

Good morning and thank you for joining us today for this PENNVEST Information Exchange.

Before we begin, we want to go over a few administrative items...

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- At the end of the webinar, use the "Raise Hand" button to be called upon
- Questions may be answered by PENNVEST staff verbally or in writing within the "Chat" window



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Today's session is focused on the PENNVEST funding application, and we'll walk you through each page of the application, so you know what to expect when you are ready to apply.

If you have not seen the session we presented in April on "Preparing for a PENNVEST Application", you should view the recording that can be found on our website's Training Center. That session is what we consider as "Course 101" with today's session being "Course 102". However, it does not matter if you experience this session first as we'll provide a very quick recap to set the stage for the application process. At the end of the session, I'll show you how to locate the session recordings on our website should you need to revisit any information you learned today.

## Today we'll explore...

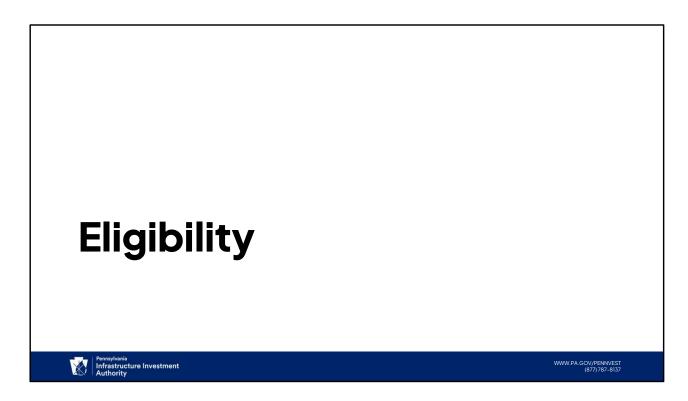
- How do I access the PV Portal?
- What are the steps within the online funding application?
- How do Luse the PV Portal Dashboard?
- What is the role of the PV Portal after I've submitted my application?



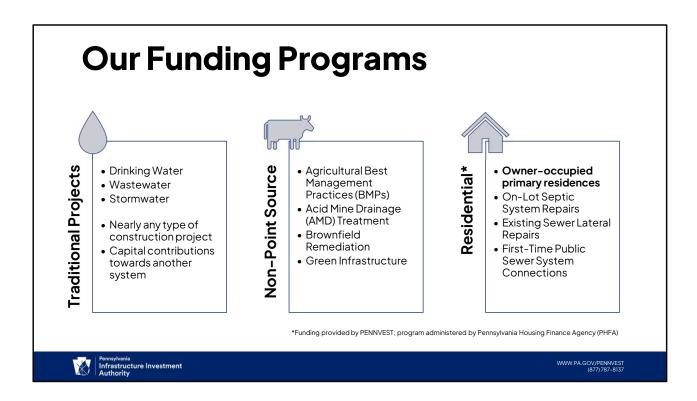
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#### Attendees of this session will learn:

- How do I access the PV Portal?
- What are the steps within the online funding application?
- How do I use the PV Portal Dashboard?
- What is the role of the PV Portal after I've submitted my application?



Before we begin, we want to talk briefly about eligibility. Who are eligible applicants and what types of projects are eligible for funding?



The purpose of the PENNVEST program is to fund clean water projects.

Most of the projects that we fund are drinking water, wastewater and stormwater projects. These are our "traditional projects". The types of projects we fund are most construction projects that improve water quality for PA citizens. Examples of drinking water projects eligible for PENNVEST funding would include water treatment plant improvements, replacement of water transmission lines, and distribution lines in a community.

Wastewater project examples include wastewater

treatment plant upgrades as well as upgrades to collection systems equipment at the wastewater plant.

Stormwater system project funding is available as well. Examples of stormwater projects include construction of new storm sewer systems, upgrades to existing systems, addition of inlets, culverts, vertical curbing, subsurface infiltration, and pervious pavement.

We are also able to finance what we call capital contributions. In suburban areas where an outlying municipality has a portion of wastewater being conveyed to a neighboring township, borough, or municipal authority for treatment, we can provide funding to be used by the outlying municipality as a contribution towards upgrades to the overall shared system.

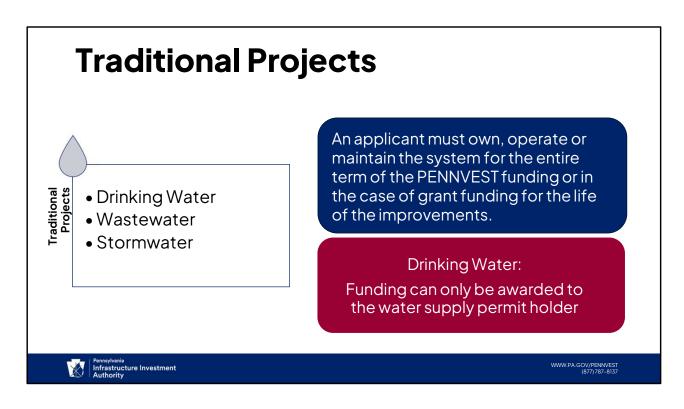
Eligible projects under the non-point source category are ones that institute agricultural best management practices with the goal of mitigating water run off contamination to near-by streams. In these types of projects, the borrower of funding could be either county conservation districts or private farm owners.

Acid mine drainage treatment systems, brownfield remediation, and green infrastructure projects are other types of non-point source projects funded through PENNVEST. Green infrastructure projects include the addition of a green roof on a building, inclusion of pervious pavement that would channel or absorb stormwater in a

business or a street revitalization project. For these street revitalization projects, PENNVEST, would not be able to fund streetscape items like bike racks, streetlamps, or park benches, but can fund things like landscaped curb bump outs at intersections that collect stormwater.

Lastly, we have a residential program, called the Homeowner Sewage Program, that is funded through PENNVEST but is administered by the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency. Through this program we provide funding directly to a residential property owner for on lot septic system repairs and first-time connection to a public sewage system.

Today's presentation will focus on Traditional Projects and Non-point Source project applications.



Within our traditional projects, the applicant must own, operate or maintain the system for the entire term of the PENNVEST funding. If grant funding is applied to the project, the applicant must own, operate or maintain the system for the life of the improvements.

Additionally for drinking water systems, PENNVEST can only award funding to the water supply **permit holder**.

