U.S. Geological Survey

Notice of Funding Opportunity

USGS Cooperative Landslide Hazard Mapping and Assessment Program Announcement for Fiscal Year 2027

Funding Opportunity Number

G27AS00381

Table of Contents

BASIC INFORMATION 1
ELIGIBILITY 2
Cost Sharing Requirement 3
GET READY TO APPLY 3
Required System Registrations 3
PROGRAM OVERVIEW 4
Program Goals 4
Program Description 4
Legislative Authority 5
Type of Award 5
PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION 5
Application Content and Format 5
Application Documents 6
SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES 8
Address to Request Application Package 8
Submission Dates and Times 8
Submission Instructions 8
APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION 9
Eligibility Review 9
Merit Review 9
Review and Selection Process 10
Risk Review 11
AWARD NOTICES 12
POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION 12
Administration and National Policy Requirements 12
Reporting 13

BASIC INFORMATION

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: G27AS00381

Assistance Listing Number(s): 15.821

Estimated Total Program Funding: $1,000,000

Expected Number of Awards: 10

Award Ceiling: $150,000

Award Floor: $10,000

Cost Sharing Required?
No

Closing Date Explanation
Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m., ET, on the listed application due date.

OMB Control Number: 1028-0142

Have Questions?
Stephen Slaughter – USGS Project Officer, sslaughter@usgs.gov, 720-483-3945

Executive Summary
The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Landslide Hazards Program announces a funding opportunity under the Cooperative Landslide Hazard Mapping and Assessment Program, established by the National Landslide Preparedness Act (Public Law 116-323). This program provides resources to assist state, local, Tribal, and territorial governments in reducing landslide risk through hazard mapping, risk assessments, public education, and interagency coordination.

Landslides occur in every U.S. state and territory, often with little warning, causing fatalities, disrupting transportation and commerce, and inflicting billions of dollars in damage annually. Without proactive measures, communities remain vulnerable to catastrophic losses and prolonged recovery periods. This program addresses these challenges by funding projects that:

- **Enhance Risk Assessments:** Develop detailed landslide hazard maps and analyses to identify high-risk areas.
- **Improve Community Preparedness:** Deliver outreach campaigns, workshops, and educational materials that empower residents and decision-makers to recognize warning signs and prepare for landslide events.
- **Promote Collaboration:** Build partnerships among government agencies, universities, and local organizations to share knowledge and resources for effective risk reduction.

This program fulfills statutory requirements under the National Landslide Preparedness Act and advances Federal priorities related to scientific integrity, state and local preparedness, hazard mitigation, and interagency coordination. Specifically, the program supports the objectives of Executive Order 14303 (Restoring Gold Standard Science), Executive Order 14239 (Achieving Efficiency Through State and Local Preparedness), and Executive Order 14308 (Empowering Commonsense Wildfire Prevention and Response). Funding this program helps protect lives, infrastructure, and economic stability while advancing Federal mandates and strategic priorities.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Applicants
State governments

County governments

City or township governments

Special district governments

Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)

Additional Information on Eligibility
This Notice of Funding Opportunity is open to state, Tribal, territorial, and local governments. A university may submit a proposal on behalf of a state geological survey or other state office if they are organized under a university system. Direct any questions about eligibility to the USGS Project Officer.

Cost Sharing Requirement

Cost Sharing Required?

No

This program does not have a cost share requirement; however, the National Landslide Preparedness Act (Public Law 116-323) states that funding *prioritization* shall be given to projects for which at least 50 percent of the total cost of the project is cost share with non-Federal sources (i.e., state, local, non-governmental, Tribal, territorial, or private). As part of the non-Federal entity's cost sharing or matching, shared costs or matching funds and all contributions, including cash and third-party in-kind contributions, are acceptable following 2 CFR 200.306. The contributions must be verifiable in the applicant's records, not included as contributions to any other Federal award, necessary for the project work, not paid by the Federal Government through another award (except where authorized) and must be documented in the Detailed Budget Narrative (Attachment D).

If you plan to use datasets such as lidar or geophysical data in meeting cost share, you must explain how these datasets will improve or enhance the proposed product. If the datasets are being used as a cost share, ensure that:

- No Federal funds were used to collect the data;
- The reported data cost is pro-rated based on the portion of area covered by the proposed mapping;
- The dataset must not have been used for a previous cost share.

GET READY TO APPLY

Required System Registrations

Unique Entity Identifier and SAM.gov Registration

Before applying, all **applicants** except individuals applying as a natural person **must be registered in SAM.gov**. During the SAM.gov registration the entity will obtain their Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

The SAM.gov registration process can take several months. If your organization is not already registered in SAM.gov, begin the registration process as soon as possible.

To register in SAM.gov, go to the SAM.gov website and use the available resources to complete registration.

- **Financial assistance registrants** must review and certify compliance with the SAM.gov "Financial Assistance General Representations and Certifications".
- **Already registered?** You already have a Unique Entity ID. Before applying, check that your "Financial Assistance General Representations and Certifications" on SAM.gov is complete. Remember to renew your registration every year to keep it active while you have an award or application in progress. You can update your registration whenever you need, including during renewal.
- **Need help?** For additional information and contact information on the SAM.gov Help page.

GRANTS.GOV

This program accepts applications through Grants.gov so once you receive your UEI return to Grants.gov to register with Grants.gov. Please allow 30 days to register and set up a Workspace in Grants.gov. See Submission Instructions section below for additional details.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Goals

- The USGS Cooperative Landslide Hazard Mapping and Assessment Program aims to improve understanding of landslide hazards and enhance public safety. Expected performance goals include: increased awareness of landslide risks, better risk assessment and mapping, and improved community preparedness. The funds will support activities such as developing detailed hazard maps, developing and conducting educational outreach, and fostering collaboration among stakeholders. Project outputs may be measured by the number of risk reduction products created (for example hazard maps, educational materials, community meetings), members of the workforce or public trained, or possibly the size of the population, infrastructure, or resources impacted by the work. Data will be collected through the required Final Technical Report (Attachment F), project reports such as maps and publications, and feedback from grant recipients.

Program Description

The overarching purpose of this funding is to assist state, local, Tribal, and territorial governments in assessing and managing landslide risks effectively, thereby protecting lives and property from the potentially devastating impacts of landslides. By investing in projects that focus on hazard mapping, public education, and community preparedness, the program seeks to significantly reduce the risks associated with landslides, ultimately promoting overall public safety.

The program is expected to achieve several key outcomes for the public good. First, by funding educational initiatives, it aims to raise awareness about landslide risks among residents in susceptible areas. This increased understanding will empower communities and decision makers of all levels to take proactive measures to protect themselves and their property, as well as the infrastructure and resources they depend upon. Second, the program supports the development of detailed hazard maps that identify areas susceptible to landslides. These maps will provide critical information for emergency and resource management, planning, and land use decisions, all enhancing public safety. Additionally, through outreach campaigns and workshops, the program will promote preparedness

strategies, enabling communities to respond effectively to landslide events, which is crucial for minimizing injuries and property damage. Lastly, the program encourages partnerships among various stakeholders, including government agencies, universities, and local organizations, fostering a collaborative approach to landslide risk management at the regional-local scale that enhances the effectiveness of risk reduction strategies. Projects can select either 1- or 2-year periods of performance only.

This program also supports the implementation of current Executive Orders and Department priorities. Consistent with Executive Order 14303, *Restoring Gold Standard Science*, the program promotes the use of rigorous scientific methods, transparent data management, and evidence-based decision-making through landslide hazard mapping, assessment, and dissemination of results. Consistent with Executive Order 14239, *Achieving Efficiency Through State and Local Preparedness*, the program strengthens preparedness and hazard mitigation capabilities by supporting collaboration among Federal, state, local, Tribal, and territorial partners. The program also advances the objectives of Executive Order 14308, *Empowering Commonsense Wildfire Prevention and Response*, by supporting activities that improve natural hazard preparedness and resilience, including work related to post-wildfire landslide hazards, debris flows, and slope instability. Through these efforts, the program advances scientific integrity, public safety, hazard mitigation, and interagency coordination.

Certain costs are deemed unallowable under this program, including

- Long-term operation of landslide monitoring, monitoring networks, or instruments.
- Proposals that principally involve the direct procurement of a product or equipment.
- Projects seeking funding for capital improvements for landslide damaged infrastructure, landslide mitigation design, repairing landslide damaged property, or similar activities.
- Construction expenses related to physical infrastructure and land acquisition costs for purchasing property
- Unapproved equipment purchases that do not meet program guidelines
- Pre-award costs
- Proposals in which there is a real or apparent conflict of interest.

Legislative Authority

This announcement is part of the Cooperative Landslide Hazard Mapping and Assessment Program, authorized by the National Landslide Preparedness Act (P.L. 116-323) and funded through appropriations to the USGS.

Type of Award

Projects will be funded through G (Grant).

PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION

Application Content and Format

Pre-Application Requirements

Prior to applying, applicants should review presidential actions found at: https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/ and DOI Secretary's Orders found at: https://www.doi.gov/document-library/secretary-order. By applying in response to this Notice of

Funding Opportunity, the applicant certifies awareness and compliance with all currently effective and applicable executive orders and secretary's orders, including but not limited to the Executive Order titled Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing as well as the Executive Order and Secretary's order titled Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History. Applicants are responsible for ensuring their proposed activities are consistent with the intent and requirements of these directives.

Application Documents

Applicants must submit the following forms with their application as specified below. Instructions for accessing and submitting application forms are provided in the Submission Instructions section of this document below. For instructions on completing form fields, see the form instructions on the Grants.gov Forms Repository.

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement
SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance Note: For applicants requesting more than $100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Representative's signature (or electronic equivalent) on the Application for Federal Assistance form also represents their certification of the statements in Appendix A to 43 CFR 18-Certification Regarding Lobbying	Required from all applicants
SF-424A, Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs	Required for non-construction projects
SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	Required if requesting more than $100,000 in Federal funds and the applicant has used or plans to use funds other than Federal appropriated funds for lobbying related to the proposed project.
Project Abstract Summary (OMB 4040-0019). Must include, in plain language: • Project Title • Project Period • Award Purpose • Activities to be Performed • Expected Deliverables or Outcomes • Intended Beneficiaries • Subrecipient activities (if known or specified at time of award) Project Abstract may not exceed 4000 characters, including spaces as characters. Avoid acronyms and agency-specific terminology.	Required from all applicants

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement
DOI Research and Development (R&D) – Current and Pending (Other) Support Note: This form is available on the DOI website. Applicants must download the form and include the completed form as an application attachment.	Required for research projects.
DOI Research and Development (R&D) – Biographical Sketch Note: This form is available on the DOI website. Applicants must download the form and include the completed form as an application attachment.	Required for research projects.

