

PRIORITY SCORING WORKSHEET

A. Project Information

Applicant: _____

Project Title: _____

This worksheet is designed to help an applicant estimate the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Priority Score for its project (if scoring is applicable) and, therefore, the likelihood that a project will be added to the DWSRF Fundable List; a project must be on the Fundable List to receive funding from the DWSRF and its complementary programs. Applicants should bear in mind that the official Priority Score will be calculated by the Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) staff based on application materials submitted as of December 31 of the year preceding the Fundable Year. Projects will only be recommended for the Fundable List after verification of all Priority Scores, and Scores will only be official after the State Water Board has approved the Scores and the Fundable List as part of adopting the annual Intended Use Plan.

B. Automatic Fundability

Small Disadvantaged Community projects are automatically added to the Fundable List. If you believe that your project qualifies through this or other exceptions to scoring in the annual Intended Use Plan, you should contact DFA staff directly for further guidance about your application. Scoring your project is unnecessary if it is automatically Fundable.

1. Does the Applicant qualify to be a Small Disadvantaged Community? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- A population less than 10,000; and
 - An MHI of less than eighty percent (80%) of the statewide MHI

C. Ineligibility

New projects will not be added to the Fundable List if any of the following conditions are true. Applicants should not estimate their Priority Scores because these projects are not Fundable.

1. Has more than 25% of construction been completed, based on cost*? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Was construction started on or before December 31 and is construction scheduled to be completed before June 15 or IUP adoption date*? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Is the project missing any components of the following application packages? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- a. General Package
 - b. Environmental Package**
 - c. Technical Package
 - d. Financial Package

* If construction has begun, this may affect funding eligibility.

An Environmental Package may be considered complete for the purpose of scoring projects, without an adopted/certified California Environmental Quality Act document, as long as it includes necessary federal environmental cross-cutting documents. **Please check with your Project Manager if you believe this is applicable to your project.

- If Yes to any of the above, project will be excluded from scoring and funding consideration. **Do not score.**
- If No to all, Project will be scored for placement on the Fundable List per Section D.

D. Priority Scoring

Project Score (Select the highest score)

Projects are scored by the categories and other criteria established below to achieve these objectives. Each project will be assigned to one of the following categories:

Categories	Primary Score
A-C	8 ☐
D	6 ☐
E	3 ☐
F	1 ☐

Score (Max. 8):

Category—A - Immediate Health Risk

- (1) Documented waterborne disease outbreaks attributable to the water system.
- (2) Water systems under a court order to correct SDWA violations or to correct water outage problems.
- (3) Total coliform Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) violations attributable to active sources contaminated with coliform bacteria (e.g., fecal, E. coli, or total coliform).
- (4) Severe domestic water supply outage(s) posing an imminent threat to public health and safety.
- (5) The distribution of water containing nitrates/nitrites, perchlorate, chlorite, or chlorine dioxide exceeding the MCL.

Category—B - Untreated or At-Risk Sources

- (1) Surface water or GWUDI sources that are untreated, not filtered, or have other filtration treatment deficiencies, or a recent history of deficiencies, that violate federal or state regulations.
- (2) Non-GWUDI groundwater sources that are contaminated with fecal coliform or E. coli and are inadequately treated
- (3) Uncovered distribution reservoirs.

Category—C - Compliance or Shortage Problems

- (1) Water quantity violations, or a recent history of repeated water quantity violations, caused by source capacity, or water delivery capability that is insufficient to meet existing demand.
- (2) The distribution of water containing chemical or radiological contamination in violation of, or a history of repeated water quality violations of, a state or federal primary drinking water standard (other than those listed in Category A). Projects that are addressing water quality levels above a new MCL (e.g., hexavalent chromium or perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)) may be considered a Category C priority even if they are not currently in violation of the MCL.
- (3) Total Coliform Rule violations for reasons other than source contamination.

Category—D - Inadequate Reliability

- (1) CWSs with a single source and no backup supply.
- (2) Distribution reservoirs with non-rigid covers in active use.
- (3) Disinfection facilities that lack needed reliability features, such as chlorine analyzers or alarms.
- (4) Violations of the Waterworks Standards related to disinfection.

