



White House TA Announcement

On May 18, 2022, the White House [released](#) a technical assistance guide to assist state and local governments in accessing funds from the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The guide summarizes opportunities to obtain technical assistance in applying for water-infrastructure and resilience funding administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other federal entities.

The White House also [announced](#) several philanthropic commitments to support the IIJA's equitable implementation, including the creation of the [Local Infrastructure Hub](#) with \$50 million in support from Bloomberg Philanthropies and other foundations. The Local Infrastructure Hub – a program of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National League of Cities, and Results for America – will provide resources, expert webinars, and other technical assistance to small cities as they seek federal infrastructure funds.

Relatedly, in April 2022, EPA [issued](#) a Request for Applications (RFA) for \$68 million in competitive funding to establish new regional and national Environmental Finance Centers (EFCs) to supplement the existing EFCs serving all 10 EPA Regions. Per EPA, EFCs that receive funding will aid disadvantaged communities in developing and submitting proposals for water-infrastructure projects funded by the IIJA. The RFA closes June 17, 2022, though when EPA will award these grants and when these EFCs will be ready to deliver technical assistance remains unclear.

The Cities Initiative will continue to closely monitor the rapidly evolving technical-assistance landscape, as well as engage with EPA and stakeholders across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin in order to ensure our cities benefit from the IIJA's historic investments in U.S. infrastructure.