Project Narrative

Applicants should note that detailed descriptions and instructions for completing the Project Narrative, Budget Narrative, Conflict of Interest and Unresolved Matters Disclosures, Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement, and other documents are provided in Attachment D. The description in this section "Prepare your Application" is a brief and incomplete summary, so applicants should consult Attachment D for full guidance.

The Project Narrative is the main description of your proposed work and will be used by the peer review panel and the USGS Landslide Hazards Program Office to evaluate your application. It must clearly explain the project's purpose, approach, and anticipated outcomes. Applicants should follow the instructions and structure provided in Attachment D, which includes detailed guidance and a recommended template. Adhering closely to Attachment D will help ensure your narrative is complete, well-organized, and aligned with program requirements. The Project Narrative **must not exceed 15 pages**.

Budget Narrative

Applicants must describe and justify items and costs listed in their budget. The budget narrative must identify the following cost items: total estimated costs, non-Federal cost share, third-party contributions, and any pre-award costs. Total project cost is the sum of all allowable costs, including required and voluntary cost share and third-party contributions.

Budget items must be**:**

- Reasonable, allowable, allocable, and necessary
- Compliant with 2 CFR §200 Subpart E cost principles

Indirect Costs: Applicants must indicate in their budget narrative how they will charge indirect costs, including the rate to be applied:

- De Minimis Rate: If eligible, state if your organization is opting to use the de minimis rate of up to 15% of total modified direct costs. Entities that do not have a current Federal negotiated indirect cost rate (including provisional rate) may propose to use the de minimis rate. For more information, refer to 2 CFR 200.414(f).
- Negotiated Rate: State if you will negotiate with your cognizant agency. If your organization has previously negotiated a rate, attach a copy of the most recently negotiated rate agreement (active or expired).

Conflict of Interest and Unresolved Matters Disclosures:

If any actual or potential conflict of interest exists related to this project at the time of application, the applicant must provide sufficient information to support a program determination of significance per 2 CFR 1402.112. Refer to 2 CFR 200.112 Conflict of Interest and 2 CFR 200.113.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement:

Applicants must state in their application if the activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel proposed in this application overlap with those in any other Federal proposal or award or not. If no overlap exists, include a statement to that effect. If any overlap exists, provide:

- Activities: Description any overlapping activities.
- Costs: Description of any overlapping costs.
- Time: Description of any overlapping key personnel time.
- A copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity.
- Details on when any overlapping proposal was submitted, to whom, and the expected date of the funding decision.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

Address to Request Application Package

The application package is available through Grants.gov. General information on the grant is available on the USGS Landslide Hazards Program External Grants website: https://www.usgs.gov/programs/landslide-hazards/science/external-grants-overview

If there are questions or problems finding the application package, please contact the USGS Project Officer.

Submission Dates and Times

Closing Date for Applications: 01/29/2027

Closing Date Explanation

Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m., ET, on the listed application due date.

Submission Instructions

Apply Through Grants.gov

To apply through Grants.gov, please follow the instructions in the Quick Start Guide for Applicants. Before applying, ensure that at least one person at your organization is registered and has the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR). Only the AOR can submit the application. If you need more users, they must create their own Grants.gov account. Follow these steps below to apply:

- *Create a Workspace*: Creating a workspace allows you to complete it online and route it through your organization for review before submitting.
- *Complete a Workspace*: Invite participants to the workspace so you can collaborate on the application. Required applications forms are included in the Grants.gov Funding Opportunity

Package and can be completed in the Workspace, unless noted otherwise in the Required Forms table above. Check for errors before submission.

- *Submit a Workspace*: An application may be submitted through workspace by clicking the Sign and Submit button on the Manage Workspace page, under the Forms tab
- *Track a Workspace Submission*: After successfully submitting a workspace application, a Grants.gov Tracking Number (GRANTXXXXXXXX) is automatically assigned to the application.

The system generates a date and time stamp and sends it to the applicant's AOR via email as proof of submission. Make sure your application passes the Grants.gov validation checks. Do not encrypt, zip, or password-protect any files. Only registered individuals in SAM as both a user and an AOR can submit applications. Please allow 30 days to register in Grants.gov.

Application System Technical Support: For Grants.gov technical registration and submission, downloading forms, and application packages, contact Grants.gov Customer Support at 1-800-518-4726 or by email at Support@grants.gov.

Only electronic submissions through grants.gov are permitted.

APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

Eligibility Review

During the eligibility review, the application is checked for timely submission, completed packages (see Application Documents above) and alignment with the requirements of this announcement. The Federal agency may remove an application if it does not pass the eligibility review.

The USGS Project Officer and DOI Grant Specialist review all submitted applications to ensure the applications are complete. If an application does not meet all requirements specified in the Program Announcement, the application will be rejected, and the institution and Principal Investigator will be promptly notified that the proposal will not be reviewed and the reason for its rejection.

If an applicant selected for funding hasn't finished their SAM.gov registration (see 2 CFR 25.200 and 2 CFR 25.110) when the federal agency is ready to make an award, we may decide that the applicant is ineligible for the award and choose to grant it to someone else. Please refer 2 CFR 25.205 for more information.

Prior to making an award, the DOI checks the anticipated recipient and their key project personnel against the current list of prohibited or restricted persons or entities in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Exclusions database. We are prohibited from making an award if a recipient or any key personnel are found ineligible, prohibited, restricted, or otherwise excluded from receiving or participating in an award, as their ineligibility condition applies to this program.

If removed from consideration for ineligibility, the Federal agency will notify the applicant in writing.

Merit Review

All proposals are evaluated by a peer review panel of 4 to 7 members, which includes scientists, engineers, and other experts from academic, federal, state, local, regional, and Tribal governments, non-profits, and private industry. Most proposals are evaluated by a single review panel. However,

additional panels may be formed to address specific regions, topic areas, or to distribute the review workload when a high number of proposals is submitted.

Regional or topical panels include members with expertise in the relevant area and make up at least 50% of the panel's membership. The Program Office and Grants Coordinator determine when additional panels are needed. If additional panels are formed, they review only the proposals related to their specific region or topic.

Evaluation Criteria

Each proposal is evaluated individually using five evaluation criteria with a maximum score of 130 points.

- **EO/SO Alignment (30 points):** This factor assesses how well the project addresses the EOs/SOs outlined in the Basic Information – Executive Summary section, above.
- **Technical Merit and Quality (25 points):** This factor assesses the proposed technical approach in addressing the Guidance Criteria described in Attachment C and the probability of achieving positive results within the period of performance. The assessment includes analysis of methodologies, technology, and/or workflows and whether they are appropriate to achieve positive results.
- **Societal Benefits (25 points):** This factor assesses the value of the landslide deliverable(s) in advancing scientific understanding, improving the knowledge base, workforce development, and(or) increasing public safety.
- **Knowledge, Performance, and Experience (25 points):** This factor considers the scientific and technical ability of the PI and team and the promptness with which the results of previous projects/funding were disseminated to the user community. This factor includes performance records and capability to provide the necessary facilities and support that will ensure satisfactory completion of the proposed work, including dissemination to the intended audience.
- **Appropriateness and Reasonableness of the Budget (25 points):** This factor considers whether the proposed budget is commensurate with the level of effort needed to accomplish the project objectives and whether the cost of the project is reasonable relative to the value of the anticipated results.

Cost sharing is not an eligibility requirement, nor is it considered by the review panel during proposal evaluation. Instead, it is used by the Landslide Hazards Program Office as a prioritization factor during final funding decisions. As noted in the "Cost Sharing" section above, proposals receive higher funding priority if at least 50 percent of the total project cost is contributed by non-Federal sources. For example, if two proposals receive the same score from the review panel, and one includes more than 50 percent non-Federal cost share while the other includes less than 50 percent, the proposal meeting the 50-percent threshold will be ranked higher for funding than the one without a qualifying match.

Review and Selection Process

This program reviews proposed budgets to ensure:

- figures are correct
- estimated costs are necessary and reasonable and clearly linked to project narratives

- avoid obviously unallowable costs
- identify costs requiring prior approval
- ensure indirect cost rates are applied correctly
- confirm cost sharing requirements are reflected in the budget.

This program reviews applications for potential overlap or duplication between the proposed project and any other funded or proposed project. Depending on the circumstances, DOI may choose to not make an award.

Prior to conducting the comprehensive merit review, an initial review will be performed to determine whether: (1) the applicant is eligible for an award; (2) the information required by the NOFO has been submitted; (3) all mandatory requirements of the NOFO are satisfied; (4) the proposed project is responsive to the program objectives of the NOFO (program determination); and (5) the proposed project is in compliance with all applicable executive and secretary orders, including the President's executive order on Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing as well as the executive order and Secretary order on Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History. If an applicant fails to meet the requirements or objectives of the NOFO, or does not provide sufficient information for review, the applicant will be considered non responsive and eliminated from further review.

- All proposals are considered in accordance with the Merit Review criteria described above. All criteria are weighed by the review panel when deriving their overall score. Panel members are asked not to compare proposals and instead assess each proposal individually according to the Merit Review criteria. Each panel member assigns a score for each proposal.
- Review panel members are required to review all submitted proposals and make recommendations on each proposal based on the merit criteria described above. At the end of the review period (usually 6-8 weeks), panel members meet virtually to discuss each proposal. After discussion, individual scoring is shared leading to a panel ranking of the proposals.
- The Landslide Hazards Program Office and Project Officer use the review panel rankings, panel comments, and discussion notes, to make recommendations for final selection of proposals for funding. Final funding decisions based on the review panel's recommendations, the Landslide Hazards Program science priorities, Guidance Criteria described in Attachment C, and the priorities outlined for the grant program in the National Landslide Preparedness Act
- The Program Office may limit the amount of available funding or the number of awarded projects to organizations with outstanding NCEs.

Risk Review

Prior to making an award, the applicant will be assessed for their level of risk per 2 CFR 200.206. This assessment includes the applicant's financial management capabilities, project delivery experience, staffing resources, past award performance, administration and reporting compliance records, and overall project complexity and potential for challenges. If an award will be made, special conditions may be applied to the award corresponding to the assessed risk. For awards over the simplified acquisition threshold (currently $350,000), a review of the applicant's eligibility and

financial integrity information in the applicant's SAM.gov records will also be performed per 2 CFR 200.206.

