



Wastewater Monitoring Mentorship Program

Request for Application (RFA)

Informational Webinar

Questions? Please share via the Q&A box.

Introductions

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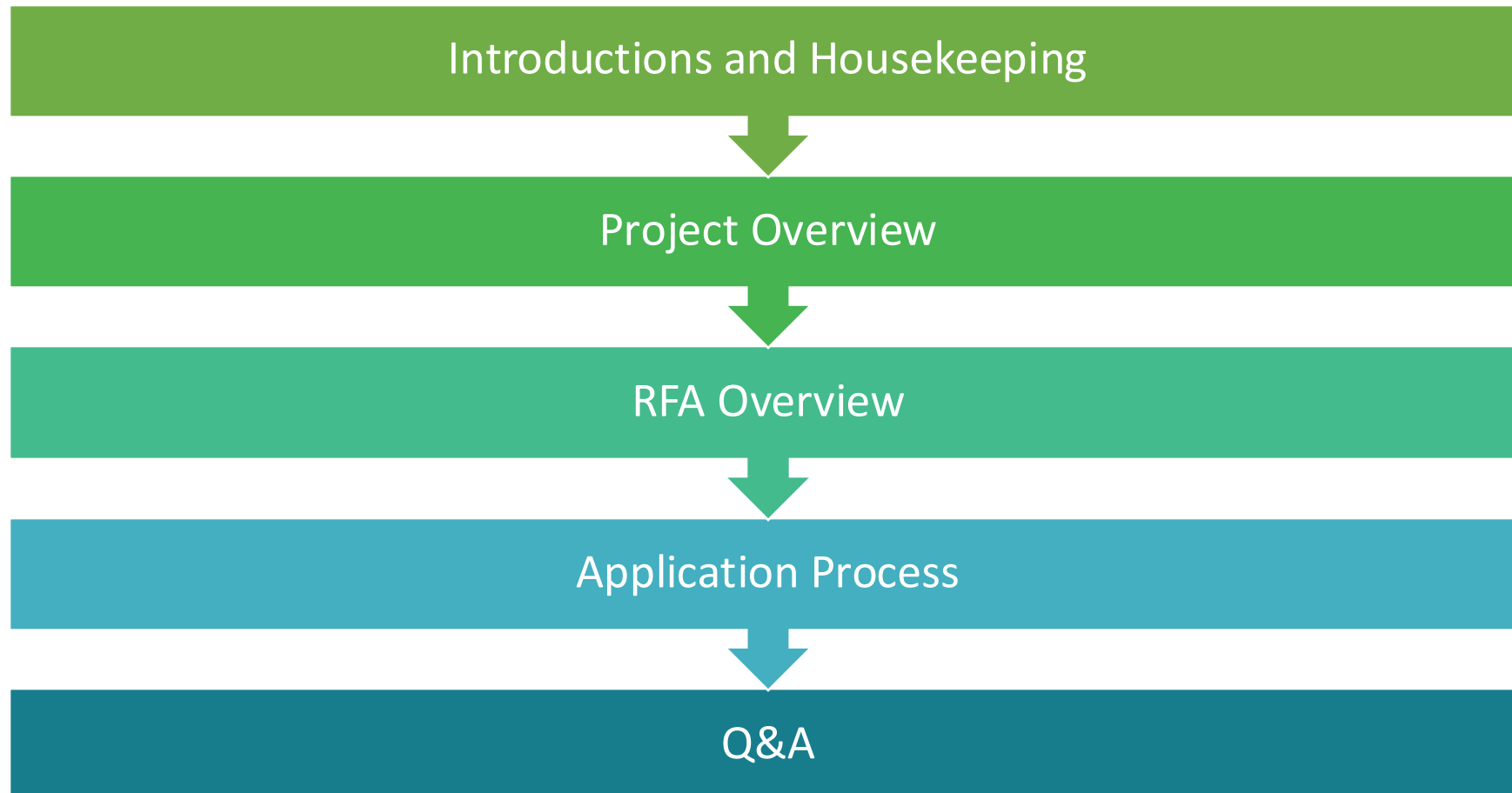


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Contact us by e-mailing WASH@naccho.org

Agenda



Webinar Materials

Find the webinar slides and webinar recording on NACCHO's WASH
Webpage (www.naccho.org/wash)

About NACCHO

NACCHO serves over **3,300 local health departments** across the United States.