## **Non-Point Source Projects**



# Non-Point Source

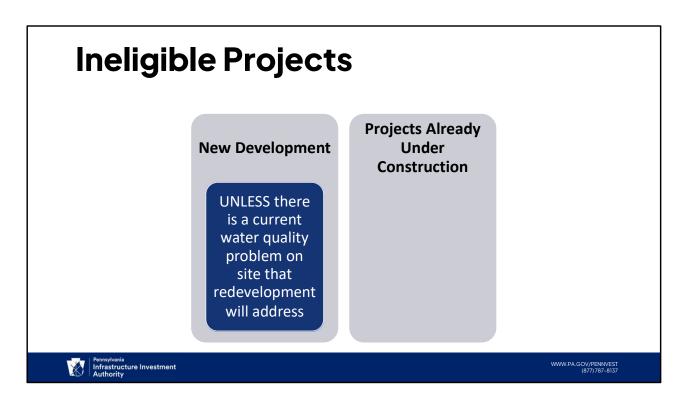
- Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) Treatment
- Brownfield Remediation
- Green Infrastructure

Applicants can be a farm owners, businesses, or governmental unit (municipality, municipal authority, county or conservation district) sponsoring a private entity.



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For non-point source projects, applicants can be farm owners, businesses, or a governmental unit like a municipality, authority, county or conservation district who sponsors a private entity in the funding of the project.



I want to touch on some projects that are not eligible to receive funding through PENNVEST.

We cannot fund new development UNLESS the redevelopment will address a current water quality problem on the site.

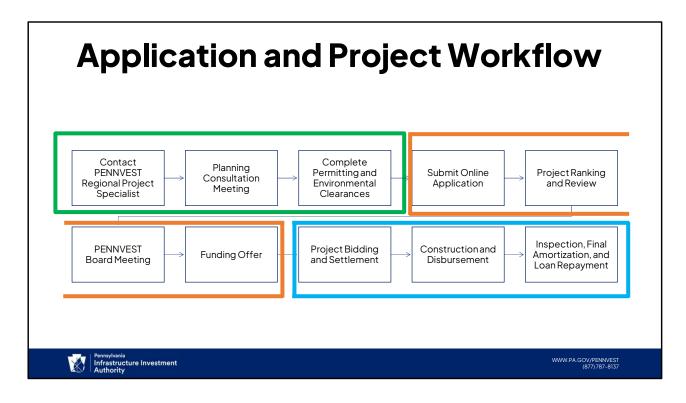
And lastly, PENNVEST is not able to fund any projects that have started construction prior to the PENNVEST funding offer and settlement.

## **The Funding Process**



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Next, we'll dive into preparing everything that is required for a PENNVEST application.



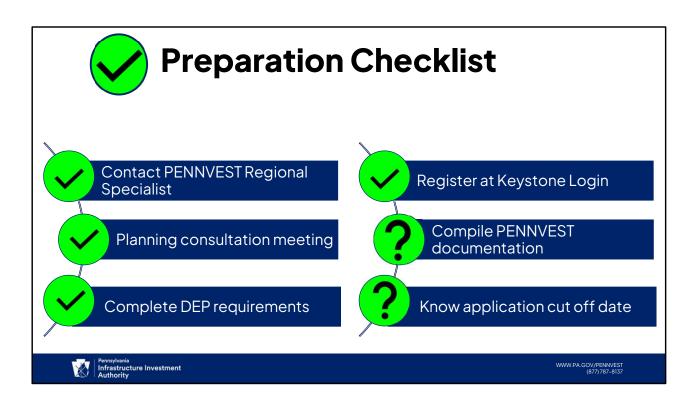
The PENNVEST funding process is a multi-step process. If you have already seen the webinar we presented in April, you'll know that the first 3 steps (highlighted in green) are actions you should have already completed and prepared before beginning an online application. Before you can begin an application, your project must be shovel-ready. The recording of April's session will discuss how you meet the shovel-ready requirement.

Because our topic today is on the PENNVEST application process, most of our conversation will focus on the items highlighted in orange, but we will also touch a little bit on of the final stages highlighted in blue.

## Preparing for the PENNVEST Application



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During the webinar presented in April, we learned that there were some steps that needed to be done prior to submitting an application. Those steps help you meet the shovel-ready requirement as well as prepare you for a much more efficient application process.

## Prior to submitting a PENNVEST funding application, you must have already:

Contacted your PENNVEST Regional Specialist and completed their intake questionnaire.

Completed the planning consultation meeting with your

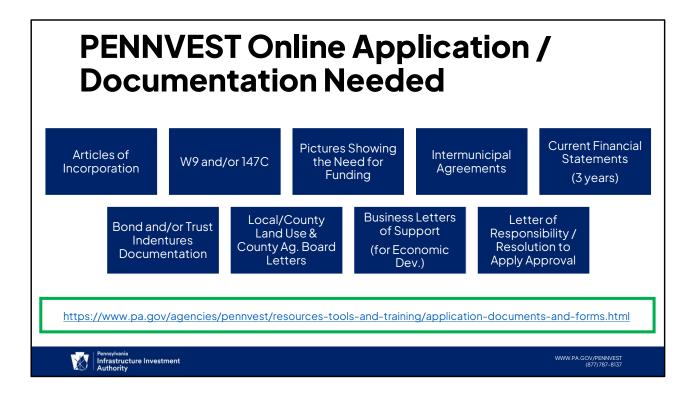
#### PENNVEST Regional Specialist and DEP representative

## Completed all DEP Requirements

- Environmental Clearances
- Permits
- Biddable Plans
- Specifications
- Environmental Review
- Competitive Procurement Specification Certificate

Registered for credentials through Keystone Login.

The next two items on the checklist will be discussed a little more in-depth on our next 3 slides.



As a reminder from the previous webinar, PENNVEST applications require several documents to be uploaded into the application system, so prior to beginning an application, it is best to compile this information for a smooth and efficient application process.

- PENNVEST will require Articles of Incorporation, W9 and/or 147C documentations to verify applicant's identity and create the legal entity.
- PENNVEST will require pictures that evidence the need for PENNVEST funding.
- All intermunicipal agreements will be required as part of

the application.

- Current financial statements are required for the most recent 3 years. If the applicant is behind on financials, they must complete all required years of financials before applying.
- Any existing Bond documentation and/or Trust Indentures should be part of the application.
- PENNVEST requires local and county land use as well as County Agricultural Board concurrence letters **these can take some time to acquire, so start these early**.
- Letters of support from businesses that show job growth or job retention may be useful in the ability to gain ranking points for your project; however, these are not required.
- Documents such as a Letter of Responsibility and Resolution to Apply may need to be approved by the applicant's board prior to the application cut off.

Our website offers templates for many of the letters required. These are available at the link shown on this slide.

## Application Cut-off Dates and Board Meetings

APPLICATION CUT-OFF DATE BY 5:00 P.M. EASTERN TIME	PENNVEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING DATE
May 7, 2025	July 16, 2025
July 30, 2025	October 15, 2025
October 29, 2025	January 21, 2026
February 4, 2026	April 15, 2026
April 29, 2026	TBA

More details: www.pa.gov/pennvest > Quick Links



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Once your project is shovel ready, you can begin your online application.

