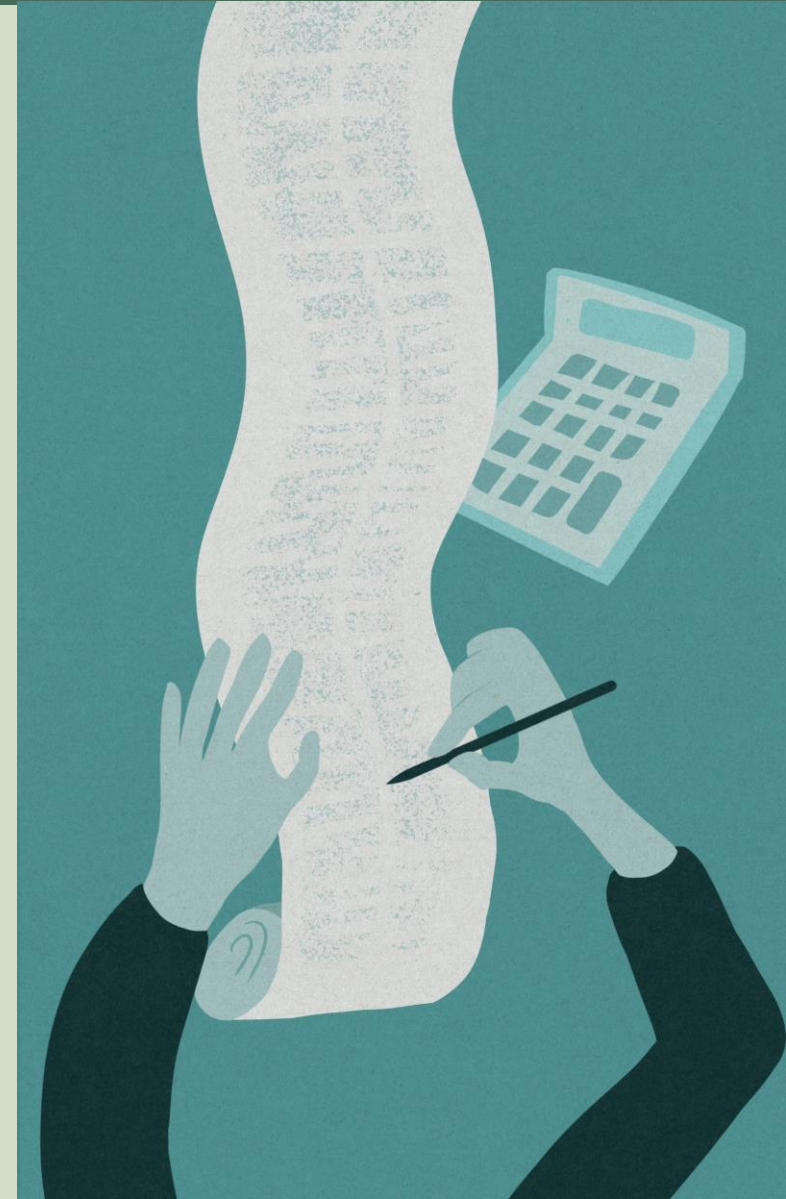


Proposal Requirements



You will need:

- Eligibility information
- Applicant and partner information
- Program/project information
- Budget information



