

# 2024 NBRC APPLICATION WORKSHOP SERIES

# Forms, Files and Checklists

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# **Application Workshop Series**

# Application workshop recordings and slides available on **NBRC's Program Applications** webpage

- Application Workshop #1: Budgets, Budgets, Budgets!
- Application Workshop #2: The Technical Proposal
- Application Workshop #3: Forms, Files and Checklists

#### Northern Border Regional Commission

Northern Border Region | Program Areas | Impact & Reporting | Resources

Application

Workshops

#### **NBRC Program Applications**

Congratulations on your invitation to submit an NBRC program application! The application process is open to prospective grantees who have successfully completed their <u>pre-application</u> requirements and have been invitied to advance to the application round. The following resources and workshops are designed to provide you with the assistance you need when applying for the NBRC's Catalyst, Forest Economy, or Timber for Transit programs.

The due date for Fall 2024 applications is: October 18, 2024: Application (By Invitation) due by 5:00 pm EST

#### Application Workshop Resources

Program Information Sessions: Maine Recording | New Hampshire Recording | Vermont Recording | Maine Recording

#### Fall 2024 Application Workshop Series

Worried about budgets and projects KPIs? Don't fret - attend one of our Application Workshops where we'll tackle specific topics and help invited applicants navigate the NBRC Program Application process.



https://www.nbrc.gov/content/nbrc-program-applications



# **Topics for today's session:**

- **1. Components of the Forms and Files Tab**
- 2. <u>Helpful Resources</u> for the Forms and Files Tab
- **3. Forms within the GMS**
- 4. The Supporting Documents Checklist
  - Required forms and where to find them
  - Form Purpose, Samples (if applicable), and Common Errors
- **5. Optional Support Documents**



# The Forms and Files Tab

The Forms and Files tab has three sections, in the following order:

- **1. Application Files**: This is where you'll upload any optional documentation you would like to include, separate from the documentation provided in the following two sections.
- **2. Supporting Documents Checklist**: This section is complete with the required documentation for the project and includes links to the various forms required to be completed and uploaded.
- **3. All Forms**: Exist within the GMS and must be completed by the project's Authorized Official



### Resources for the Forms & Files Tab:

- <u>Application</u> <u>Support</u> <u>Document</u> <u>Checklist</u>
- Forms

### Required documents

Additional GMS Guidance documents: How to Find your Pre-Applications Adding Users in the GMS How to Update UEI Application Support Document Checklist Common GMS Error Messages - Application Module



#### **Application Support Documents:**

Required application support documents consist of both templates provided within NBRC's Grants Management System (GMS) and documents an entity must complete and upload to the GMS.

#### Forms provided within the GMS:

- Debarment Suspension Certification Form 1001
- SF-424- Application for federal assistance
  - SF-424 SAMPLE with Instructions
- SF424B Assurances for Non-Construction
- SF424D- Assurances for Construction
- SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

#### SF-LLL SAMPLE

Documents grantees are required to complete and upload to the GMS:

Authorized Official Resolution

SF-424cbw- Grant Application Detailed Budget Worksheet

Current Certificate of Good Standing (Required for Non-Profit Organizations)

IRS Determination Letter (Required for Non-Profit Organizations)

Indirect Cost Rate Documentation (if applicable)

Revolving Fund Loan Documentation (if applicable)



### Application Supporting Document Checklist:

<u>Download</u> and fill it out!

Provides applicant with information about requirements, location of forms, location of samples, applicability details, and other notes from NBRC.



Northern Border Regional Commission

#### NBRC Application Supporting Document Checklist

#### Catalyst Program, Forest Economy Program & Timber for Transit Program

Applicants for all NBRC Programs are required to submit various application support documents. *If an applicant does not submit the required documentation, the application may be deemed ineligible.* 

Some forms are mandatory, while other forms are only required if applicable to the applicant or project. Mandatory documents must be completed and uploaded to the application within the online grants management system (GMS). Sample forms are located on the NBRC website and provide detailed guidance on how to complete the form. Use this checklist to access templates, sample forms, and to confirm your application is complete.

#### Application Files: 🗸

Submitted	Form Name	Form Location	Sample Form (click link to access)	Applicability	Notes
	Be sure to give your file a descriptive name to help the reviewer quickly understand what it is.	N/A	N/A	Optional - All Grantees	The Application Files section is a place to upload any documentation in addition to those documents listed in the Supporting Documents Checklist and All Forms sections (below)



Overview **Q** Locations

💲 Budget 🛛 📰 Proposal

\star Responsibilities

#### Revisions

Forms and Files



▲ Application Files

Add Files

## **Application Files:**

This section is for any additional documentation you would like to submit with your application

#### NBRC Application Supporting Document Checklist

#### Catalyst Program, Forest Economy Program & Timber for Transit Program

Applicants for all NBRC Programs are required to submit various application support documents. *If an applicant does not submit the required documentation, the application may be deemed ineligible.* 

Some forms are mandatory, while other forms are only required if applicable to the applicant or project. Mandatory documents must be completed and uploaded to the application within the online grants management system (GMS). Sample forms are located on the NBRC website and provide detailed guidance on how to complete the form. Use this checklist to access templates, sample forms, and to confirm your application is complete.