Our mission is to serve as a **leader**,
partner, **catalyst**, and **voice** with local health departments

-   Advocacy
-   Partnerships
-   Funding
-   Training and education
-   Networking
-   Resources, tools, and technical assistance



Project Overview

Wastewater monitoring:

- Inclusive
- Non-invasive
- Inexpensive
- Complement existing surveillance systems
- Help direct resources and inform decision-making

Goal

The goal of this mentorship program is to ensure that LHDs have the support necessary to start or expand wastewater monitoring programs to fit their community's needs. It also ensures that LHDs with expertise in wastewater monitoring have the opportunity to share their knowledge through mentorship.

Establish a
growing WWM
network

Provide technical
assistance

Identify strategies
& resources
needed

Share experiences
and lessons
learned

Strengthening
relationships



RFA Overview

Important Dates

Event	Date/Time
Release of Wastewater Monitoring Mentorship Program Application	Week of June 15
Optional Informational webinar for Potential Applicants	June 29, 2026
Submission Deadline	July 17, 2026 11:59 PM ET
Award Notification Date*	August 2026
Anticipated Contract Start Date*	September 1, 2026
Anticipated Contract End Date*	May 31, 2027

Eligibility and Contract Terms

Eligibility

- This RFA is open to local health departments or other local government agencies
- **Mentors** should demonstrate subject-matter expertise and experience leading a wastewater monitoring program
- **Mentees** should demonstrate interest and need in developing and/or expanding wastewater monitoring in their jurisdiction, and how this mentorship program will guide them through this process

Contract Terms

- NACCHO will issue a total of 9 awards:
 - 3 mentors award up to \$25,000 each
 - 6 mentees awards up to \$20,000 each
- Agreement with NACCHO standard contract terms and conditions is a requirement.