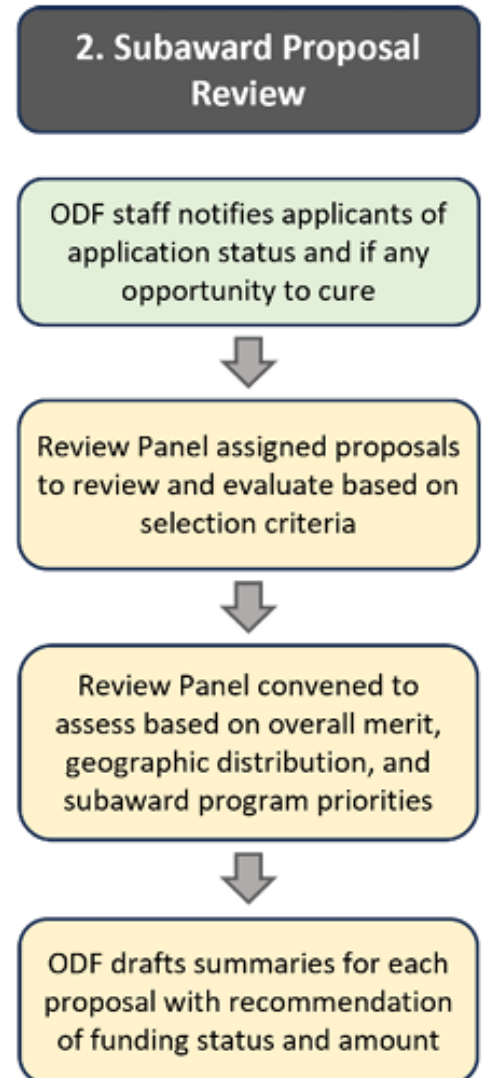
Evaluation Process



- *Proposals will be assessed by the USFS/ODF UCF Programs so that they meet the parameters of the funding opportunity.*
- *Proposals that meet eligibility requirements will be assessed by review panels based on five evaluation criteria.*

Evaluation Criteria

1. Relevance to the UCF subaward program priorities
2. Feasibility and clarity of the implementation plan
3. Potential impact of the program/project
4. Budget realism and cost-effectiveness
5. Program/project team experience



Evaluation Scoring & Notice of Funding



Proposals will be scored using the following scoring system:

- ❖ Each component will be scored on a 1 to 5 scale, with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest possible score.
- ❖ Review criteria score = average of component scores (for example, Criteria 1 is the average score of Components 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3).
- ❖ Proposal overall score = average of review criteria scores.
- ❖ ***Proposals with an overall score greater than 3 will be eligible for funding and will be assessed and ranked relative to other eligible proposals based on overall merit, geographic distribution, and subaward program priorities.***

All applicants will be notified in writing of the funding decision within 3 months of submission close date.

Reimbursement & Advance Payment



- ❖ **To receive payments from ODF, subrecipients must be registered in OregonBuys and have an active SAM.gov registration status.**
- ❖ **Funds will be available on a reimbursement basis** in accordance with a payment and financial reporting cycle, agreed to in advance. Frequency may be subject to change.
- ❖ **Advance payments can be requested during the subaward agreement process and award phase.** Advance payments will require a payment schedule and a list of anticipated costs before ODF can disburse the funds. ODF will assess and approve requests on a case-by-case basis.
- ❖ **ODF reserves the right to request additional information prior to approving a payment.**

Reports & Monitoring



- ❖ **Quarterly progress reports will be required to document expenditures and accomplishments in relation to the proposed outcomes.**
- ❖ Progress reports should be submitted before the end of each quarter (Quarter 1: March 31; Quarter 2: June 30; Quarter 3: September 30; Quarter 4: December 31).
- ❖ Upon conclusion of the subaward, a closeout report will be cooperatively worked on between the ODF and the subrecipient.
- ❖ **ODF may conduct virtual or in-person site visits and may require copies of subrecipients documents or reports for review.**
- ❖ ***Awardees must show progress within the first year. If no progress is documented, ODF may initiate a notice to resume progress or modify the subaward agreement.***

How to Apply



- ❖ Online portal will be accessible through the [UCF Subaward Program webpage](#)



The screenshot shows the homepage for the "Growing Equity: Urban and Community Forestry Subaward Programs". The page has a white background with a dark green header. On the left, there is a navigation menu with links for "Senate Bill 762", "About ODF", "Board & committees", and "Fire". Below this is a section titled "FOREST BENEFITS" with links for "About Oregon's forests" and "Urban forests". The main content area features a large image of people planting a tree, with the word "Background" centered below it. To the right of the image is a yellow button labeled "Apply" with a sub-link "Online grant application (Under construction)". Below the button is the text "Grant assistance / Asistencia para subvenciones" and a link "Need information in a different language or other assistance?".

The ODF UCF Program will host a second webinar in July (date TBD) to provide a tutorial of the online portal.

What support is available:

- ❖ CAFs are here to support you program/project development, eligibility questions, etc.
- ❖ UCF Program staff are working to secure consultants for grant writing support.

How to get support:

- ❖ [Subaward assistance questionnaire](#)
- ❖ [Schedule a meeting](#) with UCF Program staff

Note: a second funding opportunity will be available in 2025.