The PENNVEST application process is fully electronic from start to finish, through the PV Portal, and we accept applications four times per year. The application cut off dates are listed on the left-hand side of the slide and those application dates correspond with our PENNVEST Board of Directors meeting dates on the right-hand side. Roughly 2 ½ months after the cut off date is when the Board of Directors meet to review the applications that have been submitted and deemed **technically and administratively eligible** for funding and formally

approve the funding offers.

Applications are due to PENNVEST on the specified cut off date by 5 PM Eastern Time.

Dates for each new fiscal year are approved during the board meeting in April and once approved are announced in the **Quick Links** area of the PENNVEST homepage.

## **Access the PV Portal**

- You can start an application at anytime.
- Reach out to your regional PENNVEST Project Specialist first.
- Applicants must register at Keystone Login to be able to access the PV Portal.

https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pennvest/apply-online.html



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Applicants can begin an application at any time but remember that the planning consultation meeting with your PENNVEST Project Specialist and DEP regional representative is the mandatory first step and will provide you with information you will need prior to beginning your application. Once your application has been started, you can leave the PV Portal at any time and return to the application as needed prior to submitting it.

The PV Portal is a web-based platform used not only to apply for PENNVEST funding but to track the entire financing process from start to loan pay-off. Anyone linked to an application must first register for credentials

within the Keystone Login system before they can access the PV Portal.

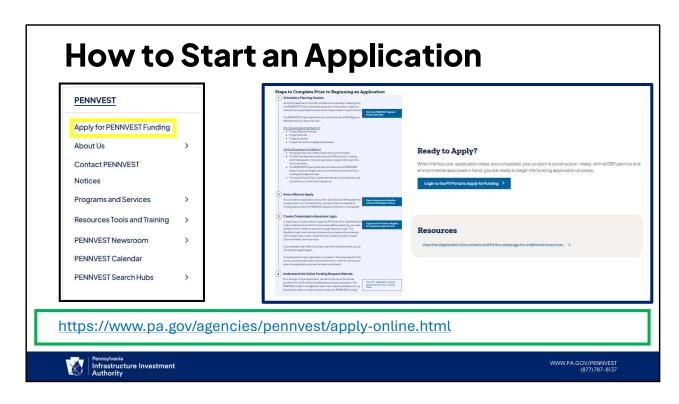
We use the Keystone login system to authenticate users for our application.

If you've worked with other Commonwealth agencies, you may already have a Keystone login account which you can use to access the PENNVEST application portal. The link on this slide will take you to our **Apply For PENNVEST Funding** webpage that includes all links needed to start an application, including a link to the Keystone Login system where you can log into the PV Portal or register for Keystone Login credentials.

## The PENNVEST Application



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The most effective way to begin your application is to visit the Apply for PENNVEST Funding webpage.

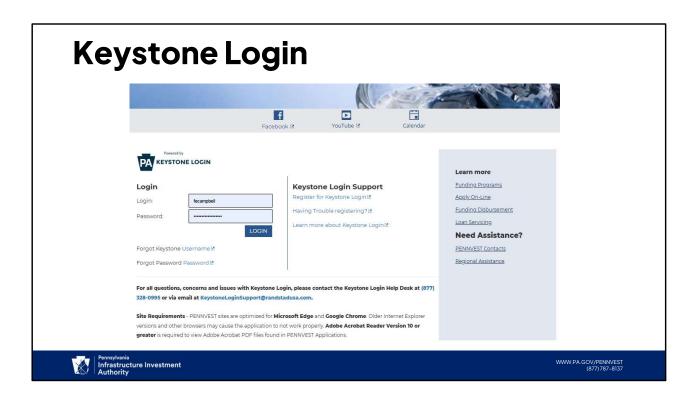
There are 3 main components on this page.

The first walks you through the pre-application steps that we discussed moments ago.

The next provides you with the link to begin your application.

Lastlly, under the resources section, you will find a link to the letter templates we talked about. This webpage provides everything you need to get started.

So let's click on the Login button under the Ready to Apply section to begin an application.



Once we click on that button, we are directed to the Keyston Login. As part of our preparation checklist, you should have already secured your credentials with the Keystone Login.

If not, there is a link under the middle Support section that allows you to register for credentials.

If you have credentials already, type your Login and Password and click the Login button to enter the PV Portal.

## 20 Minute Limit







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Before we start, I want to provide a tip.

In the upper right-hand corner of the PV Portal, you will see your login name. Our system is set to time out if you are not moving around in the system within 20 minutes. You may be gathering information once you enter the portal.

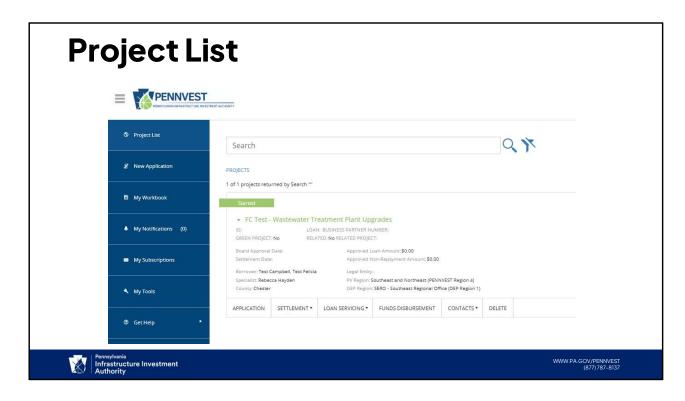
As you near the end of the 20-minute timeframe, you will receive a pop-up notice that you will be logged out in X number of minutes.

Make it a practice to save your work regularly because

you may be pulled away at some point and not see the alerts.

As you move around in the system, the time resets back to 20 minutes, so there is no limit to how long you can be in the system. The time limit only pertains to inactivity in the portal.

We included this system setting so the system works efficiently and quickly for applicants and doesn't create a lag when other applicants may forget to close the portal when not in use.



Once you have logged in, you'll see all the projects you are linked to.

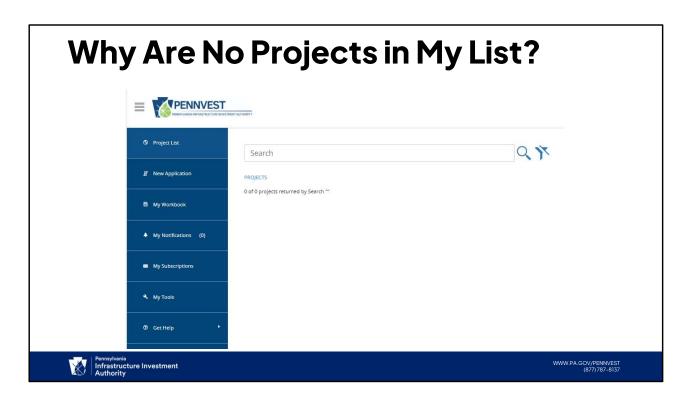
If you are a first-time applicant, you will see no projects listed.

