## REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

# FISCAL YEARS 2024 AND 2025 H-GAC SOLID WASTE GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION

This is a Request for Applications for H-GAC's FY24/25 Solid Waste Grants Program. Included in this grant application package are the following:

- H-GAC FY24/25 Grant Announcement including screening and selection criteria
- H-GAC FY24/25 What's New
- Self Assessment Document, Budget Guidance Document, Used Electronics Guidance Document, HHW
  Guidance Document, Guidance for Local Enforcement Equipment Purchases, Questions to Ask When
  Shopping for Recycling and Composting Equipment, and Grant Writing Tips

H-GAC has received solid waste grant funds from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for solid waste implementation projects. For FY24/25 solid waste implementation grants, **\$1 million** is available for local implementation projects.

Implementation projects funded under this grant program must be consistent with the H-GAC Regional Solid Waste Management Plan by addressing at least one goal and objective of the plan, must promote cooperation between public and private entities, and may not create a competitive advantage over a private industry that provides recycling or solid waste services that are readily available. (See FY24/25 Grant Announcement and Grant Application for more details.)

Projects that will take longer to complete, ultimately determined by H-GAC's Solid Waste staff, will be funded in FY24.

#### **Eligible Grant Categories**

- Citizens' Collection Stations and "Small" Registered Transfer Stations
- Education and Training
- Household Hazardous Waste Management
- Litter and Illegal Dumping Cleanup and Community Collection Events
- Local Enforcement
- Local Solid Waste Management Plans
- Source Reduction and Recycling
- Technical Studies

#### **Eligible Entities**

Entities eligible for funding are cities, counties, public school districts (excluding universities and other post-secondary educational institutions), general and special law districts created in accordance with State law with the authority and responsibility for water quality protection or municipal solid waste management (e.g., river authorities and municipal utility districts) and Councils of Governments (COGs). In order to receive an implementation grant, the prospective grant recipient must not be in arrears in the payment of any municipal solid waste or hazardous waste fee owed to the State of Texas. Eligible entities may subcontract with other entities, such as private entities, nonprofit organizations, or state and federal governments. Private entities,

nonprofit organizations, state and federal governments are not directly eligible for grants. They must partner with an eligible entity.

### FY24/25 Solid Waste Grants Program Schedule

H-GAC staff will be available to answer any questions concerning the grant application package during the grant application webinar. Please see schedule below:

Tuesday, September 19, 2023 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM Webinar Only Register Here

The webinar will provide time for applicants to ask questions regarding their applications and proposed projects, and will include:

- Overview of the Solid Waste Grants Program
- How to Complete the Online Application
- Important Deadlines and Future Requirements
- Question/Answer Session

Applicants requiring further assistance are asked to schedule an individual appointment. First time applicants are strongly encouraged to attend the September 19th workshop. For projects to be considered by H-GAC for FY24/25 funding, the application must be received via the online application **no later than noon, Tuesday, October 17, 2023.** No late applications will be accepted or scored. Additionally, no faxed, emailed or hard copy applications will be accepted or scored.

The Solid Waste Grants Scoring Subcommittee will meet virtually on October 31 and November 1, 2023 to score grant applications. Once all grant applications are received by H-GAC, grant applicants will be notified of their presentation time. All grant applicants must have a representative available to give a brief presentation and answer questions via webinar on October 31st or November 1st. Funding recommendations will be emailed to each applicant and the H-GAC Solid Waste Management Committee no later than November 2, 2023. Any appeals to the funding recommendations must be submitted by 5:00 PM, Thursday, November 9, 2023 (See FY24/25 Grant Announcement for more details on the Appeals process). The H-GAC Solid Waste Management Committee will meet on Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 10:00 AM via webinar to hear appeals if needed. The H-GAC Board of Directors will complete final grant selection on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at 10:00 AM. Once selected, grant recipient information will be sent to the TCEQ for review and comment.

If you have any questions, please contact the following H-GAC staff:

Cheryl Mergo
Senior Manager
cheryl.mergo@h-gac.com

Erin Livingston
Principal Planner
erin.livingston@h-gac.com

Wendy Almanzan
Lead Program Coordinator
wendy.almanzan@h-gac.com