### Application Files: $\checkmark$

Submitted	Form Name	Form Location	Sample Form (click link to access)	Applicability	Notes
	Be sure to give your file a descriptive name to help the reviewer quickly understand what it is.	N/A	N/A	Optional - All Grantees	The Application Files section is a place to upload any documentation in addition to those documents listed in the Supporting Documents Checklist and All Forms sections (below)



### Supporting Documents Checklist:

This section is complete with the required documentation for the project and includes links to the various forms required to be completed and uploaded.

#### Supporting Documents Checklist: 🗸

Submitted	Form Name	Form Location	Sample Form (click link to access)	Applicability	Notes
	Authorized Official Resolution	<u>TEMPLATE</u>	N/A	All Grantees	Template NOT required to be used. Upload to GMS. Name the individual authorized. If you choose to name the individual by their position, provide supporting documentation naming the individual employed and their position/title.
	Certificate of Good Standing	Applicant Provides	N/A	Mandatory for non-profit entities only	This is a certification documenting that your organization is in good standing with the State where you are located. This is a document you must request, typically from a governmental entity located in your State. Upload a copy to the GMS.
	Form 1001: Debarment Suspension Certification	<u>TEMPLATE</u>	N/A	All Grantees	This certifies that the applicant entity is not suspended, debarred, or ineligible from entering into contract with the NBRC. Download from website, complete, save, upload to GMS.
	Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement	Applicant Provides	N/A	Applicants with Indirect Rate Cost Agreement with a federal agency	If an applicant is utilizing NBRC funds for indirect costs and wants to use their own indirect cost rate, their Negotiated Indirect Rate Cost Agreement with a cognizant federal agency must be uploaded as a support document within the GMS. Otherwise, the de minimis rate of 15% applies.
	IRS Determination Letter	Applicant Provides	N/A	Non-Profit entities	This is a letter your organization received from the IRS documenting your non-profit status. Upload a copy to the GMS.



# **Supporting Documents Checklist**

For each document, it's important to understand:

- The purpose
- Whether it's required for your org (some documents are only required for non-profits with a 501(c) status
- Where to locate the form
- You should upload these forms to the Supporting Documents Checklist section of the GMS.
- Common errors



Mandatory for all!

## Supporting Documents Checklist The Authorized Official Resolution

- This is the single individual authorized to sign all binding agreements with NBRC
- <u>NBRC template available</u>, but not required to be used
- Upload completed form to the GMS
- Name one individual as the Authorized Official
- Common Errors: More than one individual identified, inconsistent AO and document signatory



## Supporting Documents Checklist Certificate of Good Standing

**Mandatory** 

for

501(c)!

- Mandatory for non-profits only
- Certification that documents that your organization is in good standing with the State where you are located.
- This is a document you must request, typically from a governmental entity located in your State. Request in advance!
- Upload completed form to the GMS

Pro-Tip: Request this form early!



Mandatory for all!

## Supporting Documents Checklist Debarment Suspension Certification

- Form 1001: Debarment suspension certification
- Certifies that the applicant is not suspended, debarred, or ineligible from entering into contract with NBRC.
- Download template from the <u>NBRC resources page</u>
- Upload completed form to the GMS



### **Optional!**

### Supporting Documents Checklist Indirect Cost Rate

- Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) Optional
- If an applicant is utilizing NBRC funds for indirect costs and wants to use their own indirect cost rate, their Negotiated Indirect Rate Cost Agreement with a cognizant federal agency must be uploaded as a support document within the GMS. Otherwise, the de minimis rate of 15% applies
- Common errors: listing more than one rate

**Pro Tip**: Use the Budget Narrative to indicate there is a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate that will be used for the award



### Supporting Documents Checklist IRS Determination Letter

**Mandatory** 

for

501(c)!

- This is a letter your organization received from the IRS documenting your non-profit status.
- Upload a copy to the GMS

**Pro Tip**: Locate this form early!



### Supporting Documents Checklist Letters of Support

**Optional** 

- Review Invitation to Apply as some invitations included a suggestion to include of Letters of Support
- Letters of support may come from businesses, project partners, government officials, etc.
- Combine all letters and upload as one PDF to the GMS



Mandatory for all!

