

Environmental Protection Agency

§ 35.4070

If your group is . . .	Then your initial award will . . .
(a) the first recipient of a TAG at a site or a subsequent recipient at a site where the initial recipient spent the entire award amount.	not exceed \$50,000 per site.
(b) a subsequent recipient at a site with remaining funds from an initial \$50,000 award.	be the unspent amount remaining from an initial from the initial award (for example, if the Agency awarded the first recipient \$50,000 but that recipient only spent \$27,000, then your group's initial award would be \$23,000).

§ 35.4065 How can my group get more than \$50,000?

(a) The EPA regional office award official for your grant may waive your group's \$50,000 limit if your group demonstrates that:

- (1) If it received previous TAG funds, you managed those funds effectively; and
- (2) Site(s) characteristics indicate additional funds are necessary due to the nature or volume of site-related information. In this case, three of the ten factors below must occur:
 - (i) A Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study ("RI/FS") costing more than \$2 million is performed;
 - (ii) Treatability studies or evaluation of new and innovative technologies are required as specified in the Record of Decision;
 - (iii) EPA reopens the Record of Decision;
 - (iv) The site public health assessment (or related activities) indicates the need for further health investigations and/or health promotion activities;
 - (v) EPA designates one or more additional operable units after awarding the TAG;
 - (vi) The agency leading the cleanup issues an "Explanation of Significant Differences" (ESD);
 - (vii) A legislative or regulatory change results in new site information after EPA awards the TAG;
 - (viii) EPA expects a cleanup lasting more than eight years from the beginning of the RI/FS through construction completion;
 - (ix) Significant public concern exists, where large groups of people in the community require many meetings, copies, etc.; and

(x) Any other factor that, in EPA's judgment, indicates that the site is unusually complex.

(b) Your group can also receive more than \$50,000 if you are geographically close to more than one eligible site (for example, two or more sites × \$50,000 = grant of \$100,000) and your group wishes to receive funding for technical assistance to address multiple eligible sites.

WHAT TAGS CAN PAY FOR

§ 35.4070 How can my group spend TAG money?

(a) Your group must use all or most of your funds to procure a technical advisor(s) to help you understand the nature of the environmental and public health hazards at the site, the various stages of health and environmental investigations and activities, cleanup, and "operation and maintenance" of a site, including exposure investigation, health study, surveillance program, health promotion activities (for example, medical monitoring and pediatric health units), remedial investigation, and feasibility study, record of decision, remedial design, selection and construction of remedial action, operation and maintenance, and removal action. This technical assistance should contribute to the public's ability to participate in the decision making process by improving the public's understanding of overall conditions and activities at the site.

(b) Your group may use a portion of your funds to:

- (1) Undertake activities that communicate site information to the public through newsletters, public meetings or other similar activities;

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(2) Procure a grant administrator to manage your group's grant; and/or

(3) Provide one-time health and safety training for your technical advisor to gain site access to your local Superfund site. To provide this training, you must:

(i) Obtain written approval from the EPA regional office; and

(ii) Not spend more than \$1,000.00 for this training, including travel, lodging and other related costs.

§ 35.4075 Are there things my group can't spend TAG money for?

Your TAG funds cannot be used for the following activities:

(a) Lawsuits or other legal actions;

(b) Attorney fees for services:

(1) Connected to any kind of legal action; or

(2) That could, if such a relationship were allowable, be interpreted as resulting in an attorney/client relationship to which the attorney/client privilege would apply;

(c) The time of your technical advisor to assist an attorney in preparing a legal action or preparing and serving as an expert witness at any legal proceeding;

(d) Political activity and lobbying that is unallowable under Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-122, Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations (this restriction includes activities such as attempting to influence the outcomes of any Federal, State or local election, referendum, initiative, or similar procedure through in-kind or cash contributions, endorsements, or publicity, or attempting to influence the introduction or passage of Federal or state legislation; your EPA regional office can supply you with a copy of this circular);

(e) Other activities that are unallowable under the cost principles stated in OMB Circular A-122 (such as costs of amusement, diversion, social activities, fund raising and ceremonials);

(f) Tuition or other training expenses for your group's members or your technical advisor except as § 35.4070(b)(3) allows;

(g) Any activities or expenditures for your group's members' travel;

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(h) Generation of new primary data such as well drilling and testing, including split sampling;

(i) Reopening or challenging final EPA decisions such as:

(1) Records of Decision; and/or

(2) Disputes with EPA under its dispute resolution procedures set forth in 40 CFR 30.63 (see § 35.4245); and

(j) Generation of new health data through biomedical testing (for example, blood or urine testing), clinical evaluations, health studies, surveillance, registries, and/or public health interventions.

HOW YOU GET THE MONEY

§ 35.4080 Does my group get a lump sum up front, or does EPA reimburse us for costs we incur?

(a) EPA pays your group by reimbursing you for "allowable" costs, which are costs that are:

(1) Grant related;

(2) "Allocable";

(3) "Reasonable"; and

(4) Necessary for the operation of the organization or the performance of the award.

(b) You will be reimbursed for the allowable costs up to the amount of the TAG if your group incurred the costs during the approved "project period" of the grant (except for allowable costs of incorporation which may be incurred prior to the project period), and your group is legally required to pay those costs.

§ 35.4085 Can my group get an "advance payment" to help us get started?

Yes, a maximum of \$5,000.00 in the form of an advance payment is available to new recipients.

§ 35.4090 If my group is eligible for an advance payment, how do we get our funds?

(a) Your group must submit in writing a request for an advance payment and identify what activities, goods or services your group requires.

(b) Your EPA regional office project officer identified in your award document must approve the items for which your group seeks advance funding.

(c) Upon approval of your request, EPA will advance cash (in the form of