

Land Conservation for Clean Water and Healthy Ecosystems

Request for Proposals

Informational Webinar

August 25, 2026

LCBP Technical Team



Program Overview



Photo credit: Missisquoi River Basin Association

- Funding is primarily for purchase of a fee simple interest or conservation easement to benefit Clean Water and Healthy Ecosystems in the Lake Champlain Basin
 - Supporting/development costs leading to these purchases are also eligible

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include:

- NY and VT municipalities
- 501(c)(3) non-profits
- Organizations partnering with a 501(c)(3) non-profit who will serve as the contracting entity for the project

Work must take place in the US portion of the Lake Champlain watershed. State agencies, individual landowners, and for-profit companies are not eligible to apply

Applying organizations or project partner(s) must have legal authority to hold such property in fee simple interest or conservation rights and interests under applicable state laws.



Photo credit: Champlain Area Trails

RFP Details



Photo credit: Town of Willsboro

- ~\$3,400,000 in funding available
- Proposals ranging from \$100,000 to \$3,000,000 will be accepted
- Applicants must agree to EPA requirements that include:
 - Deed / easement restrictions on certain types of land management, development, or construction activities
 - requirements on acceptable manners of resale or disposition of parcels
- This is a **reimbursement-based program**

RFP Details



Photo credit: Stowe Land Trust

- Any **P+S agreements** should reflect reimbursement requirements and be reviewed by NEIWPCC Attorney.
- **Improved recreational access-** co-benefit that should be proportional to goals of award

Other Requirements

- Procurement for $\geq$ \$15,000
- Receipts $\geq$ \$1,000 for supplies or professional services
- QAPP for projects developing stewardship plans
- Must have an active UEI and be registered in SAM.gov
- Hold insurance throughout the grant period with coverage of not less than \$2M combined & \$3M aggregate
- Workplan
- Budget: task-based

lcbp.org/about-us/grants-rfps/grant-toolkit/

Build America, Buy America (BABA) Requirements

- Applies to contracts $\geq$ \$250,000
- Requires that iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project must be produced in the US
- Awardees will need to certify compliance



Photo credit: Vermont Land Trust

Tips

- Make clear connections to ***Opportunities for Action***
- Letters of Support, from identified partners and/or others
- Non-federal match viewed favorably
- Partnerships are viewed favorably
- Tasks and deliverables clearly identified
- Accurate budget table



Photo credit: The Nature Conservancy

Key Dates

Proposals due to LCBP	December 9, 2026 at 5pm
Award decisions	February 2027
Detailed project workplan due	March 2027
Project start	May 2027
Project completion/final report	December 31, 2029

An aerial photograph of a vast landscape. In the foreground, there's a lush green field with yellow wildflowers. A dirt path or road winds through a wooded area with various trees and shrubs. In the middle ground, a large, flat, brownish-green field stretches across the frame. The background features a line of trees, some buildings with red roofs, and a range of blue mountains under a bright blue sky with large, white, fluffy clouds.

Q&A