1. Call for Proposals

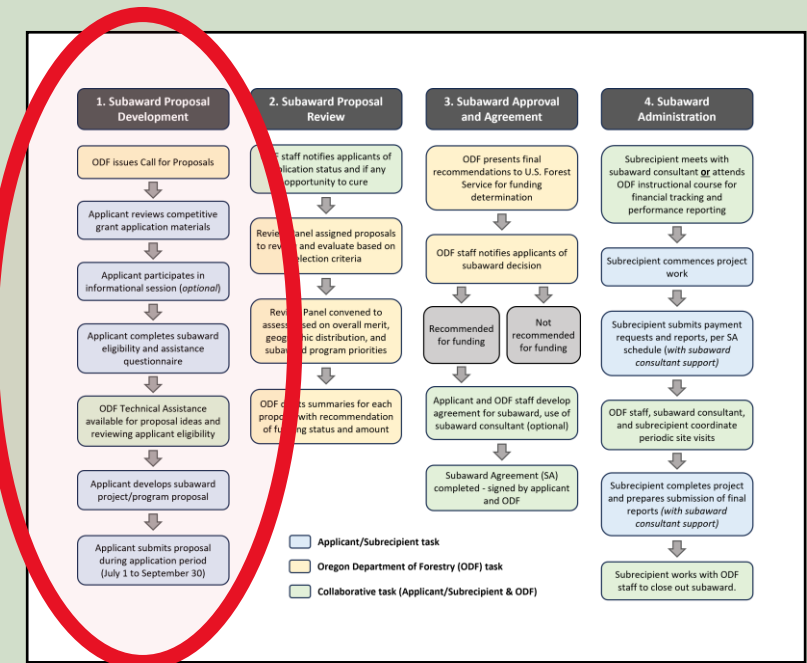
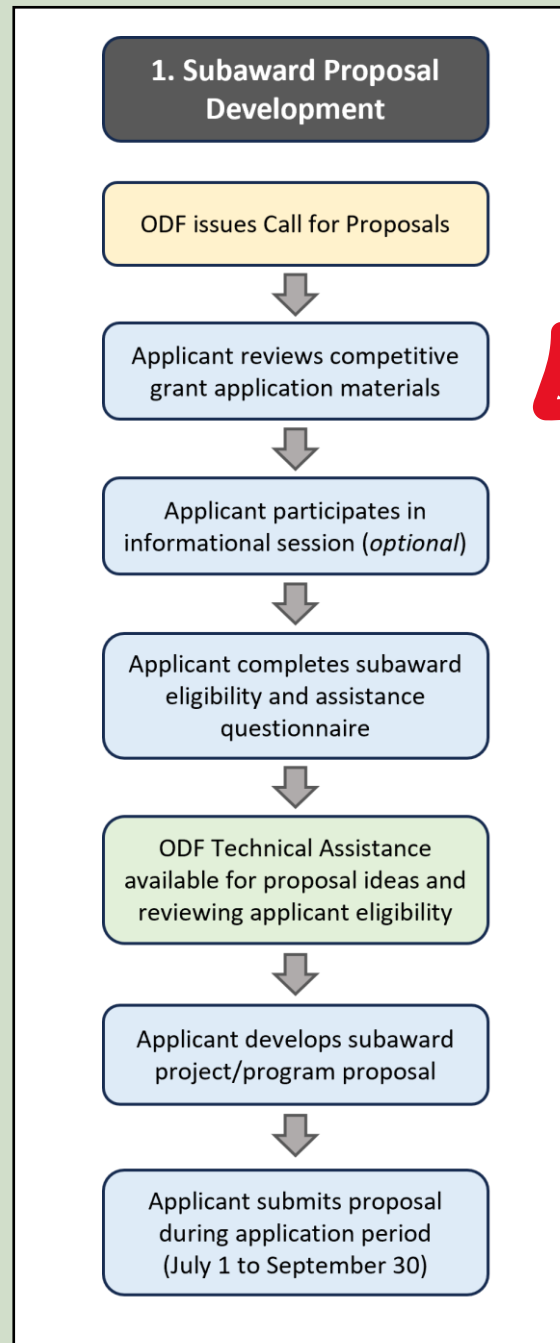
- ✓ Review subaward materials

2. Information session

- ✓ Attend information session

3. Proposal development

- ✓ Complete assistance questionnaire
- ✓ Schedule meeting with ODF-UCF staff
- ✓ Complete and submit proposal



Proposal submission period will be open from July 15 to October 15, 2024 (11:59 p.m., PDT)

Subaward Program Resources



UCF subaward program webpage: <https://tinyurl.com/ODF-UCF-grants>

- ❖ [Bookings page \(to schedule a meeting with UCF Program staff\)](#)
- ❖ [Call for Proposals – All Entities](#)
- ❖ [Application Template – All Entities](#)
- ❖ [Budget Template](#)
- ❖ [Subaward Assistance Questionnaire](#)
- ❖ [UCF Project Mapping Tool](#)
- ❖ [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- ❖ [Subaward Glossary of Terms](#)

Final Thoughts



[Beyond the Golden Shovel](#)



[Bookings page \(to schedule a meeting with UCF Program staff\)](#)