

Priority Points Criteria

The measures that establish the priority ranking system are designed to prioritize projects that improve water quality, particularly for utilities struggling with compliance and for projects that will improve water quality for impaired waters. Additionally, a heavy emphasis is placed on projects that are closer to being ready to construct, which ensures efficient use of funds and quicker achievement of water quality benefits. Finally, the state awards points for state priorities rooted in best practices to ensure healthy, sustainable utilities, including points for:

- Small communities
- Green projects
- Multi-year funding (to ensure projects already begun can be completed)
- Utilities with asset management plans
- Utilities using the CWSRF to only fund a portion of the project.
- Projects that include consolidation or are for utilities that have already undergone consolidation.

The specific criteria and points associated with each are detailed in the table below. For more information and guidance on each criterion, please refer to ADA-NRD's PPL Score Sheet which provides further details and links to more information. Any revisions to the priority points criteria will be documented and posted in a revised IUP. The point total results for each project are included in the attached PPL and will be published to ADA-NRD website up to four times each year.

#	Criteria	Points Awarded for a "Yes" Answer
PROJECT BENEFITS		
Basic Eligibility		
1	Is the project (in total or in part) eligible for the CWSRF?	10
System Functionality		
2	Will the project improve, repair, upgrade, enhance, rehab, restore, create, or expand an engineered, constructed, or natural system that improves or protects surface water or ground water quality?	10
Permit Compliance		
3	Is the recipient required to meet a water quality-related permit that will be impacted by the project?	10
4	Will the project help an entity out of compliance with a water quality-related permit achieve compliance?	5
Improves Quality of Impaired Water Bodies		
5	Will the project benefit a water body that is listed as impaired on the State's 303(d) list--Category 4 or Category 5--or 305(b) list?	10

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| 6 | Will the project support implementation of a TMDL? | 5 |
| 7 | Will the project reduce phosphorous contamination in the Illinois River Watershed or improve water quality in the Buffalo River Watershed? | 5 |

AFFORDABILITY & NEED

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| 8 | Is the recipient a community with a population under 10,001 people? | 5 |
| | Is the recipient a community with a population under 1,001 people? | 10 |

READINESS TO PROCEED

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| 9 | Has a complete funding application been submitted for the project? | 4 |
| | Has the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission approved funding? | 1000 |
| | Has a complete Benefits Report been submitted for the project? | 4 |
| | Has the Environmental Review been completed for the project? | 4 |
| | Have the plans and specs been approved for the project? | 4 |
| | Has ADEQ completed permit review and/or issuance? | 4 |

OTHER FACTORS

GPR

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| 10 | Will any aspect or portion of the project count as a Green Project? | 5 |
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MULTI-YEAR

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| 11 | Is the project a continuation of an effort that received CWSRF funding in the past 2 years? | 10 |
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ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

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| 12 | Does the borrower either have an asset management plan or will develop an asset management plan as part of this project? | 5 |
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CONSOLIDATION & REGIONALIZATION

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| 13 | Will the project include consolidation and regionalization between utilities, at least one of which has a population under 10,000 people? | 30 |
| | If no, will the project be for a utility that was formed through consolidation or regionalization between utilities, at least one of which has a population under 10,000 people, that occurred in the past? | 5 |

CO-FUNDING

- | | | |
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| 14 | Will another funding source (either the community or a different lending source) be contributing to the project? | 10 |
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