AWARD NOTICES

Notices of Federal Award are sent electronically via GrantSolutions or e-mail. These notices outline the terms, conditions, and payment instructions per 2 CFR 200.211. The Notice of Federal Award signed by an authorized Grants Officer is the legal instrument obligating financial assistance to a recipient. Any other prior notice is not an authorization to begin work. If the program allows pre-award costs per 2 CFR 200.458, beginning performance before receiving a Notice of Federal Award is at the applicant's own risk.

Anticipated Project Start Date: 05/01/2027

Anticipated Project End Date: 04/30/2029

All projects must propose a start date between 05/01/2027 and 09/30/2027. The start date requested in the applicant's submitted proposal is considered the applicant's official start date and may not be changed by the applicant. If federal funding delays do not allow for a project to be funded by the applicant's requested start date, the award will be issued as soon as funds become available, and the applicant will be notified of the new start date by the USGS Contracting Officer. Note that the Anticipated End Date stated above is an estimate and may not reflect your actual ending date.

We expect that all applicants should hear a response from the USGS Project Officer approximately 6 to 8 weeks after the closing of the application period.

POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

Administration and National Policy Requirements

For award administration and national policy requirements, see the DOI General Terms and Conditions. Infrastructure projects require the use of American iron, steel, manufacture products, and construction materials per 2 CFR 184.

See Attachment G for the USGS Special Terms and Conditions.

Geospatial Data

If you receive financial assistance from the Department of the Interior (DOI), recipient must follow these rules for geospatial data:

Follow Federal Standards: All geospatial data you collect or create must meet the standards set by the Federal Geospatial Data Committee (FGDC) or the Department of the Interior. This is required by the Geospatial Data Act of 2018, which is part of Public Law 115-254, specifically in Subtitle F (Geospatial Data), sections 751-759C (codified at 43 U.S.C. §§ 2801–2811).

Include Metadata: Your Geographic Information Systems (GIS) files must include complete metadata. Metadata is information that describes the data, such as where it came from, how accurate it is, and how it should be used. This is to ensure that anyone using the data understands its context and quality.

Check for Existing Data: Before you start collecting new geospatial data, you need to check GeoPlatform.gov. This is to see if there is already existing geospatial data from federal, state, local,

or private sources that can meet your needs and is available for free. If such data is available, you should use it instead of gathering new data.

These rules help ensure that geospatial data is reliable, high-quality, and that resources are used efficiently.

Reporting

The recipient's Notice of Award will detail all reporting requirements, including frequency, due dates, and instructions for requesting extensions. In general, but not limited to, recipients must:

- Submit Federal Financial reports and Program Performance reports.
- Use the Federal Financial Report (SF-425) form for financial reporting,
- Monitor award activities and report on program performance per 2 CFR 200.329,
- Promptly notify the awarding program in writing of any issues, delays, or conditions impairing award objectives per 2 CFR 200.329(e),
- Disclose any conflicts of interest related to their award that arise during the award period per 2 CFR 1402.112,
- Report on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest per 2 CFR 200.330, and
- Report all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award per 2 CFR 200.113.
- Report any matters related to recipient integrity and performance to SAM.gov per Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200.
- If the Federal share of the award is more than $100,000 and the recipient makes or agrees to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection to the award, disclose those activities using the Disclosure of Lobbying (SF-LLL) form per 43 CFR 18.100.
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) and 2 CFR 170 requires certain recipients to report information on executive compensation, and information on all sub-awards, subcontracts and consortiums equal to or over $30,000 to SAM.gov.

Other Information

Attachment A. National Landslide Preparedness Act - Public Law 116-323

Link: PUBL323.PS (congress.gov) or https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ323/PLAW-116publ323.pdf

Attachment B. Landslide National Strategy for Landslide Loss Reduction

Link: ofr20221075.pdf – National Strategy for Landslide Loss Reduction (usgs.gov) or https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2022/1075/ofr20221075.pdf

Attachment C. Guidance Criteria for FY 2027

Guidance Criteria for the USGS Cooperative Landslide Hazard Mapping and Assessment Program
The *National Landslide Preparedness Act* established the *National Landslide Hazards Reduction Program* to address **four goals**:

1. Identify and understand landslide hazards and risks
2. Reduce losses from landslides
3. Protect communities susceptible to landslide hazards
4. Help improve communication and emergency preparedness, including by coordinating with communities and entities responsible for infrastructure that are exposed to landslide hazards.

To meet these four goals, the *National Strategy for Landslide Loss Reduction* (hereafter the "*National Strategy*") was written in coordination with a Federal interagency working group, identifying specific goals and strategic actions applicable to all levels of government. In consideration of the four goals above and the goals and strategic actions identified in the *National Strategy*; the following **Guidance Criteria** (GC) have been articulated for Risk Reduction Proposals associated with the Cooperative Landslide Hazard Mapping and Assessment Program and are described in detail below:

GC1. Landslide hazard mapping and assessment
GC2. Planning and coordination
GC3. Education and outreach

In addition, for FY2027 a fourth Guidance Criteria has been included focused on landslide hazards in Alaska and is designated GC4.

GC4. Landslide hazards in Alaska

Proposals submitted to this grant program must address at least one of the Guidance Criteria (GC1, GC2, GC3, GC4). This document summarizes some of the relevant goals and strategic actions discussed above; the USGS invites those submitting a proposal to also review the *National Landslide Preparedness Act* and the *National Strategy* (Attachment A and Attachment B, respectively) to improve their proposal alignment. The identified Guidance Criteria are not an exhaustive list of all potential proposal topics, nor intended to discourage submission of proposals to accomplish other important landslide risk reduction tasks.

Guidance Criteria GC1: Landslide hazard mapping and assessments
Characterizing societal risk from landslides is an interdisciplinary endeavor that requires data collection and analysis in collaboration and coordination with local, Tribal, state, territorial, and federal agencies, as well as input from susceptible communities, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector. Key to the effectiveness of this work in reducing landslide losses is the development of better landslide hazard mapping and assessments. The hazard assessments can then be used to inform vulnerability and risk-assessment activities, which can in turn help identify where more-detailed hazard assessments and improved monitoring are needed to reduce the

uncertainty of where, when, and why landslides could occur. These maps and assessments, combined with place-based sociological research, can also help focus outreach and communications about landslide risk reduction and preparedness. **NOTE: for ANY mapping project, please provide a map of the proposed mapping area and note the size of the area to be mapped in square miles. Specific protocols, methods, tools, and processes to be used for project work must be articulated for projects that involve mapping landslides, susceptibility, risk, or other spatial analysis.**

Risk Reduction Proposal topics may include:

- Landslide hazard mapping following an established protocol and using a lidar (3DEP) DEM base map. Hazard mapping may include landslide inventory, susceptibility, runout, exposure, and risk modeling for a region, municipality, or other defined area within the applicant's jurisdictional responsibility.
- Landslide event database creation that describes spatial and temporal information related to storm events, earthquakes, or other regional landslide events. Data collected may include landslide timing, precise location, land use, damage estimates, losses, or other influences to improve the collective understanding of the impact that landslides have on people, the built environment, and ecosystem services.
- Assessments to improve our understanding of landslide behavior, including where landslides will initiate and where debris could travel after an event.
- A study of the influence of land use and land management practices on landslide likelihood and magnitude.
- Development of best practices and tools for landslide mapping in collaboration and coordination with state, Tribal, territorial, Federal, and local governments.
- Collecting and analyzing loss data from landslides.
- Other topics relevant to this Guidance Criteria.

Recommendations for Proposals Using Topographic Data

Applicants are strongly encouraged to use lidar-derived DEMs (such as 3DEP data) for any mapping efforts. If the proposal includes funding to acquire new lidar data, applicants should contact the USGS 3DEP program (3DEP@usgs.gov) to determine whether planned collections already cover the area of interest. A brief summary of that communication should be included in the proposal.

Guidance Criteria GC2: Landslide planning and coordination

Reducing landslide losses requires strategies for improved preparedness and mitigation, and for expanded regional-local capacity to respond to and recover from landslides that impact communities, infrastructure, and other equities. Improving preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery require planning, collaboration, and coordination across Federal agencies; state, Tribal, territorial, and local governments; academia; private industry; and nongovernmental and community organizations. Guidance Criteria 2 seeks to fund projects aimed at improving planning and coordination among research, private industry, land management, and emergency management communities, as well as across various levels of government to ensure that the right information is in the right hands at the right time.

Efforts to improve planning and coordination may include workforce development through professional training, improved event messaging and evacuation planning, network linkages between landslide hazard science entities and operational entities responsible for providing watches and warnings, and assessment and improvement of communication strategies. Formalizing roles and responsibilities for landslide response and research, as well as increasing coordination, will streamline landslide hazard responses and can result in improved short- and long-term outcomes to protect lives, property, infrastructure, and the environment.
Proposal topics may include:

- Development of landslide emergency and technical response protocols, roles and responsibilities, procedures, products, and training to address local landslide emergencies. Partners may include emergency, land, and infrastructure managers, and others.
- Development, coordination, and facilitation of a landslide working group that shares best practices and lessons learned for effective landslide outreach, preparedness planning, education, land use practices, and other areas of landslide risk reduction and consisting of landslide experts and emergency, land, and transportation managers, planners, and others.
- Other topics relevant to this Guidance Criteria.

Guidance Criteria GC3: Landslide education, engagement, and outreach
The production of information on landslides and related hazards alone is not sufficient to reduce landslide risk and losses. Stakeholders buy-in is a critical step in information acceptance, adoption, and use. Active engagement with the user community in the development, application and interpretation of landslide hazard information is needed for effective risk reduction. Ensuring comprehension of landslide risk reduction products by decision makers at all levels is crucial to reduce landslide losses.

For the best available scientific information to be used, it must be delivered in a manner that is tailored to the scale and intent of the decisions and actions of its users. Effective loss reduction also requires education and training for people and communities, for land managers, and for other entities exposed to landslide hazards. Incorporating landslide hazard information into all-hazards planning efforts enables land managers and communities to: (a) address exposure of existing and future assets to landslide risk; (b) mitigate potential losses to the built environment, natural and cultural resources, and habitats that may be in these areas; and (c) respond and recover in ways that reduce the long-term effects of landslides.

Proposal topics may include:

- Development of materials promoting landslide education, outreach, and engagement to the public.
- Provide collaborative engagement opportunities (workshops, trainings, etc.) for specialists and practitioners that facilitate addressing important challenges, such as: landslide hazard mitigation, response, preparedness, resilience, or similar.