If you have current or previous applications in the system, your project list page will look like this.

We have entities that show many projects in their project list and a green bar will show you what stage each application is in. Prior to board approval of an application, you will see either the Started or Under Review indication.

After board approval, your application may be in the Loan

Closing, Disbursement, Interim, Final Amortization, or Paid in Full stage depending where you are in the construction and loan process for the project.



If you know your entity has one or more projects in the PV Portal, but your Project List returns no projects, you were not listed as a contact for the project. Your project list only returns projects which you are linked to.

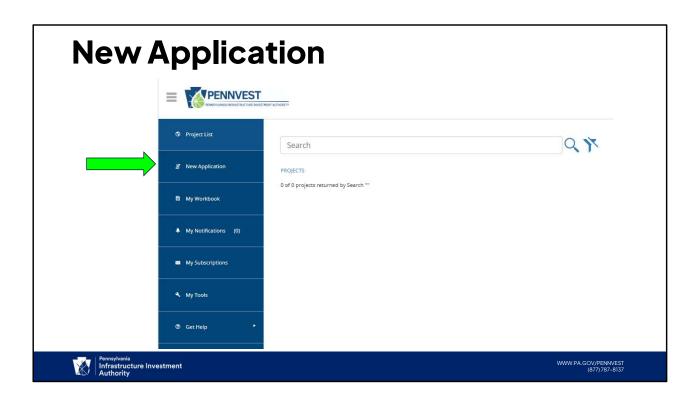
If this occurs, reach out to the person who created the application to have them include you as a contact. If you don't know who initially created the application, reach out to your project specialist who can link you.

For entities who are return borrowers and may have an extensive Project List, you may want to use the search bar to quickly narrow down your list. Pay attention to spelling

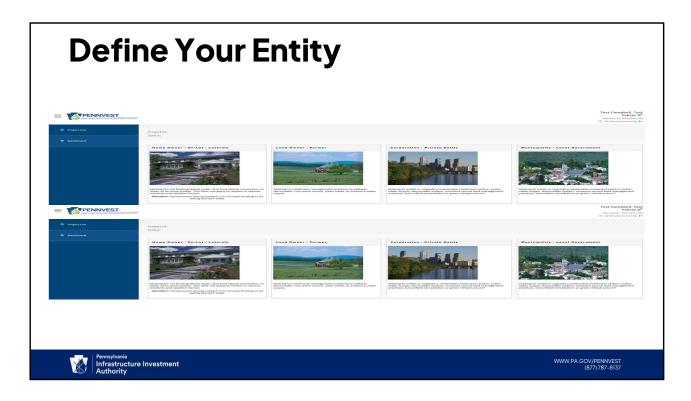
when using the search bar; and also, a good rule of thumb when using the search functionality is "less may be more".

If you provide too much information in the search, that is not included in the title of the project you are looking for, the search may not return what you are looking for. We'll provide a tip in a few slides to help you manage your search capabilities as you create additional applications.

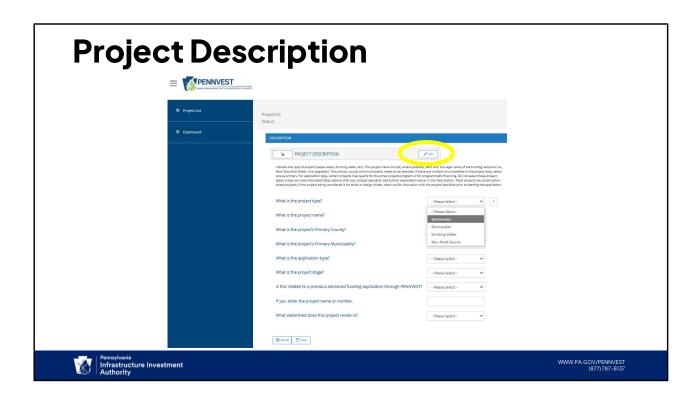
We will discuss the left-hand navigation panel you see here later in the presentation, but I want to jump into how to start a new application first.



To begin, select the New Application button in the leftnavigation panel.



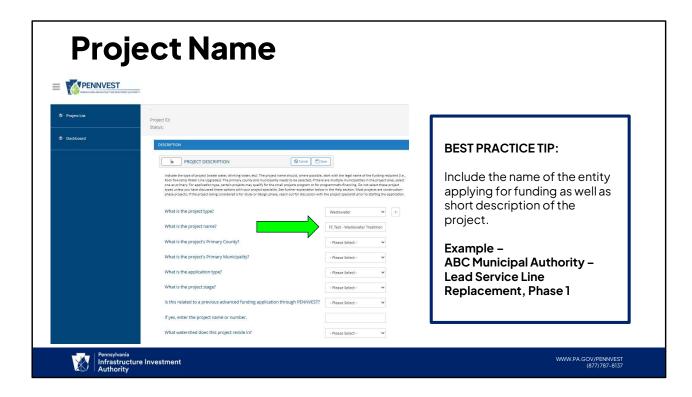
The first thing you need to do when creating a new application is to define what type of entity you are. For our sample application, we'll select Municipality/Local Government.



To begin answering the questions, select the Edit button.

The first question will ask what type of project you are applying for funding for.

We'll select wastewater.

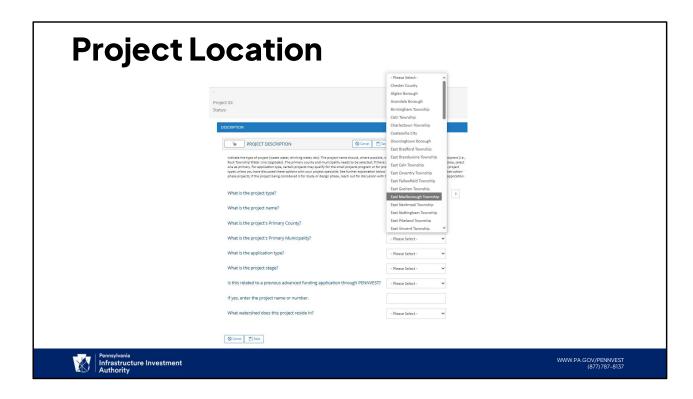


Then, you enter the name of the project.