Scope of Work

Kick-off call

Bi-monthly all-cohort calls

Other check in calls

Presentations

Site visit

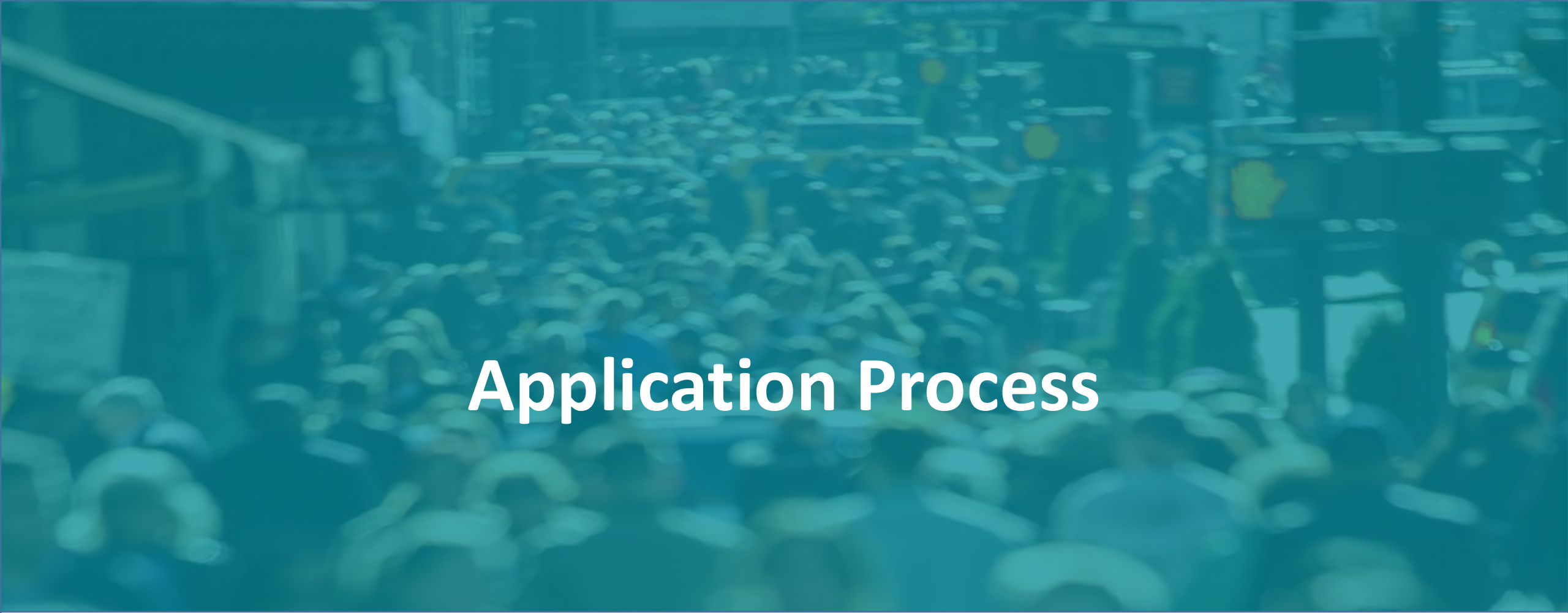
Pre-assessment and post-assessment

Final deliverables

Exit interview

Activities

*Download the full Scope of Work for mentors and mentees in the RFA



Application Process

Application Submission Elements

1

Application

Contains bulk of information including pre-assessment, statement of work, workplan, and a few contracting questions.

Fill out application in OpenWater

2

Budget

Line item budget

Use the Budget Template
(found in OpenWater)

3

Budget Narrative

Explanation of how each line item was calculated in the budget

Use Budget Narrative Template (found in OpenWater)

4

Attachments

These support contracting

Use forms or attach proof

Application and all supporting materials must be submitted via [OpenWater](#) no later than **11:59PM ET on Friday, July 17, 2026.**

Application

- Contact Information
- Background
- Statement of work
- Workplan
- Eligibility Checklist
- Budget & Budget Narrative
- Contract Documents

Applicant

Applying as a mentee or mentor? Select one *

(select) ▼

Local Health Department/ Organization Name *

Health Department Website:

City or County *

State *

Select ▼

Budget & Budget Narrative

- A budget worksheet and budget narrative is required for complete application submissions. See RFA for templates and instructions.
- Budget period: September 1, 2026 – May 31, 2027
- Budget should cover activities mentioned your workplan and the mentee/mentor the scope of work (e.g. traveling for site visits, time spent in meetings, supplies, etc.)
- Mentors must request: \$25,000
- Mentees must request: \$20,000
 - *Budgets that are more than these caps will not be reviewed
- Refer to guidance in the RFA
 - Appendix A: Budget Guidance
 - Appendix B: Unallowable Costs
 - Appendix C: Funding Restrictions

LINE-ITEM BUDGET		
NAME OF ORGANIZATION		
TITLE OF PROJECT		
Line Items	Requested Amount for March 1, 2024 to August 31, 2024	Cost Justification
Direct Labor (Name & Position description)		
Personnel Subtotal	\$ -	
Fringe Benefits (X%)	\$ -	
Subtotal Direct Labor & Fringe	\$ -	
Contracts (Subaward and/or Contractor)		
of Contracts (Subaward and/or Contractor)	\$ -	
Materials/ Supplies		
Subtotal of Materials/ Supplies	\$ -	
Travel		
Subtotal of Travel	\$ -	
Other expenses		
Subtotal of Other Expenses	\$ -	
Subtotal of Other Direct Expenses	\$ -	
Subtotals of Direct costs	\$ -	
Indirect (____ %)		
Grand Total	\$ -	

