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Quality Assurance Preliminary Screening Questions

This screening tool is for entities applying to the Thriving Communities Subgrants program. to help determine if their project may involve environmental information operations or human subject research. Environmental information includes data and information that describe environmental processes or conditions which support EPA's mission of protecting human health and the environment. Examples are listed in the [Quality Assurance Project Plan Standard](#).

These responses will not be used for scoring or to determine eligibility of the applicants. If applicants are

selected for an award, the completed form must be submitted to the Grantmakers for their use in determining next steps for regional quality assurance needs.

Check "yes" or "no" for each of the items provided below as it applies to your specific project. If you select "yes" for any of the below statements, a QAPP is required. It is anticipated that most applications will involve environmental information operations. If this form does not identify the need for a QAPP, the Grantmaker will share the completed form, along with the workplan, with the EPA Regional Quality Assurance Manager (RQAM), who will determine, in consultation with the Regional Project Officer, whether a QAPP is needed for the project.

If a QAPP is required, the subgrantee is responsible for developing the QAPP. The QAPP must meet the minimum requirements in the QAPP Standard, as applicable to the project, in addition to any regional requirements. Final review and approval of the QAPP must be made by the EPA Project Officer and RQAM. Review and approval may also be requested by the submitting organization. **An approved QAPP must be in place prior to the work being performed.** Grantmakers are available to assist the development of subgrantee QAPPs by helping navigate regional QA resources, answer questions, provide training materials and coordinate QAPP approval.

If unable to reach your Grantmaker for Quality Assurance related questions, please contact the regional quality assurance manager to discuss specific requirements for quality documents for your region. Find your RQAM here: <https://www.epa.gov/quality/quality-assurance-managers-gams#regions>



Respond YES or NO to all questions, if you are unsure, please reach out to your Thriving Communities Grantmaker:

The project will involve the collection of groundwater, soil, sediment, surface water, air, biota or fauna samples for chemical or biological analysis.

Yes No

The project will use existing collections of environmental information (data base, continued research, or other) containing analytical data or personal information previously collected by you or others.

Yes No

The project will use existing historical research pertaining to this project or application.

Yes No

The project will implement deed searches for current property or site.

Yes No

The project will conduct medical records search for the population covered in the grant.

Yes No

The project will compile meteorological data to determine weather trends or air mixing trends.

Yes No

The project will use existing statistical studies or will conduct these studies as part of the project.

Yes No

The project will conduct surveys.

Yes No

The project will create a new database based on the information gathered.

Yes No

The project will use this information for litigation purposes.

Yes No

The project will use this information to make recommendations on environmental decisions.



Yes No

The project will collect, produce, evaluate or use environmental information as defined by the EPA.

Yes No

The project will produce, evaluate or use analytical testing results of environmental conditions (e.g., geophysical or hydrological conditions).

Yes No

The project will involve the collection, production, evaluation or use of information on physical parameters or processes collected using environmental technologies.

Yes No

The project will use calculations or analyses of environmental information.

Yes No

The project will collect, produce, evaluate or use information provided by scientific models.

Yes No

The project will involve the evaluation or use of information compiled or obtained from databases, software applications, decision support tools, websites, existing literature, and other sources.

Yes No

The project will involve the development of environmental software, tools, models, methods and applications.

Yes No

The project will involve the design, construction, and operation or application of environmental technology.

Yes No

The project will include other activities that need quality assurance or quality control requirements as identified in the organization's active and approved Quality Management Plan.

Yes No

→ END QA Preliminary Screening Questions