#### **BEST PRACTICE TIP:**

The **Name** of the application should include the name of the entity applying for funding as well as a short description of the project. **Example: ABC Municipal Authority – Lead Service Line Replacement, Phase 1.** 

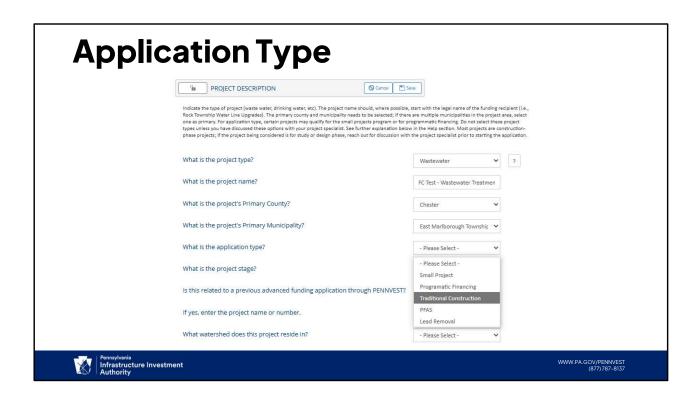
Going back to our project search conversation a few slides ago, once you have completed this application, you can use "Lead" as your search word and only see the projects around lead in your entire project list. By using this type of nomenclature, it allows you to use one or two search words to weed out your projects around wastewater, PFAS, water tank restoration, etc if you are only searching for a project around lead pipes in your master project list.



Next you will select the County and then the primary municipality for the project. This does not refer to the SYSTEM'S LOCATION...this refers to the physical location of the project itself.

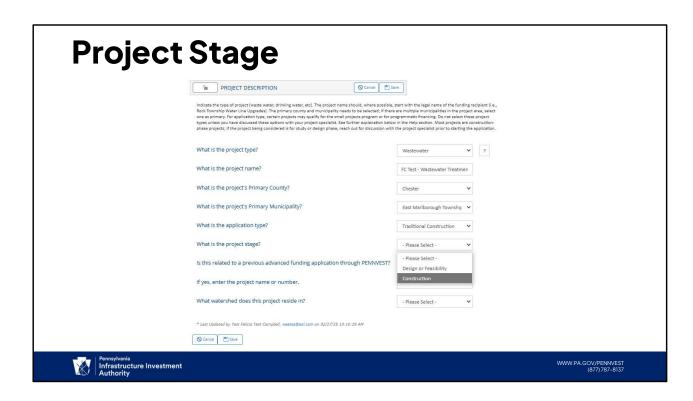
Both sections provide drop down lists to choose from. Once you've selected the County, the municipality list will populate with just the municipalities that apply to the county you selected.

I've selected Chester County and East Marlborough Township for my project.



Now we want to define application type.

Are you applying under our Small Project, Programmatic Financing (Pro-Fi), Traditional Construction, PFAS or Lead Removal project types? During the required Planning Consultation with your PENNVEST Project Specialist prior to your application, you will be given some guidance if you aren't sure.



Next, you'll define what stage of the project you are in.

Are you in the design or feasibility stage or ready to begin construction? The only time you will select design/feasibility is if you are applying under the Advance Funding Program.

<b>Application Relating to Advance Funding?</b>						
	PROJECT DESCRIPTION S Cancel	inve				
	Indicate the type of project (waste waster, drinking water, etc). The project name should, where possible, start with the legal name of the funding recipient (i.e., 8cc Township Water Line Liggrades). The primary country and municipality needs to be selected; if there are multiple imminishabilities in the project rare, select one as primary. For application, type, certain projects may suggify for the randing register pregram of precipients and select shose project types unless you have discussed these options with your project specialists. See further explanation below in the Hall section. Most projects are construction-plane projects, and project large constructions.					
	What is the project type?	Wastewater 🔻	7			
	What is the project name?	FC Test - Wastewater Treatmen				
	What is the project's Primary County?	Chester				
	What is the project's Primary Municipality?	East Marlborough Township 💙				
	What is the application type?	Traditional Construction 💙				
	What is the project stage?	Construction				
	Is this related to a previous advanced funding application through PENNVEST?	- Please Select -				
	If yes, enter the project name or number.  What watershed does this project reside in?	Yes No				
	* Last Updated by Test Felicia Test Campbel), weetse@sol.com on 02/27/25 10:10:29 AM  Scancel  Sere					
Pennsylvania Infrastructure investment Authority			WWW.PA.GOV/PENNVEST (877)787-8137			

Now we'll ask if this application is related to a previous advanced funding application through PENNVEST?

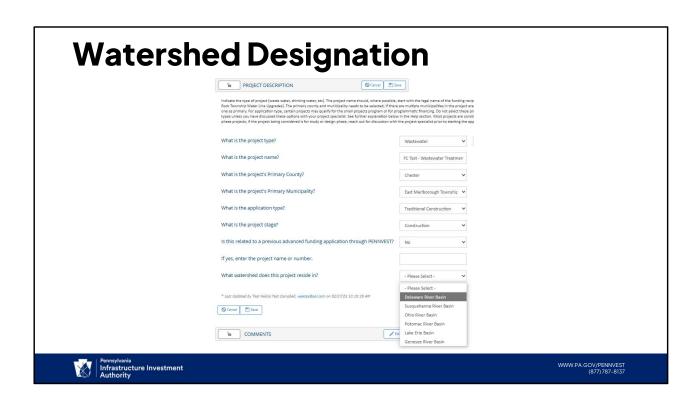
Our Advance Funding Program allows entities to borrow funding to help them through the design and engineering planning to get them to the shovel-ready stage.

We ask if the project relates to a prior advance funding application because if a system applies for and closes on PENNVEST construction financing before the end of 60 months of the Advance Funding loan, the balloon payment for the Advance Funding loan is waived, and that loan's term is extended to match the construction loan term. So, this is

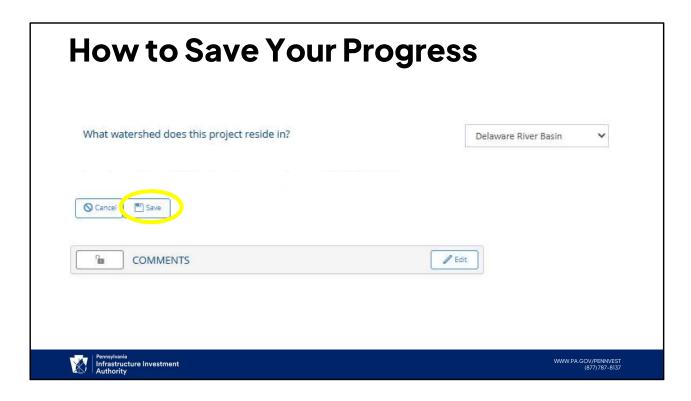
important information for us to link the projects and secure that waiver for the applicant.