- Advance coordination of messaging across multiple agencies by examining resources for education, crowdsourcing, and emergency management tools, for disseminating landslide information, landslide hazard products, and landslide emergency response.
- Engage user communities to assess the efficacy of existing landslide products and elicit their suggestions for improvements and new products.
- Develop new tools and products for increasing awareness of landslide hazards within the public and targeted user groups, such as emergency responders, public utilities, risk managers, decision makers, developers, and engineers.
- Develop approaches for providing landslide hazard information needed for risk assessments, and landslide mitigation and response planning to decision makers, emergency responders, and the public, particularly that cross local, state, Tribal, and territorial boundaries, and various levels of government.
- Develop landslide preparedness curricula and training modules for the public and for government officials including utility workers, planners and emergency, land, resources, and infrastructure.
- Other topics relevant to this Guidance Criteria.

Guidance Criteria GC4: Landslide hazards in Alaska

Alaska's steep terrain, complex geology, and dynamic climate render the state particularly vulnerable to frequent landslides. The cascading nature of geohazards further amplifies risk. For instance, large earthquakes, which are common in Alaska, can trigger landslides across vast regions. Landslides occurring on steep slopes adjacent to Alaska's extensive coastline or abundant large lakes can generate regionally significant tsunamis. Remoteness, challenging travel conditions, and limited communication further complicate efforts to mitigate risks and losses associated with landslides.

We invite innovative and scientifically robust proposals aimed at reducing landslide risk in the distinctive landscapes, climate, communities, and cultures of Alaska. Proposals should address one or more of the following areas:

- Development of innovative geospatial products that improve our capacity to convey landslide hazards and risk to the public, emergency managers, and first responders.
- Communication strategies that enhance how landslide scientists convey uncertainties regarding landslide occurrence forecasting, spatial hazard mapping, and when supporting the implementation of risk reduction strategies, such as issuing warnings or evacuation orders.
- Any of the above Guidance Criteria.

Attachment D. Application Instructions and Template

The following attachment describes the additional components needed for a grant application. **It is required that you follow this format when preparing your application**. There are four main sections of the application:

A) Project Narrative
B) Project Narrative Supporting Documentation
C) Detailed Budget Narrative/Budget Summary Table
D) Additional Information

Applicant guidance*: The Project Narrative is where you provide a detailed description of your proposed project. Please follow the directions and guidance closely. When writing this section, keep in mind that your audience will be knowledgeable about landslide science but may not be familiar with the specific topic of your proposal. Therefore, it's essential to clearly explain what you are doing, how you plan to do it, the tools and methods you will use, the expected outcomes, and who will benefit from your work. Focus on being concise while ensuring that your audience fully understands the proposal. Use clear language and avoid jargon or explain any technical terms as necessary. Remember, the goal is to communicate the significance and impact of your project effectively.*

Please adhere to these formatting rules:

- *Number all pages.*
- *All text, figures, and tables shall be sized to fit on 8½" by 11" paper and font size shall not be smaller than 11 points.*
- *Sections A through D, below, will be combined into a single PDF or Microsoft Word document, in the order noted below.*
- *The Project Narrative (Section A) may not exceed 15-pages, including supplemental figures, tables, references, appendices, etc.*

Project Specific Considerations: *Depending on your proposal topic(s), the following should be considered when writing your proposal.*

- ***(a) Mapping and Inventory Methods:*** *For proposals involving mapping—such as inventory, susceptibility, risk, or runout—clearly identify the mapping protocol you will use. If the protocol is internal or unpublished, describe the methods, data sources, and any prior applications. If proposing an experimental or novel approach, briefly explain the rationale. Include a map of the proposed project area, specify total square miles, and provide acreage by land classification (private, state, Tribal, and federal).*
- ***(b) Communication and Engagement:*** *If the project includes communication, community engagement, or assessment of products or outreach materials, ensure the project team includes appropriate expertise (e.g., communication, social science, or community engagement specialists).*
- ***(c) Work Involving Human Subjects:*** *For projects that involve collecting human data—such as surveys, interviews, or focus groups—intended for publication or public release, indicate whether Institutional Review Board (IRB) review is required. Describe the anticipated timeline for the review process and expected outcomes or approvals.*
- ***(d) Two-Year Project Justification:*** *For proposals requesting two years of funding, explain why the work cannot be divided into two one-year efforts. Provide a clear rationale for the multi-year structure, such as sequential dependencies, required field*

At the end of Attachment D is an outline template that contains all relevant sections and subsections described below and in order**.**

A) **Project Narrative**.

1) **Proposal Information Summary**: Use the format below for the **required** grants.gov Proposal Information Summary. Please delete all blue text.

1. Project Title	If possible or relevant, please include a place name
2. Guidance Criteria	From Attachment C, list the Guidance Criteria this proposal addresses (GC1, GC2, GC3 and/or GC4)
3a. Principal Investigator	List the PI for the proposal and contact information. There can only be one PI, and they must be from the government institution submitting the proposal. No sub-awardees or contractors should be listed as PIs. Please include Name, Organization Name, Street Address/P.O. Box, City, State, Zip Code; Phone and email
3b. Co-Principal Investigator(s)	List any co-PI(s) here and all contact information. Co-PI's must be from the government organization submitting the proposal. No sub-awardees or contractors should be listed. Please include Name, Organization Name, Street Address/P.O. Box, City, State, Zip Code; Phone, and email
4. Authorized Organizational Representative	The individual who can represent, commit, and legally bind your organization for this grant application. AORs should not be the same person as the PI. Please include Name, Institute/Organization Name, Street Address/P.O. Box, City, State, Zip Code, Phone, and email
5. Amount Requested	List amount requested for federal support
6. Proposed Start Date	The date you would like to start work (MM/DD/YYYY) and is the start date is: **Fixed** ☐ or **Flexible** ☐
7. Proposed Period of Performance	Select the period of performance: **1 year** ☐ or **2 years** ☐
8. New Proposal	If submitting a proposal for a project related to a current or recent USGS award, indicate the USGS award number and title
9. Resubmittal Proposal	If this is a resubmitted proposal to USGS? **Yes** ☐ or **No** ☐. If YES, include title and year of previous submission to the USGS. The resubmitted proposal should identify changes made since original submission to USGS.
10. Has this proposal been submitted to any other	Note name(s) of agency, and program or division to which this proposal was submitted. If it has not been submitted before, enter "None"

organization for funding?	

2) **Project Abstract Summary**: This summary is required for proposals submitted through Grants.gov and must include the information below. The Project Abstract Summary may not exceed 4000 characters, including spaces as characters. Please note that if the proposal is awarded, the **Project Abstract Summary** will become publicly available on USAspending.gov, so ensure the summary succinctly describes the project in plain language that the public can understand and use without the full proposal. The summary must contain the following information:
    - **Project Title:** Include Project Title from *Proposal Information Summary, Block 1*
    - **Project Period:** Start and end date (ex. 05/01/2026 – 04/30/2027)
    - **Purpose**: A plain language description of Award purpose. Avoid acronyms and agency-specific terminology.
    - **Activities**: Describe the activities that will be carried out as part of the proposed project.
    - **Deliverables and Outcomes:** List the proposed project deliverables and describe the expected outcomes of this work.
    - **Intended Beneficiary(ies)**: Detail communities, agencies, priorities, etc. that will benefit from the expected outcomes/deliverables.
    - **Subrecipient activities** (e.g., sub-contractors), if any. If no subrecipients, you do not need to address this in your summary.
3) **Table of Contents:** A list that outlines the main components of the proposal.
4) **Significance of the Project**: Explain the specific problem your project seeks to address and explain why it is important. Then describe how the project aligns with one or more of the Guidance Criteria described in Attachment C. This section should clearly convey the project's importance and the potential benefits or impacts it is expected to deliver.
5) **Project Plan**: In the context of the Guidance Criteria and the problem this proposed work aims to address, please discuss the following in the plan:
    - **Activities and Responsibilities**
        - Describe the major activities required to achieve the project's objectives, providing enough detail for reviewers to understand the workflow and sequencing. For multi-component projects (for example, developing a landslide inventory map followed by public outreach), clearly outline each component and identify the staff, partners, or contractors responsible for implementation. Note that the review panel may recommend funding only certain activities; if portions are not recommended, the scope, budget, or related elements may need revision based on OAG and LHPO guidance.
    - **Staffing, Roles, and Level of Effort**

        - For each project year, outline staffing roles, expected time commitments, and overall level of effort. Include plans for hiring, onboarding, and training new personnel, along with any required professional licenses. If hiring is anticipated, include the recruitment timeline and describe how new staff will be prepared to contribute effectively.
    - **Data Collection, Analysis, and Management**
        - Explain how project data will be collected, analyzed, interpreted, documented, and shared. Describe analytical methods, quality-assurance steps, and how results will be integrated into project deliverables and reporting requirements.
    - **Relationship to Past Work**
        - Summarize how the proposed project builds on or extends previous studies or related efforts in the region or within the same topic area. Clarify how past findings inform your approach and how the proposed work fills identified gaps.
    - **Milestones, Deliverables, and Reporting**
        - Provide a schedule of key milestones, deliverables, and reporting deadlines. Clearly connect expected results to the proposed activities, methods, and data sources. Briefly explain how the outcomes address the Guidance Criteria.
    - **Sustainability and Transferability**
        - If project activities or benefits will continue beyond the funding period, describe how this work will be sustained, for example, through follow-on funding, ongoing partnerships, or integration into existing programs. If applicable, explain how project methods, tools, or results can be applied in other regions or contexts to demonstrate broader value.
    - **Dissemination of Results**
        - Describe anticipated project products and how they will be shared with intended audiences. Products may include maps, datasets, journal articles, outreach materials, or other outputs. Submission for peer review is encouraged and not required. Journal publication does not replace the Final Technical Report or Data Management Plan requirements. All products and code must be made publicly accessible.
6) **Related Efforts:** Briefly describe previous work your team has done that relates to this proposal and explain how you will collaborate with other experts. Summarize any ongoing landslide-related efforts.
7) **Institutional Qualifications:** Summarize your institution's resources and experience that support the project. Include relevant staff expertise, technical capabilities, access to data, and connections to expected users of the project results.

