

Funding Opportunity Announcement

Natural Resources Training and Education at Mill Creek Project

Funding Agency : US Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District 201 N Third Ave Walla Walla WA 99362	Funding Instrument: Cooperative Agreement Funding Opportunity No: W912EF-16-2-0001 CFDA No: 12.010 Program Title: Youth Conservation Services
Issue Date: December 28, 2015	Application Due Date: February 15, 2016
Overview: This announcement represents an opportunity to enter into a cooperative agreement with an organization for outdoor education and training while accomplishing maintenance on public lands consisting of park maintenance, vegetation management, prescribed burns, landscaping and similar services. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is seeking organizations that offer challenging education and job-training experience that helps young adults develop the skills they need to lead full and productive lives and offer opportunity for aid with formal post high school education. Statutory Authority: Water Resources Development Act of 2000, Title 33, Part 2339, Section 213(a), Public Law 106-106-541, 114 Stat. 2593, 33 U.S.C. 2339.	
Estimated Total Funding: \$20,000	Estimated Number of Awards: 1 (one)
Contents of Full Text Announcement	
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Contact Information: Questions relating to Grants.gov including the registration process and system requirements should be directed to the Grants.gov Contact Center at 1-800-518-4726. For assistance with the requirements of this Funding Opportunity Announcement, please contact camilla.allen@usace.army.mill .	
Instructions to Applicants: The complete funding opportunity announcement, application forms, and instructions are available for download at Grants.gov. Applications in response to this Funding Opportunity Announcement shall be submitted by the application due date. Applications may be submitted by mail, email, or via the internet through Grants.gov. Applicants shall have a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, register with the System for Award Management (SAM.gov), and if submitting application via the internet, register with Grants.gov. See Section IV of the Funding Opportunity Announcement for complete application submission information.	

Section I: Funding Opportunity Description

1. Introduction:

USACE develops and operates water resources and public lands within the Mill Creek Project, Walla Walla District's jurisdictions. The goal of this cooperative agreement is to implement creative stewardship techniques and effect accomplishments within its recreational, environmental, and dam safety missions and provide a specific opportunity to further training and education opportunities. It represents an opportunity to further USACE's national organization objectives for affirmative action, interpretive service, community outreach, and partnerships. The purpose of this agreement is to provide job training/experience for college age youth interested in working in the natural resources field.

2. Education and Stewardship Objectives:

USACE is engaged in diverse opportunities enabling work in a resource oriented environment and acquisition of strong ethics regarding proper management and use of public land resources. By utilizing these opportunities participants will receive technical, applied, and practical job training/skills and education otherwise not available.

Work projects may include maintenance services on USACE lands consisting of park maintenance, vegetation management, landscaping, prescribed burning, and flood risk reduction. Specific sites where work may be conducted include: lands and waters at the Mill Creek Project.

Each specific project proposed under this Agreement will be individually evaluated by both parties to make certain that it meets the education and stewardship objectives set forth herein, and that it will not displace any government workers nor impair existing contracts for service.

3. Benefits:

Training future members of the natural resources community so that they will have the experience necessary to complete their education. The recipient will benefit by learning outdoor ethics and work skills. They will gain exposure to tasks that benefit the environment and aid in improving public lands. The recipient may take advantage of resource opportunities available only under a cooperative agreement.

4. Responsibilities:

a. The Recipient will:

- Recruit, select, and enroll eligible participants and refer appropriate participants to USACE in accordance with available funds, Federal regulations, Equal Employment Opportunity Laws, needs of participants, and the terms of this Agreement. Enrollees shall be at least 18 years of age.
- Indemnify USACE against any liability for damage to life or property arising from the actions or omissions of Recipient's employees, contractors, or agents. Such protection from damages may be provided by commercial insurance or self-insurance. USACE shall be liable for its actions and omissions in accordance with the Federal Tort Claims Act, as applicable.
- Reserve the right to terminate or reassign enrollees to other activities in accordance with the enrollee's program objectives. Reasonable notice of reassignments will be provided to USACE.
- Provide crews available for scheduling year-round work at mutually agreed times.
- Provide a supervisor to direct work who will be responsible for all supervision and discipline of participants assigned to scopes of work under this agreement.
- Assure that training accomplishment is documented for each participant under this agreement. These records shall be available to USACE for review.