For our sample application, we are indicating that our application is not related to a prior Advance Funding application. The answer to the majority of applications will be "no" for this question.

Because our project doesn't relate to a prior Advance Funding application, we do not fill in the next section asking for the Advance Funding's project name or number. That field is covered by our drop down Yes and No selections, but you can see that question on the slide.



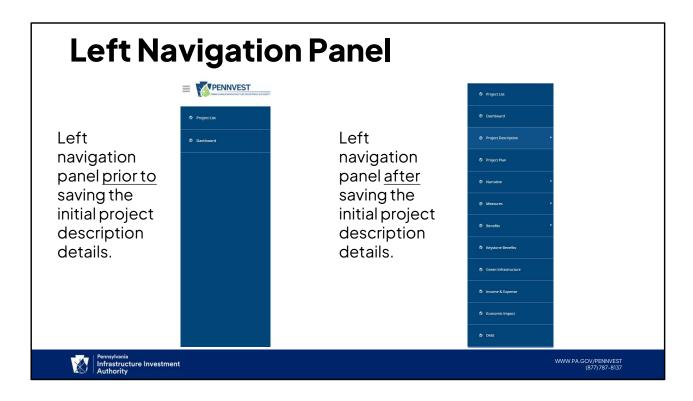
In this section, the last required field is to indicate the watershed that this project resides in.



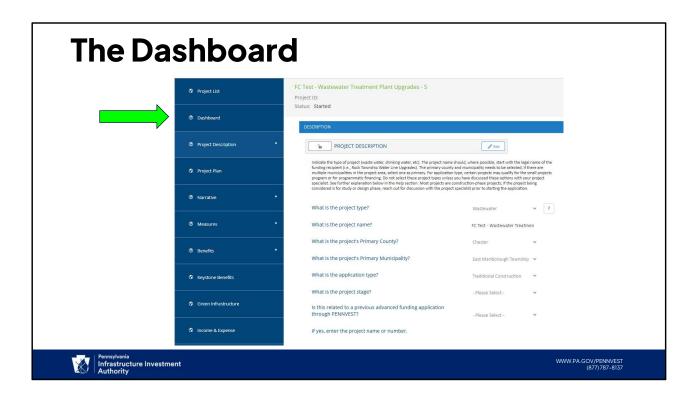
Before exiting this screen, click on the Save button to save the answers to the questions section.

If you have additional comments you'd like to make about the project, there is a comments field under the list of questions. To enter text, select the edit button in that field to open the text box.

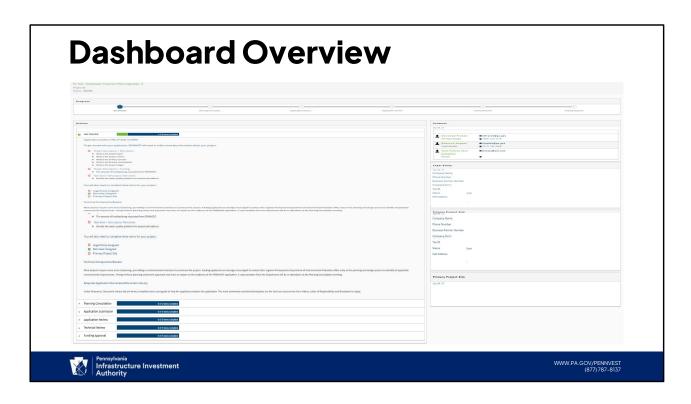
Once you've entered your comments, there is an additional Save button under the comments section to save the text you entered.



By completing the first page of questions, we have officially created a new application in the PV Portal. Now that this application has been created in the system, your left navigation panel populates with new information needed to complete this application.



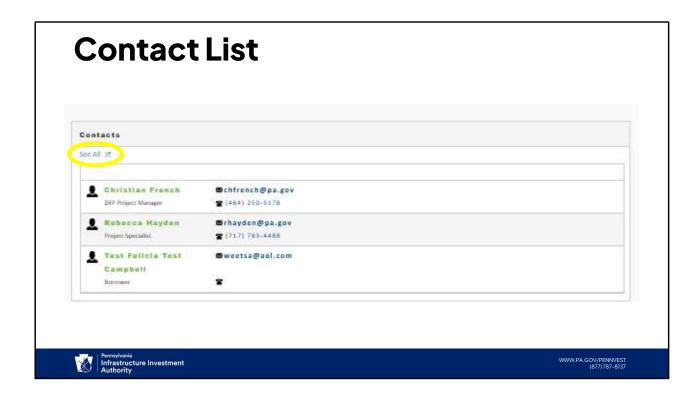
The first thing you'll want to do once you've created the new application in the PV Portal, is select the Dashboard.



The project dashboard provides a visual of where you are in the application process.

The right-hand side of the dashboard is an area you need to populate with information as soon as you create the new application.

We'll start with the Contacts area first.



The PENNVEST system will automatically populate the contact table with three individuals:

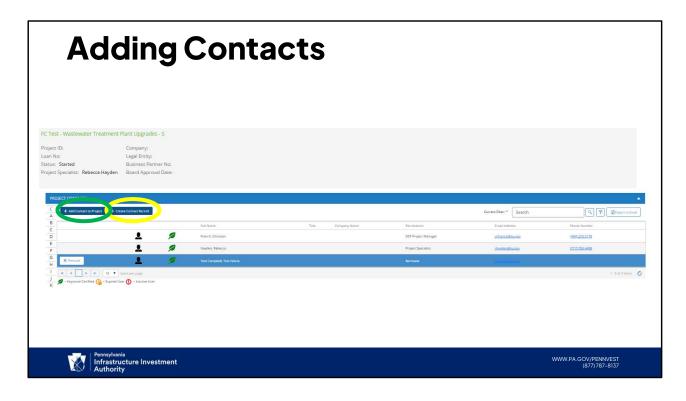
- 1. The person who created the application, who is assigned the "borrower" permission
- 2. The PENNVEST project specialist who is assigned to the primary county selected on the initial project application page; and,
- 3. A Pennsylvania DEP project manager

Your PENNVEST project specialist will typically communicate the specific DEP project manager or managers for your project during or after the planning

consultation. He or she can then assist you with adding the appropriate DEP contacts to your specific application. Until that occurs, a DEP project manager contact may be randomly assigned to your application and could change.

However, remember we discussed earlier that only people who are linked to the project can see it in the project list area of the PV Portal. So you must enter any individual's contact information who will need to access the project application and is responsible for uploading documents or requesting funds once the loan is secured.

To add new contacts, select the See All link to open the full Contact list.



