



Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund (DWRLF)

PROGRAM

The purpose of the DWRLF is to improve and protect drinking water quality and public health by providing community water systems in New Mexico with low-cost financial assistance in the construction and rehabilitation of necessary drinking water facilities.

The DWRLF is capitalized from US EPA grants and matched with state funds. Program responsibilities are divided between the New Mexico Finance Authority (NMFA) and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The effect of the collaborative effort provides a more efficient use of state, federal and local funds and a more centralized and coordinated approach to water infrastructure financing.

ELIGIBILITY

As defined under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), funds from the DWRLF are available to public community water systems. A public community water system is a water system, either privately or publicly owned, that provides water for human consumption to at least 15 service connections or regularly serves at least 25 individuals.

To be considered for funding, water systems must be evaluated through the NMED Capacity Assessment process, which determines the water system's managerial, technical, and financial capacity to operate and maintain their water system. If a water system is determined to be eligible for funding and the proposed project qualifies under the SDWA, the water system will be ranked on the NMED Fundable Priority List. The principal elements of the priority list ranking system are protection of public health, compliance with SDWA, and sustainability. All other water systems will be placed on the NMED Comprehensive Priority List, which allows for free technical assistance to improve managerial, technical, or financial capacity.

The NMFA will further identify whether applicants are disadvantaged communities, based on the price of water service and the median household income for the water system. Disadvantaged communities may be eligible for a 0% interest rate loan, assistance with fees for preliminary engineering reports and environmental information documents, and extended loan terms.

INTEREST RATES

<u>Entities</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
Public System - Disadvantaged	0%
Public System – Non Disadvantaged	2%
Private System – Non-Profit	3%
Private System – For Profit	4%

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