Invoice & Payment

- Contract type: **consultant, deliverable based contract**. See NACCHO's standard contract language in the RFA. Payment will be made following the completion of deliverables and invoice submissions on the following dates:
- **Invoice 1:** September 1 – November 30, 2026. Due December 15, 2027
- **Invoice 2:** December 1, 2026 - February 28, 2027. Due March 15, 2027
- **Invoice 3:** March 1 – May 31, 2027. Due June 15, 2027.
- For a list of all anticipated deliverables, deliverable amount, and the invoice schedule, please see the mentor and mentee scope of work located in the RFA.

Attachments

Please include the following attachments with your application:

- Budget
- Budget Narrative
- Contract Cover Sheet
- Vendor Information Form
- W-9
- Certification of Non-Debarment
- Proof of active registration with SAM.gov in accordance with active DUNS number.
- Back up documentation for fringe and indirect rate.

Evaluation

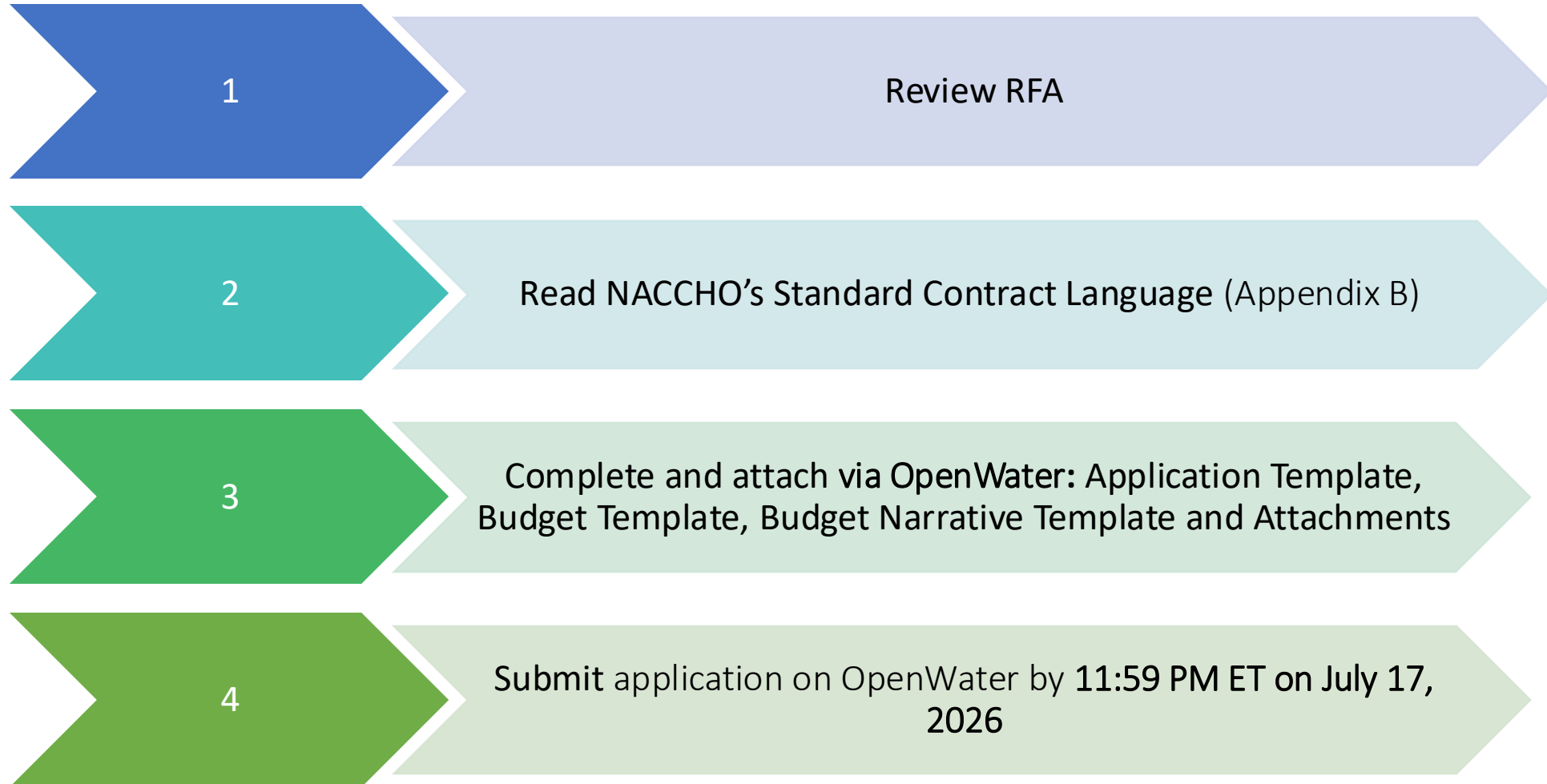
Application – 80 points

Provide background on your organization's current experience with wastewater surveillance and interest in the mentorship program. Complete a pre-assessment on the status of your jurisdiction's wastewater surveillance program. Provide a statement of work and workplan for the activities that your program will complete during the project period.

Budget and Budget Narrative – 20 points

Provide a line-item budget of \$25,000 (mentor) or \$20,000 (mentees), that clearly outlines the dollar amount for the completion of the project, and a narrative cost justification for each line item. Please note that any budgets that are more than this cap will not be reviewed.

To Apply on OpenWater:



Important Dates

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NACCHO's Mentorship Program

Learn about past participants in NACCHO's Wastewater Surveillance Program:

- 2025 cohort: [NACCHO Report: Local Wastewater Monitoring in Action - NACCHO](#)

Visit <https://www.naccho.org/wash> to explore other wastewater surveillance resources!



[REPORT]
January 2024



Lessons Learned from NACCHO's Wastewater Surveillance Mentorship Program

Local Health Departments Share Best Practices

Background