## Supporting Documents Checklist NEPA Intake Form

- Completion of this form does not satisfy NEPA, but it does help NBRC to determine what NEPA analysis will be required.
- If your project is funded, the NEPA process must be complete before NBRC will issue a Notice to Proceed.
- If NEPA review for your project has already been conducted by another agency, please submit the completed review with the NEPA intake form
- Download from <u>NBRC resources</u>
- Upload completed form to GMS

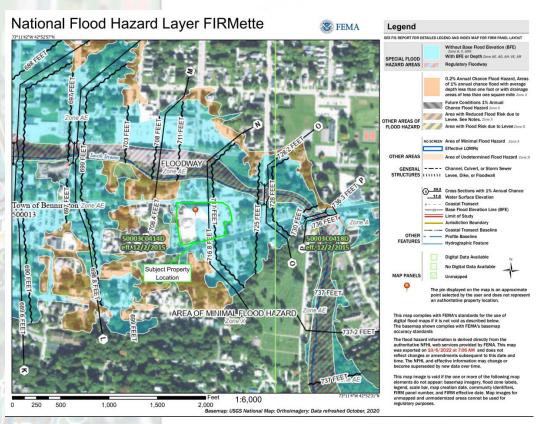


### Mandatory for all!

Flood Hazard, Areas a flood with average than one foot or with drainage ss than one square mile Zone X

### Supporting Documents Checklist Project Maps

- This can be a <u>FEMA flood map</u> AND/OR map of project.
- Catalyst projects may receive up to one additional point if project is not located within a FEMA Flood Hazard Zone, or, if project is in a FEMA Flood Hazard Zone, project has described mitigation measures to protect from 1-percentannual-chance flood.
- Upload to GMS





### RLF applicants only

## Supporting Documents Checklist Revolving Loan Fund Documentation

- See NBRC RLF Policy and required documentation in the Appendix I of the relevant Program User Manual.
- This additional RLF documentation must be developed by the applicant in response to Appendix I instructions
- Work plan that demonstrates the need and capacity for a NBRC RLF grant
- Upload responses as one file to the GMS



Mandatory for all!

### Supporting Documents Checklist SF424-cbw

- This is the detailed budget form, which should include all costs associated with the project, including a breakdown of NBRC and match allocations.
- Upload completed form to the GMS
- Common Errors:
  - Incomplete applicant information
  - inconsistency across application budget documentation
  - NEPA and LDD costs listed in section 6
- Resources review Application Workshop #1: Budgets, Budgets, Budgets!

**Pro Tip:** Complete the SF424-cbw Budget Details <u>before</u> completing the GMS budget section or SF424 Application for Federal Assistance.



#### ▲ All Forms

Showing 1 to 4 of 4 records

Form Name 🛧	Mandatory
Application for Federal Assis	✓
Assurances for Construction	×
Assurances for Non-Constru	×
Disclosure of Lobbying Activ	✓

- Forms in this section will be completed within the GMS.
- Sample forms located on the <u>NBRC resources page</u>

Submitted	Form Name	Form Location	Sample Form	Applicability √ = Mandatory X = If applicable	Notes
	SF-424: Application for Federal Assistance	GMS	<u>SAMPLE</u> FORM	✓ All grantees	To be completed within the GMS. Confirm the request amount, match, and total project costs are consistent with the application.
	SF-424B(non- construction) <i>OR</i> SF- 424D(constructio n)	GMS	<u>SAMPLE</u> FORM	<b>X</b> All Grantees	An applicant submits one or the other, NOT both. The required form to complete and submit is dependent on the scope of the project. Projects with primarily programmatic activities or minimal construction complete SF-424B, while project with primarily construction activities complete SF-424D. The GMS indicates these forms as not mandatory, with an "X" under the "Mandatory" column, however applicants must submit one or the other.
	SF-LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	GMS	SAMPLE FORM	✓ All grantees	Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities. To be completed within the GMS

**All Forms** 



### Mandatory for all!

### All Forms SF424 Application for Federal Assistance

- Complete within the GMS
- Common errors: incomplete or inconsistent budget information, not signed by identified Authorized Official
- Resources
  - Review <u>Application Workshop #1: Budgets, Budgets</u>, <u>Budgets!</u>
  - Sample SF424 with instructions located on the <u>NBRC</u> <u>Resources page</u>.

**Pro Tip:** Complete the SF424-cbw Budget Details <u>before</u> completing the SF424 Application for Federal Assistance.





### All Forms Assurances for Construction

- Complete within the GMS **either** SF424B or SF424D. The required form to complete and submit is dependent on the scope of the project. Projects with primarily programmatic activities or minimal construction complete SF-424B, while project with primarily construction activities complete SF-424D.
- The GMS indicates these forms as not mandatory, with an "X" under the "Mandatory" column, however applicants must submit one or the other.
- Common errors:
  - An applicant submits both forms.



### All Forms Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

**Mandatory** 

for all!

- "SF-LLL"
- Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities.
- Complete within the GMS
  - The form requires that all fields be completed
- Common errors:
  - The form is not signed by the identified Authorized Official
- Resources
  - Sample SF-LLL available on the <u>NBRC Resources page</u>



# **Do Not Include:**

Documents that should not be submitted in the GMS include:

- Architect and Engineering plans
- Annual reports
- Studies and academic reports\*

\*You may reference reports in the narrative and provide a link or citation, but it is not necessary to include the reports.



# **QUESTIONS**?

- Program FAQs will continue to be updated
- Send questions to <u>admin@nbrc.gov</u> with the GMS ID in the subject line