

**ACEQUIA AND COMMUNITY DITCH FUND
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

PROGRAM PURPOSE:

To provide financial assistance to acequia and community ditch systems involved in water rights adjudication in order to ensure that technical work can be done to conserve and protect water for New Mexico's future.

AT A GLANCE

Fund Availability

\$616,265.00

No more than 1/4 of the money allocated from the fund may be awarded to any applicant.
No minimum award is stated in statute.

Eligibility

- Counties
- Municipalities
- Special Districts
- Indian Tribes & Pueblos
- Other Local Governmental Units
- Non-profit 501(c)3
- Individual
- Private Business
- School Districts

Type of Aid

- Grant
- Cooperative Agreement
- Service Contract
- Loan
- Technical Assistance

Deadline to Apply

Typically in July. Deadline notices and applications are generally issued in April by NMDA.

Eligibility

Acequia and community ditch associations that constitute a majority of the acequias or ditches within an adjudication or a separately administered portion of an adjudicated suit are eligible.

Special Conditions

The suits must be on record with the Office of the State Engineer.

Use of Funds

Funds may be used to obtain or prepare hydrological studies, historical studies and economic impact reports, and for expert witness fees, legal fees, and other necessary technical services directly related to the adjudication process. Funds may not be used for indirect or administrative costs.

Funding Availability

Funding Potential

\$616,265.00

Range of Awards

No more than 1/4 of the money from the Acequia and Community Ditch Fund shall be allocated to one acequia association provided that at least the eight most qualified applicant associations may be considered to receive money, which is in the fund and available for any given fiscal year.

Funding Cycle - Duration

Grants are made at the start of the fiscal year with grant agreements executed for a period of 12 months.

Source of Funds

State General Fund

Application Process**Deadline**

NMDA issues a notice each year specifying the application deadline, which is usually in July.

How to Apply

Application forms and guidelines are available at the NMDA.

Selection Criteria & Decision Authority

Decisions are made by a three person committee consisting of the director of the New Mexico Department of Agriculture, the chairman of the Interstate Stream Commission, and a representative from the Acequia Commission. The committee considers financial need, progress of the adjudication, and the trial schedule; however, the committee is not limited to these factors. The committee also considers the state engineer's report on the eligibility and priority of the applicants.

Authorization

The Acequia and Community Ditch Fund Act, Section 73-2A-1 et seq., NMSA 1978.

Related Programs

None

Information Contacts

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