The Contact page provides you a complete view of individuals linked to your project. It is extremely important to keep this list updated and accurate so PENNVEST and PA DEP staff can reach out to you in a timely fashion.

When adding a contact, PENNVEST strongly recommends using the "Add Contact to Project" button. This will allow you to search for a name in the PENNVEST system and add his or her details to your project utilizing their own Keystone Login. Your PENNVEST project specialist can assist you with adding additional contacts.

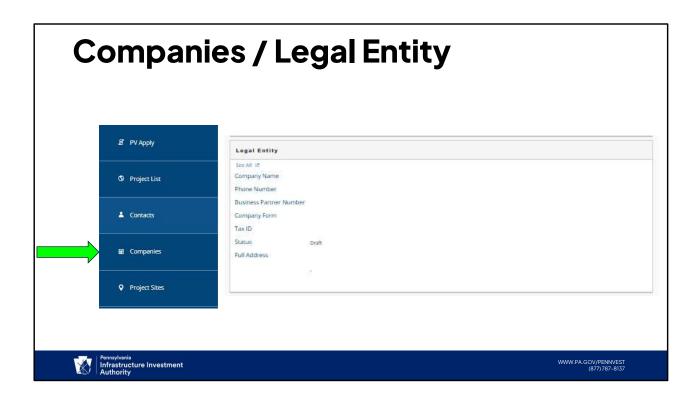
At bare minimum, each and every PENNVEST applicant MUST have the following contacts registered to the application using a Keystone Login:

- 1. A "borrower" contact. This individual is typically a secretary, municipal manager, or someone at the applicant's business office we can reach out to during the work day.
- 2. The applicant's engineer. The engineer must be licensed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and will be asked to provide their license number.
- 3. The applicant's solicitor or attorney, who also must be licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania.

Beyond the above, PENNVEST's system allows applicants to designate additional staff such as financial staff, administrative staff, and several other categories. As long as each and every person listed in the Contact list has their own Keystone Login, they will be able to access the system through their assigned permissions.

We strongly discourage use of the "Create Contact Record" button. This option allows manual entry of contact information, but it does not allow access to the PENNVEST system. To avoid technical issues and save time, we highly recommend getting all users configured right from the beginning with a Keystone Login.

If you have questions about this, your PENNVEST regional project specialist can assist during or after your planning consultation.



The next section we want to fill out, if you remember from the Dashboard, is the Legal Entity information.

A great thing about the PV Portal is it understands what you need to do next so you don't have to back up to find the Dashboard again.

Looking at the navigation panel to the left, you there is a Companies selection. By clicking on that button, you will be taken to the Legal Entity screen.



Just as we saw for the contact record, we have two choices...

Pulling in an existing company we've previously added for an earlier application or creating a new record.

You will want to select Add Company to Project. By using this button, you will see a list of entities already in the PENNVEST system to import into your application as the legal entity contact.

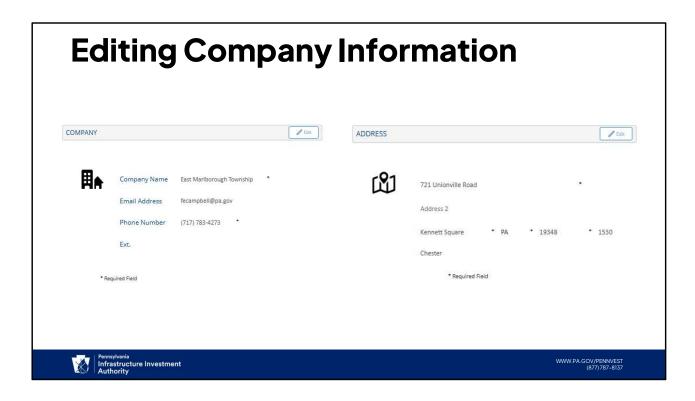
To see the list, begin typing into the search bar and click on the search looking glass icon to see a list of

## potential entities will appear.

## When you find the correct entity, select the Add Company button to the left

In some case their may be multiple Legal Entities with similar names. When importing the one you believe to match your entity, click on the entity once it populates into your application's company list to ensure the one you selected matches your legal name, tax identification number and entity type.

Only when they are sure there isn't an existing legal entity registration already in our system should you use the Create a Company Record.



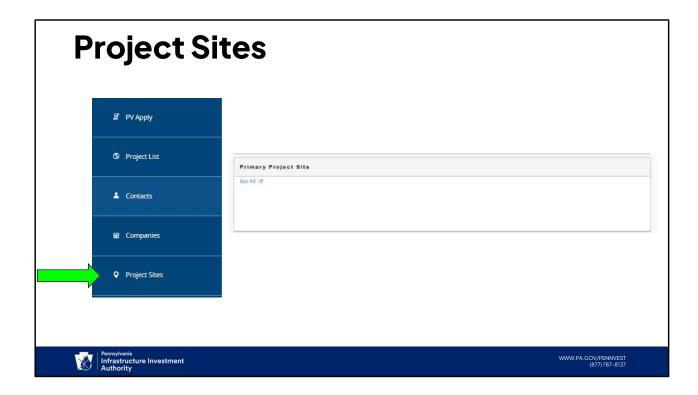
If your legal entity isn't found by searching the PV system and you need to create a company record manually, you can edit information you've created to include more detail if needed.

By selecting the Edit button for each section, you can add the information for the Company and Address sections.

	Editing Legal Entity Information					
ı	LEGAL ENTITY		Cancel E Save			
ı	* This information	on is required for Legal Entities. For all other	ner companies it is optional.			
ı	<b>*</b>	Company Form	- Select Company Form -			
ı	•••	Tax ID	- Select Company Form - Municipality (M)			
ı		Incorporated Year	Municipal Authority (MA)  Private Investor Owner (PIO)			
ı		DUNS Number	Private Non Investor Owner (PNIO)			
ı		Fiscal Year End	•			
ı		Federal Vendor ID				
ı		Business Partner Number				
ı		PUC Regulated	No			
ı		Submitted	Draft			
ı		Approved	Review			
	*8	equired Field				
	Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority			WWW.PA.GOV/PENNVEST (877) 787-8137		

The first question under the Legal Entity section is a drop down of selections including Municipality, Municipal Authority, Private Investor Owner, or Private Non-Investor Owner.