8) **Past USGS-Supported Projects:** List past USGS funding related to this proposal. Include the funding amount per year, award duration (including extensions), and the person-months committed by each PI and co-PI.
9) **Artificial Intelligence Disclosure:** Were any AI-based tools (such as generative text, summarization, coding, or editing tools) used to help prepare any part of this proposal? If yes, briefly describe:

    - Which AI tools were used
    - What sections they assisted with
    - The approximate extent of AI involvement using the following examples:
        (i) **Minimal AI Assistance**: Spell-checking, grammar correction, or minor wording suggestions; Using AI to summarize meeting notes or brainstorm ideas; No text generated directly for inclusion in the proposal
        (ii) **Moderate AI Assistance**: AI helped draft specific sentences or paragraphs that were then edited by the applicant; AI assisted in rewording, reorganizing, or simplifying applicant-written text; AI used to generate outlines or section drafts, with the applicant doing significant revisions
        (iii) **Significant AI Assistance**: Large portions of the proposal text were generated by AI; Applicant relied heavily on AI to draft multiple sections before editing; AI used to structure, write, or rewrite major proposal components
        (iv) **Extensive / Majority AI Assistance**: AI generated most of the narrative text; Applicant provided prompts and edits but contributed limited original writing; Proposal narrative is primarily AI-produced with human review

10) **References/Works Cited:** Provide a list of all references cited in the proposal.

THIS CONCLUDES THE <u>PROJECT NARRATIVE</u> SECTION AND 15-PAGE LIMIT

CONTINUE TO THE NEXT PAGE FOR THE REMAINING SECTIONS OF ATTACHMENT D

B) **Project Narrative Supporting Documentation**.

***Applicant guidance**: This section contains supporting documentation to the Project Narrative. This section and all following sections do not count against the 15-page maximum of the Project Narrative.*

1) **Project Personnel and Bibliography of Directly Related Work**: Provide a brief CV (**maximum 2 pages**) for all professional staff involved in the project. Each CV should summarize education, relevant experience, and key publications from the last five years. Include CVs for any non-PI staff who will make significant contributions. This is not the same as the *OMB Common Disclosure Form - Biographical Sketch* required by grants.gov in the Forms/Assurances/Certifications section.
2) **Letters of Support**: Include letters of support if the project involves collaboration with landslide scientists or researchers outside your institution. Letters from stakeholders (such as state geological surveys, transportation agencies, Tribal governments, planners, emergency managers, or land managers) are encouraged to show support for and potential use of the project's results.

THIS CONCLUDES THE PROJECT NARRATIVE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION SECTION

CONTINUE TO THE NEXT PAGE FOR THE REMAINING SECTIONS OF ATTACHMENT D

C) **Detailed Budget Narrative and Budget Summary Table**.

***Applicant Guidance**: The **Detailed Budget Narrative** must explain and justify all proposed costs listed in the **Budget Summary Table**. Include unit costs for every budget item, contractor or subrecipient work, and list any non-Federal cost share, if applicable. Ensure that all cost categories match those shown in the SF-424A and the **Budget Summary Table** (salary, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, supplies, contracts, other direct costs, and indirect costs).*

*The **Budget Summary Table** is required and must be the first page of the narrative. It should list all expenses and rates and match the totals in the SF-424A.*

*Remove all blue instructional text before submitting. Green headings correspond to sections in both the **Detailed Budget Narrative** and the **Budget Summary Table**.*

Budget Summary Table				
1) Salaries and wages				
Personnel	**Rate**	**Quantity**	**USGS Funds**	**Recipient Matching**
Ex. J. Doe, Engineering Geologist	$30/hr.	1000 hrs.	$15,000	$15,000
		Salary Total	**$**	**$**
2) Fringe benefits/labor overhead				
Personnel	**Rate**	**Quantity**	**USGS Funds**	**Recipient Matching**
Ex. J. Doe, Engineering Geologist	40.20%	--	$12,060	$0
		Fringe Total	**$**	**$**
3) Travel				
Expense	**Rate**	**Quantity**	**USGS Funds**	**Recipient Matching**
Ex. Lodging	$109/night	6 nights	$654.00	$0.00
		Travel Total	**$**	**$**
4) Equipment				
Expense	**Rate**	**Quantity**	**USGS Funds**	**Recipient Matching**
Ex. Surveying Equipment	$10,000/each	1	$10,000.00	$0.00
		Equipment Total	**$**	**$**
5) Supplies				
Expense	**Rate**	**Quantity**	**USGS Funds**	**Recipient Matching**
Ex. Field Notebooks	$15/each	3	$45.00	$0.00
NOTE: itemize all supplies to purchase; do not aggregate into one line item of “supplies”				
		Supplies Total	**$**	**$**
6) Contracts and sub-awards				
Expense	**Rate**	**Quantity**	**USGS Funds**	**Recipient Matching**
Ex. Landslide inventory mapping	$550/day	5 days	$1,375.00	$1,375.00
		Contracts Total	**$**	**$**
7) Other Direct Costs				

Expense	Rate	Quantity	USGS Funds	Recipient Matching
Ex. Shipping Fees	$200/year	2	$400	$0
Other Direct Costs Total			**$**	**$**
Direct/ Indirect Costs		**Rate**	**USGS Funds**	**Recipient Matching**
8) Total Direct Costs		--	$39,534.00	$16,375.00
9) Indirect cost/General and Administrative cost		18%	$5,316.12	$2,947.50
10) Total Project Cost - USGS			**$44,850.12**	-
11) Total Project Cost – Recipient Matching			-	**$19,322.50**
12) Combined Total Project Cost			**$ 64,172.62**	

***Applicant guidance**: The following describes the components of the **Budget Summary Table**, above, and can be used as an outline and guidance for the **Detailed Budget Narrative**.*

1) **Salaries and wages**: Please provide the following information for each individual involved in the project:
   - Names: First and last name
   - Positions: Job title and affiliation
   - Number of Hours: Specify the number of hours each individual will spend on various project activities.
   - Rates of Compensation: Hourly rate of pay for each individual/role.
   - Project Roles: Describe the specific role for each individual involved in the project.
     - Only include personnel who are actively involved in the project. If senior management salaries or time are covered by the overhead (indirect cost) portion of the budget, do not include them in this section. However, if senior management personnel will participate in project work, please explain their roles. Additionally, report any salary for services or consultants or subrecipients in section 6 below.
     - Salaries or wages for student assistants (both undergraduate and graduate) working on the project are acceptable costs. Tuition remission and other forms of compensation paid to students for necessary work are also allowable, if these payments are reasonable for the work performed and are explicitly tied to the completion of that work. Be sure to identify any tuition and/or tuition remission in this section of the budget.
     - If a position is currently vacant, please indicate the position title, outline the criteria necessary to fill the position (for example: indicate if landslide mapping experience needed, a geologist license needed, a geology degree is required, etc.) and provide a timeline for hiring and training a new employee. Note that unfilled positions cannot be counted towards cost share.

2) **Fringe benefits/labor overhead**: Provide fringe benefit rates and total amounts. Briefly explain what these rates include and whether they are provisional or fixed.

3) **Travel**: Describe all planned travel and provide itemized cost estimates, including:

   - Number of travelers and travel days
   - Per Diem and Lodging Rate
   - Mileage Rate
   - Airfare or Other Transportation
   - Other Travel Costs
   - Conference/Workshop Travel. Note that expenses are allowed up to $6,000 and for staff only. Identify who will attend and break down all associated costs.

4) **Equipment**: Please list the cost of all equipment necessary to achieve the objectives of the project. "Equipment" refers to items that have a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of $10,000 or more per item. Each piece of equipment should be itemized and include the following:
   - Full Justification: Explain why each item is necessary for the project.
   - Dealer or Manufacturer Quote: Provide a quote from a dealer or manufacturer for each item.

   Please note that the title to any non-expendable personal property will be held solely by the Recipient. Under no circumstances will the title to this property be transferred to a sub-recipient.

5) **Supplies**: List the costs for office, field, and laboratory supplies. Itemize each supply, including its quantity and individual cost. Do not combine everything into a single "supplies" total—provide a detailed breakdown of each item to be purchased.

6) **Contracts and sub-awards**: Please identify the proposed contractors for the project and provide the following information:
   i) Selection Criteria: Explain the criteria used to select these contractors or how they have already been selected.
   ii) Estimated Time Required: Indicate the estimated amount of time each contractor will need to complete their work.
   iii) Quoted Rate: Provide the quoted rate per day or hour for each contractor.
      (1) Additionally, include a breakdown of all costs associated with the contractors.
      (2) For sub-awards, list them as a single line item in this category (row 6). Then for each sub-awardee, produce a separate **Detailed Budget Narrative** and **Budget Summary Table** that provides the same level of detail as described in this section. This is required for each sub-award and should be attached to the main recipient's proposal.

7) **Other direct costs**: Please itemize the different types of costs that are not included elsewhere in the budget, such as:
   i) Shipping Costs
   ii) Publication Costs

iii) Computing Costs
iv) Equipment-Use Charges
v) For each type of cost, provide a detailed breakdown that shows how the cost was estimated. This should include any calculations or assumptions made to arrive at the estimated amounts.

8) **Total direct costs**: Total items 1 through 7.
9) **Indirect cost/General and Administrative (G&A) cost**: Please provide the proposed indirect cost rate and the corresponding amount. Proposals must include a copy of the negotiated indirect cost rate agreement. Ensure that indirect charges are applied only to those direct cost items that are allowable under the terms of the negotiated cost rate agreement.
    (1) Please note that if there is no negotiated cost agreement in place, the maximum indirect rate that may be charged is 15%, as stated in Section 200.414(f) of the Uniform Administrative Requirements.
10) **Total Federal Amount Proposed:** Total items 8 and 9.
11) **Applicant's contribution (i.e., Cost share/Match) to Project Cost**: In this section, please describe all non-federal cost share funds that will be contributed to the project and provide the total sum of these funds.
12) **Total Project Cost**: Total items 10 and 11.

THIS CONCLUDES THE <u>DETAILED BUDGET NARRATIVE AND BUDGET SUMMARY TABLE</u> SECTION

CONTINUE TO THE NEXT PAGE FOR THE REMAINING SECTIONS OF ATTACHMENT D

D) **Additional Information**

***Applicant guidance**: This section contains supporting documentation and information required for all federal grants.*

1) **Data Management Plan (DMP)**: A data management plan (DMP) explains what data a project will create, how it will be handled, and how it will be shared or preserved. DMPs are used to ensure projects follow USGS data-management requirements, including documentation, storage, public access, and long-term stewardship. Proposals submitted to the USGS must include a DMP. A valid DMP may state that no detailed plan is necessary, such as: "*No data are expected to be produced from this project*" followed by a clear justification for this statement. If data is produced, use the template below. It should not exceed four pages.

