



# Rural Water Assistance Fund (RWAf)

The RWAf program provides small, rural water utilities with low-cost, long-term financing for water and wastewater projects. Applicants may partner with a federal or state agency, or another rural political subdivision, to apply for funding.

At this time, the RWAf program does not have an open solicitation. However, funding from the Texas Water Fund has been allocated to RWAf to be used for water loss mitigation and high-risk projects that have applied through other TWDB financial programs. To be notified of future funding availability, join the TWDB's Financial Assistance mailing list at <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/newsmedia/signup.asp>.

## Eligible Applicants

- Rural political subdivisions, including
  - nonprofit water supply or sewer service corporations, districts or authorities with no part of the service area located in an urban area with a population exceeding 50,000;
  - municipalities with a population of 10,000 or less with no part of the service area located in an urban area with a population exceeding 50,000; or
  - municipalities located wholly within a county with no urban area with a population exceeding 50,000;
  - counties with no urban areas with a population exceeding 50,000.

## Eligible Projects

- Planning, design, acquisition, and construction of water, wastewater, or consolidation and regionalization.

## Benefits and Terms

- Long-term fixed interest rates based on the TWDB's cost of funds.
- 20- to 30-year repayment terms.
- Tax exemption for project supplies.
- Subject to availability and Board approval, there is currently no maximum funding limit.
- Program funding, including grant availability, is dependent upon legislative appropriations, Board approval, or available funds.

## Program Requirements

- State-level environmental review.
- Current financial audits for your entity may be required with submission of the financial assistance application.
- Water supply projects must be consistent with the current state water plan.
- Entities receiving assistance over \$500,000 must adopt water conservation and drought contingency plans.
- Meet applicable U.S. Tax Code requirements.
- Meet U.S. Iron and Steel requirements.
- Review of legislative requirements regarding water loss threshold limits.

For specific questions about the program, please contact [Financial\\_Assistance@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:Financial_Assistance@twdb.texas.gov). Detailed information is also available at <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/RWAF/>.