Wastewater surveillance is a rapidly developing tool used to monitor community-level infections and disease trends. Though it existed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was the pandemic that led to the widespread implementation of community-level wastewater surveillance across the United States. Wastewater surveillance systems are used to detect the presence of pathogen biomarkers, typically shed by humans in the form of microbial deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) or ribonucleic acid (RNA), in untreated wastewater. SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, can be detected through wastewater surveillance up to 3 to 4 days before detection is possible with individual testing. As a result, wastewater surveillance can serve as a non-invasive and cost-efficient early warning system that may inform public health leaders in decision-making to limit the spread of COVID-19. Looking beyond the pandemic, wastewater surveillance can serve as a valuable tool for tracking other pathogen targets, such as influenza A and B, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Mpox, and more.



The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), launched the [Wastewater Surveillance Mentorship Program](#) in 2022 to match local health departments (LHDs) with demonstrated experience in utilizing wastewater surveillance with LHDs seeking guidance, tools, and resources while in the early stages of developing a wastewater surveillance program. The goal of this mentorship program is to ensure that LHDs have the support necessary to start or expand wastewater surveillance programs to fit their community's needs. It also ensures that LHDs with expertise in wastewater surveillance have the opportunity to share their knowledge through mentorship. NACCHO funds and supports mentors and mentees to complete project goals and participate in monthly technical assistance calls, share tools, resources, and lessons learned with peers, and connect with subject-matter experts on wastewater surveillance. Mentees have opportunities to connect with other mentees through peer-to-peer sharing and receive support from their mentor through a combination of group and one-on-one meetings.



Q&A

Contact us by e-mailing WASH@naccho.org

NACCHO
National Association of County & City Health Officials