- Ensure that each enrollee is properly equipped and dressed for work to be accomplished. This will include a work jacket, work shirt, work trousers, hard hat, gloves, and a pair laced safety work boots, if required.
- Perform work in accordance with EM 385-1-1, "U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Safety and Health Requirements Manual," and FED-OSHA regulations. EM 385-1-1 can be down-loaded from:
http://www.publications.usace.army.mil/Portals/76/Publications/EngineerManuals/EM_385-1-1.pdf
- Arrange for transportation to and from work sites, ensure participants bring food and water as required for rest breaks, and provide for first aid and other customary supervisory care of the participants at the work sites.
- Provide basic hand tools such as shovels, loppers, hand saws, wheelbarrows, rakes, etc.
- Provide basic gas powered tools such as string trimmers, hedge trimmers, chainsaws, etc. and associated training with these tools.
- Provide applicable Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for recipient supplied tools.
- Ensure that all tools and equipment provided by USACE are returned to USACE in a like condition as when loaned, except for normal wear and tear.
- Act in conformance with State and Federal laws and regulations pertaining to Wage and Hours, Equal Employment Opportunity, Civil Rights, and Child Labor.

b. USACE will:

- Submit project information in support of scopes of work, including objectives and locations, diagrams, specifications, location maps, schedules and other required details.
- Supply sufficient materials as applicable, heavy equipment and special tools not provided by the recipient including additional required personal protective equipment, or special labor support, as required to perform each scope of work.
- Ensure there is sufficient work to productively occupy the enrollees during scheduled work hours.
- Assign a USACE staff member to serve as a point of contact (POC) and resource advisor for the duration of this scope of work, to provide technical assistance to the crew supervisor, provide specific task instruction, instructions on the proper use of tools and materials, demonstrate task completion, and otherwise engage and encourage the work crew.
- Coordinate work schedules to accommodate participation in education, vocational training, counseling, or related activities.

Section II: Award Information

1. Type of Award Instrument - A single cooperative agreement.

2. Substantial Involvement – USACE will provide a work site for the recipient to practice natural resources education and training, guidance in the form of educational presentations and review of protocols and reports. USACE will also supply some tools for some of the activities to be returned to USACE at the end of the period of performance.

3. Funding – \$20,000.

4. Period of Performance – Twelve (12) months from time of award. It is anticipated that there will be five to ten participants with three to four weeks of time total within the twelve month period.

Section III: Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants – Non-Federal public and non-profit entities.
2. Cost Sharing – Not required.

Section IV: Application and Submission Information

1. Address to Request Application Package

The complete funding opportunity announcement, application forms, and instructions are available for download at Grants.gov. USACE is not responsible for any loss of internet connectivity or for an applicant's inability to access documents posted at the referenced website.

The administrative point of contact is Cam Allen (509) 527-7213, camilla.allen@usace.army.mil.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

All mandatory forms and any applicable optional forms must be completed in accordance with the instructions on the forms and the additional instructions below.