Will this project utilize existing data?	Yes☐ No ☐	If yes, where is the existing data hosted/stored currently? (Paper files, Excel spreadsheets, custom database, etc.)
Will this project use existing USGS data?	Yes☐ No ☐	If yes, where did the existing dataset(s) come from?
Will the project collect or process new data?	Yes☐ No ☐	If yes, what file format will be used to collect the new data? (Paper files, web forms, PDF forms, etc.)
Are there access/use limitations associated with your data?	Yes☐ No ☐	If yes, describe the limitations, including proprietary or sensitive data elements, etc.
Is existing data currently available to the public?	Yes☐ No ☐	If yes: Where are the data made available? Describe how any proprietary/sensitive data is handled. Are any fees associated with release of the data? What data format is the data released in? Is associated metadata made available, and if so what format?
Is new data planned to be made available to the public?	Yes☐ No ☐	If yes: Where will the data be available? Describe how any proprietary/sensitive data will be handled. Will any fees be associated with release of the data? What data format will the data be released in? Will associated metadata be made available, and if so, what format will be used?

Does data for this project rely on proprietary or licensed software?	Yes☐ No ☐	If yes, list software.
Describe the approach for backup of all data associated with this project.		
What is the lifespan of these data?	Maintained indefinitely? Moved to archive storage after X years? Destroyed after X years?	
Describe quality assurance and/or quality control procedures that are associated with data collection and processing.		

2) Conflicts of Interest: If any actual or potential conflict of interest exists related to this project at the time of application, the applicant must provide sufficient information to support a program determination of significance per 2 CFR 1402.112. Refer to 2 CFR 200.112 Conflict of Interest and 2 CFR 200.113.

For all primary project personnel, state whether any actual or potential conflicts of interest are present at the time of submission, as defined in 2 CFR §1402.112. After reviewing the regulation, clearly indicate one of the following:

- A description of any actual or potential conflicts, **or**
- A brief statement confirming that **no conflicts of interest have been identified**.

If no conflicts exist, a single sentence is sufficient.

3) Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement: Applicants must state in their application if the activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel proposed in this application overlap with those in any other Federal proposal or award or not. If no overlap exists, include a statement to that effect. If any overlap exists, provide:

- Activities: Description any overlapping activities.
- Costs: Description of any overlapping costs.
- Time: Description of any overlapping key personnel time.
- A copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity.
- Details on when any overlapping proposal was submitted, to whom, and the expected date of the funding decision.

THIS CONCLUDES THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SECTION

CONTINUE TO THE NEXT PAGE FOR THE REMAINING SECTIONS OF THE APPLICATION

Optional template for Attachment D application information

A) **Project Narrative**
   1) Proposal Information Summary
   2) Project Abstract Summary
   3) Table of Contents
   4) Significance of the Project
   5) Project Plan
   6) Related Efforts
   7) Institutional Qualifications
   8) Past USGS-Supported Projects
   9) Artificial Intelligence Disclosure
   10) References/Works Cited

B) **Project Narrative Supporting Documentation**.
   1) Project Personnel and Bibliography of Directly Related Work
   2) Letters of Support

C) **Detailed Budget Narrative and Budget Summary Table**

   TABLE: Budget Summary Table
   1) Salaries and wages
   2) Fringe benefits/labor overhead
   3) Travel
   4) Equipment
   5) Supplies
   6) Contracts and sub-awards
   7) Other direct costs
   8) Total direct costs
   9) Indirect cost/General and Administrative (G&A) cost
   10) Total Federal Amount Proposed
   11) Applicant's contribution to Project Cost
   12) Total Project Cost

D) **Additional Information**
   1) Data Management Plan (DMP)
   2) Conflicts of Interest
   3) Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

END OF ATTACHMENT D

Attachment E. Annual Progress Report Template

USE FOR MULTI-YEAR PROJECTS ONLY

Blue text signifies items that must be changed prior to proposal submission.
Please delete all blue text before submission.

This report will be published at:
https://www.usgs.gov/programs/landslide-hazards/science/external-grants-overview

For multi-year projects a Progress Report shall document and summarize the progress of Recipient's work. The Progress Report will follow the report template, below and will include the following:

- A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives of the Cooperative Landslide Hazard Mapping and Assessment Program Announcement established for the year and overall progress in response to the performance metrics.
- The reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate.
- Additional pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs.
- An outline of anticipated activities and adjustments to the program during the next year.

Award Number: XXXXXXX
Title: For collaborative projects the title should be in the form: "Title: Collaborative Research with First Institution name and Second Institution name
PI and co-PIs and Affiliation(s): with Address and zip code
PI Contact Information: phone numbers and email address
Performance Period: project start and end dates

Acknowledgement of Support: This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Geological Survey under Grant No. XXXXXXXX

Disclaimer: The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the U.S. Geological Survey. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the U.S. Geological Survey

Abstract
Include a short summary of your efforts, to date.

Goals and Objectives
List the goals and objectives for this grant as stated in the Project Narrative.

Guidance Criteria Funded
List the Guidance Criteria addressed in this proposal.

Accomplishments to date

Describe the overall progress made through this grant activity by summarizing performance metrics, including project accomplishments, results, and findings to date. This summary should present aggregated outcomes rather than a year-by-year or task-by-task breakdown. Please link all performance metrics to the Guidance Criteria associated with this grant.

Include a description of the major activities carried out using grant funds, and incorporate visuals (tables, graphs, diagrams, or sketches) where appropriate. Quantifiable metrics are strongly encouraged, particularly those that directly demonstrate progress toward the program's overarching goals (e.g., Guidance Criteria).

The following questions may help guide your summary. Please address those relevant to your project:

Data Collection

- Number of monitoring instruments installed, maintained, or upgraded
- Types of data collected and shared with partners, including the period of data collection and dissemination

Hazard Mapping

- Number of landslides mapped and population within the area of interest
- Number of previously mapped landslides revised or removed based on improved tools and techniques
- Status of map adoption by government agencies or other decision making entities, including which organizations have adopted the products
- URL to publicly accessible maps
- Stakeholder engagement related to map products
- Categories of stakeholders involved

Outreach and Education

- Number of outreach or educational materials developed, printed, and distributed
- Number of videos produced, including average monthly views
- Social media analytics (reach, engagement, impressions)

Training, Workshops, and Stakeholder Engagement

- Number of workshops, trainings, or short courses delivered
- Number of participants in events
- Categories of stakeholders represented
- Types of expertise represented

Workforce Development and Capacity Building

- Number of positions created or filled through the agreement
- Number of early-career staff trained, including position titles
- Whether personnel were hired outside the awardee organization (e.g., local government offices)
- Number of mentorships or internships supported

Research, Assessment, and Policy Impacts

- Whether a social science study was conducted to assess public perceptions or hazard understanding
- Policy changes supported by updated landslide-hazard information
- Publications produced (e.g., scientific papers, posters, reports), including counts and full citations

Reporting Examples:

- *Guidance Criteria 1: Mapped 358 landslides across a 29-square-mile area in Adams County (population 3,400) and published the results on the public Geohazards data portal (link). Met with county staff (three planners, two emergency managers, and two public works personnel) to explain the products and their applications. Held a public meeting at the town hall with 28 community members to share and discuss the mapping results.*
- *Guidance Criteria 2: Worked with three Adams County emergency managers to develop landslide emergency protocols and response plans. Collaborated with five county planners to draft land-use codes that account for landslide hazards.*
- *Guidance Criteria 3: Created an 8-page, customizable Homeowners Guide to Landslides tailored to community-specific hazards. Printed 10,000 copies and distributed 5,000 evenly across eight planning offices. Trained two undergraduate students in landslide-mapping techniques. Supported one early-career geoscientist through a landslide-mapping position involving lidar-based methods and collaboration with regional partners. A PDF of the guide is available here: (link).*

Anticipated Results

Describe all anticipated results beyond the accomplishments to date mentioned above. Note if the anticipated results are “As Planned”, “Changed”, or “No Longer Anticipated”. Describe any changes to the anticipated results or timeline of work compared to what was provided in your grant proposal. If you have any anticipated results documented in your grant proposal that will not be achieved over the next year, please clearly state those here and briefly describe why they are no longer anticipated.

Example: AS PLANNED: *We planned to build a landslide hazards website hosting decision-support tools for Adams and Jefferson County. The website construction is underway and set to be completed and go live by the end of June 2026.*

Example: CHANGED: *We planned to hire 2 student interns to help with field work and work on populating the new website during May-July, however, due to scheduling issues, we instead hired 3 interns during June and July to do the same work. While this will result in STEM training for an additional student, the timeframe of their work period is compressed.*

Example: CHANGE TO “NOT ANTICIPATED”: *We planned to map landslides in Adams and Jefferson Counties, however, we deferred Jefferson County to a future year because the Adams County landslide density was significantly higher than initially scoped. $13,000 for this activity is reported on the SF-425 as Cash On Hand at End of Period.*

Summary

In one or two paragraphs, state how this grant-funded work is contributing to the risk reduction strategies of the USGS Cooperative Landslide Hazard Mapping and Assessment Program. Please attach any final products that have resulted from the first part of the funding period, including web links, resources, etc.

Bibliography

List of any publications, products, websites, resources, etc. resulting from the work performed under the award. One copy of each publication is required if the Recipient has not previously submitted them to the USGS Project Officer.

Attachment F. Final Technical Report Template

Blue text signifies items that must be changed prior to proposal submission.
Please delete all blue text before submission.

This report will be published at:
https://www.usgs.gov/programs/landslide-hazards/science/external-grants-overview

The Final Technical Report shall document and summarize the results of Recipient's work. The report shall include a quantitative description of activities and overall progress in response to the performance metrics which documents and summarizes the results of the proposal. The final report shall include tables, graphs, diagrams, sketches, etc., as required to explain the results achieved under the Notice of Award. The report shall also include recommendations and conclusions based upon both the experience and the results obtained. The Final Technical Report will follow the report template, below.

Award Number: XXXXXXX
Title: For collaborative projects the title should be in the form: "Title: Collaborative Research with First Institution name and Second Institution name
PI and co-PIs and Affiliation(s): with Address and zip code
PI Contact Information: phone numbers and email address
Performance Period: project start and end dates

Acknowledgement of Support: This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Geological Survey under Grant No. XXXXXXXX

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Abstract
Include a short summary of your efforts and results.

Goals and Objectives
List the goals and objectives for this grant as stated in the Project Narrative.