Category—E - Secondary Risks

- (1) The distribution of water exceeding secondary drinking water standards.
- (2) The distribution of water exceeding a published chemical notification level.
- (3) The distribution of water exceeding a primary drinking water standard in one or more samples but not a running average standard.
- (4) A standby groundwater source exceeding a primary drinking water standard.
- (5) Violations of the Waterworks Standards (other than those already covered above)

Category—F - Other Projects

- (1) Non-metered service connections, replacement of defective water meters or water meters that have reached the end of their useful life, and installation of remote read equipment.
- (2) Deficiencies attributable to the water system that address present or prevent future violations of health-based standards, including deficiencies associated with emerging contaminants (other than those already covered above).

Secondary Score (Select the highest score)

Applicant volunteers this project to meet SRF equivalency requirements, meaning all federal crosscutting requirements will apply, including Build America, Buy America. <i>Note: Projects may be selected to meet necessary equivalency requirements associated with the funding source regardless of whether the applicant volunteers</i>		3 ☐
Project eliminates a drinking water permit. (e.g., regionalization or consolidation projects).		2 ☐
Identify the permit that will be eliminated:		
Project is cited in a multi-agency regional environmental management plan, increases the local supply of drinking water, or has multiple environmental benefits.		2 ☐
Provide Title of Reg. Plan & Page #:		
The applicant agrees to provide funds to match federal capitalization grants by agreeing to the match financing option		2 ☐
Potential Secondary Score (Max. 3):		

Affordability Score

(Sum of Community Size & MHI, Water Rates/MHI, Rate Assistance Program)

Size & MHI			
Community the Project Serves	Disadvantaged	Non-Disadvantaged	Non-Disadvantaged
	< 80% of State MHI	≥ 80% and < 100% of State MHI	≥ 100% and ≤ 150 % of State MHI
Small (≤ 10,000 population)	Not Subject to Scoring*	2 ☐	2** ☐
Expanded Small (>10,000 AND ≤ 20,000 population)	2 ☐	1 ☐	1 ☐
Medium (> 20,000 and ≤ 100,000)	2 ☐	1 ☐	0 ☐
Large (>100,000)	1 ☐	0 ☐	0 ☐

Disadvantaged Community: the entire service area of the funding applicant, in which the Median Household Income (MHI) is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual MHI.

Non-Disadvantaged Community: Communities with MHI equal to or greater than 80% of the statewide MHI.

Note:

* The annual Intended Use Plan may identify additional project categories as not subject to scoring. Small communities with < 80% of State MHI will automatically be placed on the Fundable List, if the Deputy Director deems the application to be complete and the applicant is seeking repayable loan.

**** Communities with State MHI $\geq$ 150% will receive a zero (0) in the table above. These communities can still receive points for Water Rates as a Percentage of MHI.**

***** Communities that can demonstrate the project will solely benefit an area with a lower MHI may be scored using said area's MHI. Such documentation must use methods widely used in DFA for calculating MHI, including American Community Survey or income survey.**

Water Rates as Percentage of MHI			
	<1.0% of MHI	$\geq$ 1.0% and <1.5% of MHI	$\geq$ 1.5% of MHI
Water Rates/MHI	0 ☐	1 ☐	2 ☐

Water Rates/MHI: Current annual water rates as a percentage of the MHI of the community.

Rate Assistance Program	
Offers rate assistance	1 ☐

Offers Rate Assistance: The applicant, the entity that owns and maintains the project, or the City or County the applicant serves, operates a program which offers financial assistance to help some rate payers within its service area afford residential water bills

Potential Affordability Score (Max. 5):	
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Readiness Score (Select the highest score)

Status of Plans & Specifications as verified by State Water Board Staff	If $\geq$ 90% =	2 ☐
	or, if $\geq$ 50% =	1 ☐

Potential Readiness Score (Max. 2):	
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Potential Priority Score

Project	Secondary	Affordability	Readiness	Potential Priority Score
	+	+	+	=
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Consent to using the [funding agreement template](#) posted on the Division's website will make the project eligible to be added to the Fundable List if additional funding capacity becomes available, regardless of priority scores. (This functions like a waitlist.)

I consent to use a funding agreement template as posted on the Division's website
(A satisfactory certification form is required to be submitted with application documents)

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