a check or electronic funds transfer) to your group, up to $5,000, to cover its estimated need to spend funds for an initial period generally geared to your group’s cycle of spending funds.

(d) After the initial advance, EPA reimburses your group for its actual cash disbursements.

§ 35.4095 What can my group pay for with an advance payment?

(a) Advance payments may be used only for the purchase of supplies, postage, the payment of the first deposit to open a bank account, the rental of equipment, the first month’s rent of office space, advertisements for technical advisors and other items associated with the start up of your organization specifically requested in your advance payment request and approved by your EPA project officer.

(b) Advance payments must not be used for contracts for technical advisors or other contractors.

(c) Advance payments are not available for the costs of incorporation.

§ 35.4100 Can my group incur any costs prior to the award of our grant?

(a) The only costs you may incur prior to the award of a grant from EPA are costs associated with incorporation but you do so at your own risk.

(b) If you are awarded a TAG, EPA may reimburse you for preaward incorporation costs or allow you to count the costs toward your matching funds requirement if the costs are:

1. Necessary and reasonable for incorporation; and
2. Incurred for the sole purpose of complying with this subpart’s requirement that your group be incorporated as a nonprofit corporation.

§ 35.4105 What is the first step for getting a TAG?

To let EPA know of your group’s interest in obtaining a TAG, your group should first submit to its EPA regional office a Letter of Intent. (The addresses of EPA’s regional offices’ TAG Coordinators are listed in §35.4275.)

§ 35.4106 What information should an LOI include?

The LOI should clearly state that your group intends to apply for a TAG, and should identify:

(a) The name of your group;
(b) The Superfund site(s) for which your group intends to submit an application; and
(c) Provide the name of a contact person in the group and his or her mailing address and telephone number.

§ 35.4110 What does EPA do once it receives the first LOI from a group?

The following table shows what EPA does when it receives the first LOI from a group:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your site . . .</th>
<th>Then EPA . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Is not proposed for listing on the NPL or is proposed but no response is underway or scheduled to begin.</td>
<td>will advise you in writing that we are not yet accepting TAG “applications” for your site. EPA may informally notify other interested groups that it has received an LOI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Is listed on the NPL or is proposed for listing on the NPL and a response action is underway.</td>
<td>will publish a notice in your local newspaper to formally notify other interested parties that they may contact the first group that sent the LOI to form a coalition or they may submit a separate LOI.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

§ 35.4115 After the public notice that EPA has received an LOI, how much time does my group have to form a coalition or submit a separate LOI?

Your group has 30 days (from the date the public notice appears in your local newspaper) to submit documentation that you have formed a coalition with the first group and any other groups, or to submit a separate LOI. This 30-day period is the first 30 days with which your group must be concerned.