Guidance Criteria Funded
List the Guidance Criteria addressed in this proposal.

Accomplishments
Describe the overall progress made through this grant activity by summarizing performance metrics, including project accomplishments, results, and findings to date. This summary should

present aggregated outcomes rather than a year-by-year or task-by-task breakdown. Please link all performance metrics to the Guidance Criteria associated with this grant.

Include a description of the major activities carried out using grant funds, and incorporate visuals (tables, graphs, diagrams, or sketches) where appropriate. Quantifiable metrics are strongly encouraged, particularly those that directly demonstrate progress toward the program's overarching goals (e.g., Guidance Criteria).

The following questions may help guide your summary. Please address those relevant to your project:

Data Collection

- Number of monitoring instruments installed, maintained, or upgraded
- Types of data collected and shared with partners, including the period of data collection and dissemination

Hazard Mapping

- Number of landslides mapped and population within the area of interest
- Number of previously mapped landslides revised or removed based on improved tools and techniques
- Status of map adoption by government agencies or other decision making entities, including which organizations have adopted the products
- URL to publicly accessible maps
- Stakeholder engagement related to map products
- Categories of stakeholders involved

Outreach and Education

- Number of outreach or educational materials developed, printed, and distributed
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Workforce Development and Capacity Building

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- Whether personnel were hired outside the awardee organization (e.g., local government offices)
- Number of mentorships or internships supported

Research, Assessment, and Policy Impacts

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Reporting Examples:

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Unmet Results

Describe results anticipated but not achieved. Explain simply what happened. If you list any unmet results, make sure that funds for that activity appear on the Cash On Hand of Standard Form 425 *Federal Financial Report*. That is, you should have funds remaining if any result is not met. If a result were reprogrammed through an earlier action, then report the result under accomplishments.

Example: *Planned to map landslides in Adams and Jefferson Counties. Deferred Jefferson County to a future year because Adams County landslide density was significantly higher than initially scoped. $13,000 for this activity is reported on the SF-425 as Cash On Hand at End of Period.*
Note: if you have no unmet results, state “none.”

Summary

In one or two paragraphs, state how this grant has contributed toward achieving the risk reduction strategies of the USGS Cooperative Landslide Hazard Mapping and Assessment Program. Please attach any final products that have resulted from this grant, including web links, resources, etc.

Bibliography

List of any publications, products, websites, resources, etc. resulting from the work performed under the award. One copy of each publication is required if the Recipient has not previously submitted them to the USGS Project Officer.

Attachment G. Special Terms and Conditions

SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

LANDSLIDE HAZARDS MAPPING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE:

The United States of America, acting by and through the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), hereby offers a Grant to the Recipient (see page 1, block 9a. titled *Grantee Name and Address*) which will be identified as the "recipient" throughout the remainder of this document.

Acceptance of a federal financial assistance award from the Department of the Interior (DOI) carries with it the responsibility to be aware of and comply with the terms and conditions of the award. Acceptance is defined as the start of work, drawing down funds, or accepting the award by signature or electronic means. Awards are based on the application submitted to and approved by DOI and are subject to the terms and conditions incorporated either directly or by reference below.

SECTION A – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A.1. Project Description

The USGS Cooperative Landslide Hazard Mapping and Assessment Program reflects the National Landslide Preparedness Act (Public Law 116-323) and the National Strategy for Landslide Loss Reduction (Godt et al., 2022), which support the mission of the USGS Landslide Hazards Program (LHP) to reduce loss of lives and property from landslides and improve public safety and community resilience of the Nation. Projects funded under this grant program support the following four goals established by the National Landslide Hazards Reduction Program: 1) identify and understand landslide hazards and risks; 2) reduce losses from landslides; 3) protect communities at risk of landslide hazards; and 4) help improve communication and emergency preparedness, including by coordinating with communities and entities responsible for infrastructure that are at risk of landslide hazards. To achieve these objectives, projects funded under this Program will focus on landslide hazard mapping and assessment, planning, coordination, education, and outreach.

A.2. USGS Involvement

There will be no substantial involvement by the USGS in the recipient's performance of this agreement.

SECTION B – FUNDING AND AWARD PERIODS

B.1. Funding

a) The total estimated cost of the USGS share for the performance of this agreement is located on page 1, block 13 titled *Total Federal Funds Awarded to Date for Project Period*.
b) The amount of federal funds obligated under this agreement shall be available for payment of costs incurred by the recipient in performance of this agreement (see page 1, block 7 titled *Budget Period*). In no event shall costs be incurred in performance of this agreement in excess of the funds currently obligated (see page 1, block 13 titled *Total Federal Funds Awarded to Date for Project Period*).

B.2. Award Period

The initial budget period is located on page 1, block 7 titled *Budget Period*. The total project period is located on page 1, block 6 titled *Project Period.*

B.3. Pre-Agreement Costs

The recipient is not authorized to incur costs prior to the award of this agreement. Costs incurred prior to the award of this agreement are not allowable.

SECTION C – DELIVERABLES

C.1. Progress Reports

a) The recipient must submit annual progress reports electronically through GrantSolutions (https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/*)* and to the USGS Project Officer (see Page 2, Remarks) within 90 calendar days after the agreement year (i.e., 12 months after the approved effective date of the agreement and every 12 months thereafter until the expiration date of the agreement.). For agreements with a total anticipated performance period of twelve months
(12) months or less, only a final technical report will be required. A progress report is not required in the final budget year, unless the recipient requests an extension to the project period.

b) The progress reports shall include the following information:
   (i) A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives of the agreement established for the budget period and overall progress in response to the performance metrics.
   (ii) The reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate.
   (iii) Additional pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs.

(iv) An outline of anticipated activities and adjustments to the program during the next budget period.

c) Between the required reporting dates, events may occur which have significant impact upon the project or program. In such cases, the recipient shall inform the USGS as soon as the following types of conditions become known:

(i) Problems, delays, or adverse conditions which will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the agreement. This disclosure must include a statement of the action taken, or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.

(ii) Favorable developments which enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

C.2. Final Technical Report

a) The Recipient must submit the final technical report electronically through GrantSolutions (https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/*)* and to the USGS Project Officer (see Page 2, Remarks) within. The final performance report will be due 90 calendar days after the period of performance end date.

b) The final technical report shall document and summarize the results of Recipient's work. The report shall include a quantitative description of activities and overall progress in response to the performance metrics which documents and summarizes the results of the entire agreement. The final report shall include tables, graphs, diagrams, sketches, etc., as required to explain the results achieved under the agreement. The report shall also include recommendations and conclusions based upon both the experience and the results obtained.

C.3. Annual Financial Reports

The Recipient must submit an annual SF 425, Federal Financial Report, for each individual USGS award. The SF 425 is available at grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/post-award-reporting-forms. The SF 425 will be due within 90 days following the end of the annual period or within 90 days following the end of each annual period coinciding with the award start date.

a) The SF 425 must be submitted electronically through GrantSolutions (https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/*)*. Recipient must include the USGS award number (see page 1, block 4 titled: Grant No.) in the subject line of all e-mail correspondence. If, after 90 days, recipient has not submitted a report, the recipient's account in Automated

Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) will be placed in a manual review status until the report is submitted.

C.4. Final Financial Reports

a) The Recipient will liquidate all obligations incurred under the award and submit a final SF 425, Federal Financial Report in accordance with C.3.b. no later than 120 calendar

days after the agreement completion date.

b) Recipient will promptly return any unexpended federal cash advances or will complete a final draw from ASAP to obtain any remaining amounts due. Once 120 days has passed since the agreement completion date, USGS shall unilaterally de-obligate federal funds as reflected in the final SF 425.

c) Subsequent revision to the final SF 425 will be considered only as follows:
   i. When the revision results in a balance due to the Government, the recipient must submit a revised final SF 425, Federal Financial Report, and refund the excess payment whenever the overcharge is discovered, no matter how long the lapse of time since the original due date of the report.
   ii. When the revision represents additional reimbursable costs claimed by the recipient, a revised final SF 425 may be submitted to the USGS Grants Management Official with an explanation. If approved, the USGS will either request and pay a final invoice or reestablish the ASAP subaccount to permit the recipient to make a revised final draw. Any revised final report representing additional reimbursable amounts must be submitted no later than 1 year from the due date of the original report, i.e., 15 months following the agreement completion date. USGS will not accept any revised SF 425 covering additional expenditures after that date and will return any late request for additional payment to the Recipient.

C.5. Publications

a) Acknowledgment of Support

Recipient is responsible for assuring that an acknowledgment of USGS support:

1) is made in any publication (including World Wide Web pages) of any material based on or developed under this agreement, in the following terms:

> This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Geological Survey under Grant/Cooperative Agreement No. (see page 1, block 4 titled: *Grant No.).*is orally acknowledged during all news media interviews, including popular media such as radio, television and news magazines.

b) Disclaimer

Recipient is responsible for assuring that every publication of material (including World Wide Web pages) based on or developed under this agreement, contains the following disclaimer:

> The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the U.S. Geological Survey. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the U.S. Geological Survey.

c) USGS Logo

Use of the USGS logo (also known as "visual identity" or "identifier") constitutes the recipient's agreement to and acceptance of the following terms:

- The USGS identifier is trademarked and not in the public domain.
- Use of the trademarked USGS identifier is authorized by USGS for use only by recipients of USGS funding.
- Use is authorized on information products that result from research funded by the financial assistance award.
- Use the USGS identifier for any other purpose without written permission from USGS is prohibited; doing so constitutes trademark infringement.
- Recipient will adhere to the design requirements, which are as follows:
    - The USGS identifier must appear in black, white, or green only.
    - The USGS identifier cannot be modified in any way except for proportional sizing.
    - The USGS identifier should appear at the same size as logos of other agencies, if any.
    - If used on a digital product, the USGS identifier should link to www.usgs.gov

d) Publication

Publication of the results of any project carried out under this assistance award is authorized in professional journals, trade magazines, or may be made by the USGS. Such manuscripts or publications submitted to journals or professional publications for publication shall be accompanied by the following notation:

> This manuscript is submitted for publication with the understanding that the United States Government is authorized to reproduce and distribute reprints for Governmental purposes. Copies for USGS

Recipient is responsible for assuring that the USGS Project Office is provided a digital version, preferably as a MS Word DOCx file, of every accepted manuscript upon acceptance for publication by the journal.

e) Department of the Interior Requirements

Two copies of each publication produced under a grant or cooperative agreement shall be sent to the Natural Resources Library with a transmittal that identifies the sender and the publication. These copies can be in print or digital format. If a publication in a born-digital document only available online, a digital copy or a link to where the publication may be available on the Internet must be sent to <Library@ios.doi.gov>. The address of the library is:

U.S. Department of the Interior Library
1849 C Street, NW, Room 1151, MS
1151

Washington, DC 20240

SECTION D – ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

D.1. Assistance Administration

This agreement will be administered by:

Amber Brazil
Grants Management Specialist
Office of Grants Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
Phone: 703.648.7477
Email: amber_brazil@ios.doi.gov

Written communications shall make reference to the assistance award number and shall be mailed (or emailed) to the above address.