- a. SF 424 - Application for Federal Assistance
- b. SF 424 A – Budget Information for Nonconstruction Programs
- c. Program Narrative – Brief program description illustrating applicant's ability to meet the goals and objectives described in Section I of the announcement.
- d. SF-LLL - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

3. Application shall be submitted no later than 4:00 PM PT, February 15, 2016

4. Submission Instructions

Applications may be submitted by mail, e-mail, or via the internet. Choose one of the following submission methods:

- a. Mail one unbound copy of your complete proposal to:
US Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District
Attn: CECT-NWW, Camilla Allen
201 N Third Ave.
Walla Walla WA 99362
- b. E-mail:
Format all documents to print on Letter (8 ½ x 11") paper. E-mail proposal to camilla.allen@usace.army.mil.
- c. Internet:
Applicants are not required to submit proposals through Grants.gov. However, if applications are submitted via the internet, applicants are responsible for ensuring that their Grants.gov proposal submission is received in its entirety. The Government bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission of conversion processes associated with electronic submissions. The Government will bear no responsibility for delays in submissions due to technical difficulties at or with the Grants.gov website.

All applicants choosing to use Grants.gov to submit proposals must be registered and have an account with Grants.gov. It may take up to three weeks to complete Grants.gov registration. For more information on registration, go to www.grants.gov.

Section V: Application Review Information

1. Criteria

The following criteria shall serve as the standard against which any response to this announcement will be evaluated.

a. Initial Review

The Government will perform an initial review to determine that the applicant is (1) eligible in accordance with Section III of the announcement; (2) all information required by Section IV has been submitted; and (3) all mandatory requirements are satisfied.

b. Merit Review

The application and program narrative will be evaluated on whether the applicant demonstrates the ability to meet the goals and objectives of the program. Specifically, the narrative will be evaluated to ensure the Applicant:

- (1) Demonstrated the ability to successfully execute training/education programs for young adults
- (2) Has experience with conservation programs
- (3) Has adequate management capability and adequate financial and technical resources to execute the program.
- (4) Has a satisfactory record of executing Government programs (if a prior recipient).
- (5) Has a record of integrity and business ethics.

There is pending Government policy on the use of the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS) in the award of grants and cooperative agreements that may affect the agencies' process for judging proposed recipients to be qualified to receive financial assistance awards. For additional background information, see the Supplementary Information section in OMB's proposal of the policy for comment, which appeared in the Federal Register on February 18, 2010 [75 FR 7316].

c. Budget Review

Budget realism and reasonableness of costs. Submit a preliminary budget estimate based on the information in Sections I and II.

2. Review and Selection Process

Proposals will undergo a multi-stage evaluation procedure. First, the proposals will be screened to confirm all required submittals and information have been received, and the applicant is eligible to receive Federal awards. Second, a technical team from within USACE will review the proposals to determine if the merit criteria have been met. Third, the program manager will review recommendations from the technical team to reach a final decision for award.

3. Anticipated Award Date:

Announcement Issue Date:	December 28 2015
Announcement Due Date:	February 15 2016
Estimated Award Date:	March 01 2016

Section VI: Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices

Written notice of award will be given in conjunction with issuance of a cooperative agreement signed by a Grants Officer. The cooperative agreement will contain the effective date of the agreement, the period of performance, funding information, and all terms and conditions. The recipient is required to sign and return the document before work under the agreement commences. **Work described in this announcement shall not begin without prior authorization from a Grants Officer.**

2. Administrative Requirements

The cooperative agreement issued as a result of this announcement will be administered in accordance with the administrative requirements in 2 CFR 200.

3. Reporting

Recipient will be required to submit progress, financial, and property reports quarterly, semiannually, or annually as stipulated in the terms and conditions of the final cooperative agreement.

Section VII: Agency Contact

Cam Allen Grants Officer, Contracting Division
USACE, Walla Walla District Tel: 509-527-7213
ATTN: CENWW-CT Fax: 509-527-7802
201 N Third Ave. E-mail: camilla.allen@usace.army.mil
Walla Walla WA 99362

Section VIII: Other Information

1. Only Grants Officers are legally authorized to bind the Government to an agreement.
2. Responses should reference Program Announcement W912EF-16-2-RFP-0001.
3. Questions regarding the proposal submission should be submitted no later than February 08, 2016. Questions received after this date may not be answered.