

Abridged Application Instructions

(Word Version)

General Information

Entity Name

The legal name of the entity applying for financial assistance.

County

The primary county where the entity is located.

Regional Water Planning Area

Use the drop-down list to select the regional water planning area that covers the proposed project area. Each regional planning area is identified by a letter ranging from [A to P](#).

Contact Information

The name, title, and contact information of the individual designated as the primary contact for the abridged application. This may differ from the applicant's lead official or authorized signatory.

The name, title, and contact information of the individual representing the engineering firm.

Project Description

Project Name

The project name, as it appears in the 2026 Regional Water Plan, enabling the TWDB to locate and reference it in the plan.

Note: Projects **not** included in the regional water plan are **ineligible** for funding.

Where can the project be found in the 2026 Regional Water Plan?

The TWDB's analysis includes a review of the recommended water management strategy in the regional water plan. Regional plans vary in their format, and capital costs may appear in different sections than project descriptions.

Note that the intent of the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) and the state water plan is to identify and fund projects that produce additional water supply during drought conditions. Projects that rehabilitate, replace, or provide for maintenance of infrastructure to maintain existing water supplies are not eligible for SWIFT. If a project includes replacement or expansion of existing facilities that will also provide additional supply volumes above the existing supply volume, then only

the share of the cost of the infrastructure that provides additional supply volumes will be eligible to receive SWIFT funding.

Phase(s) Applied For

The project phase(s) to be completed with the requested assistance. Check all boxes that apply: any combination of Planning, Acquisition, Design, and Construction is eligible for SWIFT.

Population Served When Fully Operational

Provide the population your proposed project will serve once it is fully operational. If this number differs from the population projection used in the regional water plan, include an explanation of the methodology used as an attachment.

Description of the Proposed Project Components

This description must include all major project components and clearly state what the project seeks to accomplish. The information provided must be consistent with the data and information in the regional water plan. A high level of detail is not necessary at this stage – such information is collected later in the application process.

Emergency

Use the checkboxes to indicate which emergency characteristics apply to the proposed project. If none of the provided characteristics apply, select “None of the above.”

Note: Public water systems (PWSs) are encouraged to self-report their water use restrictions to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), which maintains the [List of Texas PWSs Limited Water Use to Avoid Shortages](#). Include relevant information in the Description of the Proposed Project Components or as an attachment.

Agricultural Efficiency Project

Indicate whether the project will result in an agricultural efficiency improvement. If the answer is "Yes", indicate the improvement percentage the project will achieve and attach an explanation of your methodology.

Flood Control Component

Indicate whether a water supply project contains a flood control component regardless of whether the applicant holds a certificate of convenience and necessity under which it provides retail water or wastewater service.

Household Cost Factor

Provide the estimated **average annual** residential water bill and **annual median household income** (not monthly) for the project service area. The TWDB uses this

information to calculate the Household Cost Factor for the project by dividing the project service area's annual average residential water bill by the area's annual median household income. These figures should represent the entire project service area, including all participants if the project is regional in nature.

$$\text{Household Cost Factor} = \frac{\text{Annual Average Residential Water Bill}}{\text{Annual Median Household Income}}$$

Make sure to provide the average **annual** residential water bill estimate and not the monthly estimate.

Conservation/Water Loss

Indicate whether the project will produce, conserve, or reduce water loss. Provide the estimated volume of water affected (in acre-feet per year).

This baseline information will allow the TWDB to conduct further review using existing data. Include relevant information in the Description of the Proposed Project Components or as an attachment.

Annual Volume of Water Produced/Conserved

Provide the project's water supply volumes in acre-feet per year for each planning decade. Volumes are required for each decade, even if the volume is 0, and must be consistent with the regional water plan. A volume for a given decade (e.g., 2050) represents the annual supply for that decade, not a cumulative total.

Readiness to Proceed

Answer the questions to indicate the project's readiness to move forward after the application submission. Include relevant information concerning water rights in the Description of the Proposed Project Components or as an attachment.

Note: Water rights are required when expanding a system and must be consistent with the regional water plan.


Water Loss

Systems exceeding the TWDB-defined water loss threshold may be required to submit a water loss reduction plan or request a waiver. Progress toward compliance is required as a condition of funding eligibility.

Estimated Costs

Effective for 2024 and future cycles, applicants with at least one public rating from a nationally recognized statistical rating agency need to maintain the rating until their SWIFT obligations are retired or no longer held by the TWDB.

Effective for 2025 and future cycles, entities whose application for financial assistance from the SWIFT program (when combined with outstanding balances and commitments within SWIFT and within the DFund as entered into via SWIFT prioritization) exceeds four percent of the anticipated principal balances owed for political subdivision obligations in the SWIFT program portfolio and in the DFund portfolio within the SWIFT program as of December of the previous year* must provide a publicly-available, investment grade rating (no lower than BBB –, Baa3 or their equivalent) from a nationally-recognized statistical rating organization for the proposed collateral or credit securing the anticipated SWIFT program obligations along with the full application.

*Applies to entities applying for financial assistance, including their existing SWIFT program obligations, of \$  or greater.

Effective for 2026 and future cycles, entities will need to provide any current credit ratings on the security that is intended to be pledged and indicate if the entity intends to provide a tax, revenue, combination tax and revenue, or contract revenue pledge.

Estimated Project Costs, Funding Allocation, and Amortization

Indicate the amortization period the entity anticipates requesting.

Note: The 34-year option is only available for Board Participation financing.

The amount requested in each SWIFT assistance category, as well as local contributions and funding from other sources. Requests at this stage do not commit the applicant to a particular type of financing. An abridged application may request any combination of the three financing options:

- **Low-Interest Loans** provide financing with a subsidized interest rate below the SWIFT program cost of funds.
- **Deferred Loans** provide a deferral of both principal and interest for up to eight years, or until construction is complete. This option is limited to projects anticipating a long administrative lead time before facilities are constructed.
- **Board Participation** allows regional facilities to be built with additional capacity to accommodate anticipated increases in demand. The TWDB takes an ownership stake in a portion of the extra capacity and is “bought out” of the project over time.

If assistance from other source(s) will contribute to the project, list the name of the source(s) in the space provided.

Anticipated Commitments

Indicate whether the request is for a one-time or multi-year commitment. Multi-year commitments provide the option to receive funding over time for the entire project amount. If a multi-year commitment is selected, attach the proposed closing schedule with the amounts in \$5,000 increments.

Anticipated Debt Service Structure

Indicate the type of debt service structure the entity anticipates requesting. If requesting a non-level structure, attach an explanation.

Anticipated Tax Structure

Indicate the tax structure the entity anticipates requesting. If requesting a combination of taxable and tax-exempt, provide the percentages for each if they are known at this time.

List of Water Systems Served by the Proposed Project

List all water systems that will be served by the proposed project. For wholesale providers, include all retail water customers.

Note: The list should be consistent with the regional water plan. If it differs, provide an explanation in the Project Description section.

Attachments (if applicable)

- Methodology for determining agricultural conservation savings.
- Proposed multi-year commitment schedule with amounts in \$5,000 increments.
- Proposed “non-level” debt service structure.

Links

SWIFT Webpage: <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/SWIFT/index.asp>

Water Supply Planning Webpage: <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/index.asp>

Water Conservation Webpage: <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/conservation/index.asp>

Apply Online: <https://ola.twdb.texas.gov>

Submit via Email: SWIFT@twdb.texas.gov