D.2. Payment

Payments under financial assistance awards must be made using the Department of the Treasury Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system (www.asap.gov).

a) The recipient agrees that it has established or will establish an account with ASAP. USGS will initiate enrollment in ASAP. If the recipient does not currently have an ASAP account, they must designate an individual (name, title, address, phone and e-mail) who will serve as the Point of Contact (POC).

b) With the award of each grant/cooperative agreement, a sub-account will be set up from which the recipient can draw down funds. After recipient's complete enrollment in ASAP and link their banking information to the USGS ALC (14080001), it may take up to 10 days for sub-accounts to be activated and for funds to be authorized for drawdown in ASAP.

c) Inquiries regarding payment should be directed to ASAP at 855-868-0151.

d) Payments may be drawn in advance only as needed to meet immediate cash disbursement needs.

D.3. Revisions and Prior Approvals

Modifications to this agreement shall generally be executed by mutual written consent of the parties, with the exception of certain purely administrative changes that may be executed unilaterally by the USGS. Recipients may make certain limited budgetary and programmatic changes without prior USGS approval as outlined in 2 CFR 200.308 and 200.407. Any proposed change which requires prior written approval of the USGS shall be submitted in writing to the address at D.1 at least thirty (30) days prior to the requested effective date of the proposed change. The USGS will respond to the change request within thirty (30) days of receipt.

a) Extensions. Recipients are specifically advised that requests for extension or other

change to the budget or project period(s) require prior written approval. Such requests must be submitted as outlined above and be accompanied by a statement supporting the extension and a revised budget (if necessary) indicating the planned use of all unexpended funds during the proposed extension period. A revised budget is not required for no cost extensions.

b) Transfer of Funds. Recipients are specifically advised that prior written approval of the USGS Grants Management Official is not required for transfer of funds between direct cost categories when the cumulative amount of the transfer during the performance period does not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total USGS award. Prior written approval is required from the USGS Grants Management Official for transfers of funds in excess of the ten percent limitation.

c) Carry Forward of Funds. Recipients are specifically advised that prior written approval by the USGS Grants Management Official is required to carry forward unobligated balances to subsequent budget periods. It is expected that funds be expended during the budget period for which they are obligated. The request must include the amount of funds to be carried over, why the carry-over of funds is necessary, and for how long the funds should be carried over.

SECTION E - GENERAL PROVISIONS

E.1. Department of the Interior General Terms and Conditions

The recipient shall be subject to the Department of the Interior General Terms and Conditions which are incorporated herein by reference and available on the Internet at: DOI General Terms and Conditions | U.S. Department of the Interior: *https://www.doi.gov/grants/doi-standard-terms-and-conditions*

E.2. Additional Terms and Conditions

a) Research Integrity

1) USGS requires that all grant or cooperative agreement recipient organizations adhere to the federal policy on Research Misconduct, Office of Science and Technology Policy, December 6, 2000, 65 Federal Register (FR) 76260. The federal policy on research misconduct outlines requirements for addressing allegations of research misconduct, including the investigation, adjudication, and appeal of allegations of research misconduct and the implementation of appropriate administrative actions.
2) The recipient must promptly notify the USGS Project Office when research misconduct that warrants an investigation pursuant to the federal policy on research misconduct is alleged.
3) Scientific integrity is vital to Departmental activities under which scientific research, data, summaries, syntheses, interpretations, presentations, and/or publications are developed and used. Failure to uphold the highest degree of scientific integrity will result not only in potentially flawed scientific results,

interpretations, and applications but will damage the Department's reputation and ability to uphold the public's trust. All work performed must comply with the Department Scientific Integrity Policy posted to http://www.doi.gov, or its equivalent as provided by their organization or State law.

b) Data Availability

1) Applicability. The Department of the Interior is committed to basing its decisions on the best available science and providing the American people with enough information to thoughtfully and substantively evaluate the data, methodology, and analysis used by the Department to inform its decisions.

2) Use of Data. The regulations at 2 CFR 200.315 apply to data produced under a federal award, including the provision that the Federal Government has the right to obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data produced under a federal award as well as authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data for federal purposes.

3) Availability of Data. The recipient shall make the data produced under this award and any subaward(s) available to the Government for public release, consistent with applicable law, to allow meaningful third party evaluation and reproduction of the following:
   a. The scientific data relied upon;
   b. The analysis replied upon; and
   c. The methodology, including models, use to gather and analyze the data.

c) Conflict of Interest

1) Applicability.
   a. This section intends to ensure that non-federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to federal financial assistance agreements.
   b. In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by subrecipients, the conflict of interest provisions in 2 CFR
   200.318 apply.

2) Requirements.

   a. Non-federal entities must avoid prohibited conflicts of interest, including any significant financial interests that could cause a reasonable person to question the recipient’s ability to provide impartial, technically sound, and objective performance under or with respect to a federal financial assistance agreement.

b. In addition to any other probations that may apply with respect to conflicts of interest, no key official of an actual or proposed recipient or subrecipient, who is substantially involved in the proposal or project, may have been a former federal employee who, within the last one (1) year, participated personally and substantially in the evaluation, award, or administration of an award with respect to that recipient or subrecipient or in development of the requirement leading to the funding announcement.
c. No actual or prospective recipient or subrecipient may solicit, obtain, or use non-public information regarding the evaluation, award, or administration of an award to that recipient or subrecipient or the development of a federal financial assistance opportunity that may be of competitive interest to that recipient or subrecipient.

3) Notification.

a. Non-federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with 2 CFR 200.112, Conflicts of Interest.
b. Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the USGS Grants Management Official in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by subrecipients.

4) Restrictions on Lobbying. Non-federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under this grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to 43 CFR Part 18 and 31 USC 1352.

5) Review Procedures. The USGS Grants Management Official will examine each conflict-of-interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement, and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop and appropriate means for resolving it.

6) Enforcement. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a matter that satisfies the Government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338, Remedies for Noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also 2 CFR Part 180).

d) Program Income

1) If the recipient is an educational institution or nonprofit research organization, any other program income will be added to funds committed to the project by the federal awarding agency and recipient and be used to further eligible project or program objectives, as described in 2 CFR 200.307(e)(2).

2) For all other types of recipients, any other program income will be deducted from total allowable costs to determine the net allowable costs before calculating the Government's share of reimbursable costs, as provided in 2 CFR 200.307(e)(1).

e) Government Furnished Equipment or Equipment Authorized for Purchase

Title to equipment acquired wholly or in part with federal funds shall be vested in the recipient unless otherwise specified in the award document. The recipient shall retain control and maintain an inventory of such equipment as long as there is a need for such equipment to accomplish the purpose of the project, whether or not the project continues to be supported by federal funds. When there is no longer a need for such equipment to accomplish the purpose of the project, the recipient shall use the equipment in connection with other federal awards the recipient has received. Disposal of equipment shall be in accordance with 2 CFR 200.313.

No equipment is provided or authorized for purchase on this grant/cooperative agreement.

SECTION F – SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Geospatial Requirements

The Geospatial Data Act of 2018 outlines specific requirements for federal recipients when collecting or producing geospatial data using Department of the Interior financial assistance funds. Here's a summary of the key points:

• **Due Diligence Search:** Federal recipients must first check the GeoPlatform.gov list of datasets to see if the needed geospatial data, products, or services already exist.

• **Use of Existing Data:** If the required data is already available, recipients must use it rather than producing new data.

• **Production of New Data:** If the needed data is not available, recipients must produce new geospatial data, products, or services in accordance with guidance and standards established by the Federal Geospatial Data Committee (FGDC), which can be found at www.fgdc.gov.

• **Submission Requirements:** Recipients must submit a digital copy of all GIS data produced or collected under the award to the relevant bureau or office.

• **Data Format:** All GIS data files must be in an open format.

• **Metadata Requirements:** All delineated GIS data (such as points, lines, or polygons) should be compliant with approved open data standards and include complete feature-level

metadata.

These requirements ensure that geospatial data is managed efficiently, used appropriately, and made accessible in a standardized format for future use and sharing. open data standards with complete feature level metadata.

2 CFR 1402.315 Availability of Data

(a) All data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, valuation products or other scientific assessments in any medium or form, including textual, numerical, graphic, cartographic, narrative, or audiovisual, resulting from a financial assistance agreement is available for use by the Department of the Interior, including being available in a manner that is sufficient for independent verification.=
(b) The Federal Government has the right to:

(1) Obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, produced under a federal award; and

(2) Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other

scientific assessments, for federal purposes, including to allow for meaningful third-party evaluation.

SECTION G – DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE AND ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

G.1. Documents Incorporated by Reference

The following documents are hereby incorporated into this agreement by reference:

1) The Recipient's proposal.
2) The Recipient's application for financial assistance (SF424, SF424A, SF424B).

G.2. Order of Precedence

In the event of any inconsistency within this agreement, the following order of precedence shall be followed:

3) The cover page.
4) Sections A through F of this agreement.
5) Documents incorporated by reference (see G.1) in the order in which they are incorporated.

Attachment H: Changes to the FY2027 NOFO from FY2026 NOFO

Throughout – to meet the new NOFO template requirements and streamline the application process, minor wording and format changes are present throughout this document. Redundant text was removed and to reduce the length of the NOFO and improve clarity.

Program Description: Removed final paragraph due to redundancy.

Merit Review: following instructions from the Department of Interior, we added a fifth Evaluation Criteria called “EO/SO Alignment” and reordered the points for all criteria.

Review and Selection Process: removed the bullet starting “If an application does not meet all requirements….” due to redundancy.

Other Information: deleted both paragraphs due to redundancy.

Attachment D:

- Added Artificial Intelligence applicant disclosure question.
- Removed request for information related to Interpersonal Personnel Agreements.
- Included an optional template outlining the four sections and relevant sub-subsections for an application.

Attachment E and F: Reworded templates to shorten and clarify from previous versions.

Attachment H: added this attachment for clarity.