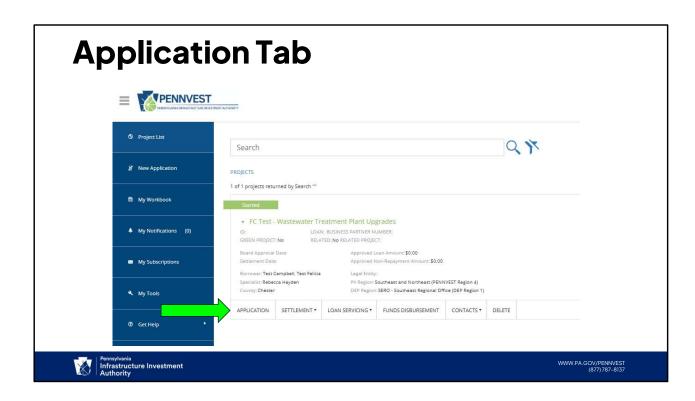
Again, I want to stress that editing the Company, Address and Legal Entity sections we just looked at should not need to happen if you are able to import a record that already exists within the PV Portal.



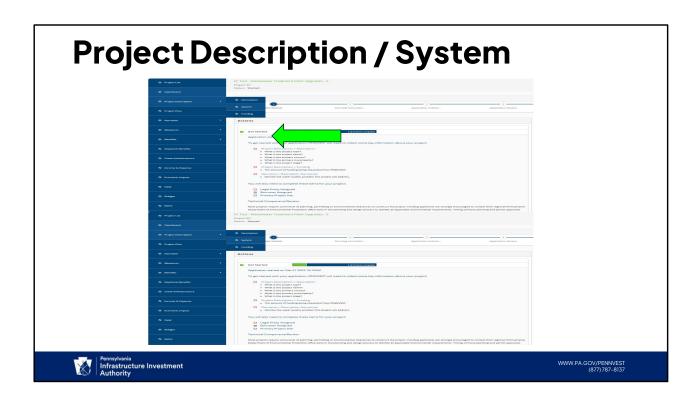
Once again, we'll use the left-navigation panel to take us to the next area – the Primary Project Site information. Under this section, you will need to identify the primary project site using a street address and/or a latitude and longitude. This should be where the actual work is being performed – not the address of the municipality or authority's business offices.

If your project has multiple work locations, such as multiple wastewater pump stations which are being replaced under the same PENNVEST project, you will also need to designate secondary project sites. This will populate a list of all work sites under your project for reporting purposes.

Please note that you will not be able to submit your PENNVEST application until at least one project site is identified.



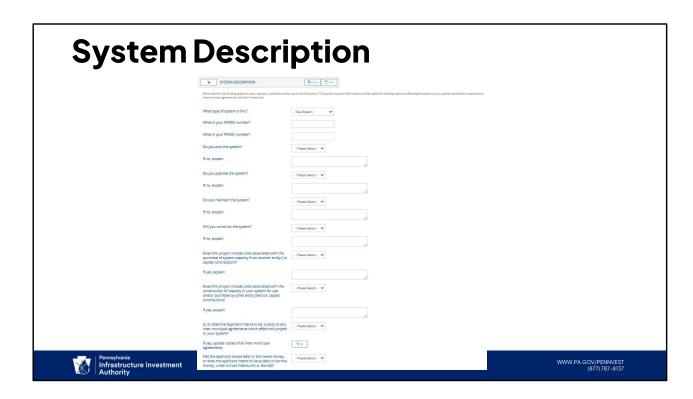
When you are back to your project list, we can use the Application Tab at the bottom of our project to return to our project's application.



This will return us to the Dashboard of our project.

Using the left-navigation panel, we want to continue adding details of our project into our application, so the next step is hover over the Project Description button which will create a 3-choice pop-out.

The very first thing we did when we created our application was we completed the "Description" section, so our next step is to add information in the "System" section. So we select System.



We're going to stop on this slide a moment and we'll discuss the questions instead of showing each one on separate slides.

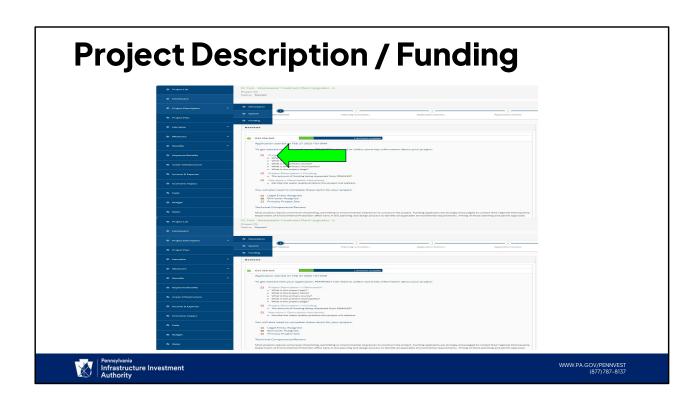
Reminder that to add your data into this screen, you need to select the Edit button, and when you are done adding data, select the Save button.

This screen is asking specific questions about the system the project will affect, in the case of our application, the wastewater system we are upgrading.

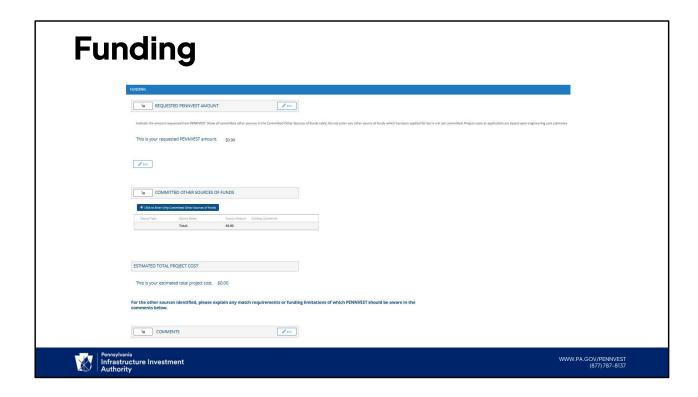
You will need to provide information on:

- What type of system is it
  - New
  - Existing
  - Consolidated
- What is the NPDES number?
- What is the PWSID number?
- Do you own, operate, maintain the system?
- Will you construct the system? I want to explain this question a little
  as applicants sometimes misunderstand this one...what this is asking is are YOU (as
  the funding recipient) planning to hire a contractor to construct the project? For
  example, if you are applying for PENNVEST funding as a Municipal Authority for a
  Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion project, but are hiring contractors for
  construction of the project, you would answer "Yes" to this question.
- Do the project costs involve a capital contribution either through purchase of system capacity from another entity or construction of capacity for use and/or purchase by another entity?
- Do any existing or upcoming inter-municipal agreements affect this project?
- Has the entity issued debt or borrowed money, or have plans to do so, under a trust indenture?
- Do you charge residential or commercial user fees?

This page of questions is extremely important to the potential of funding through PENNVEST. Ensure that you are providing <u>correct and current</u> information around owning/operating/maintaining the system, inter-municipal agreements and trust indentures!



Once the System information is complete, we'll select "Funding" under "Project Description" in the left-nav panel.



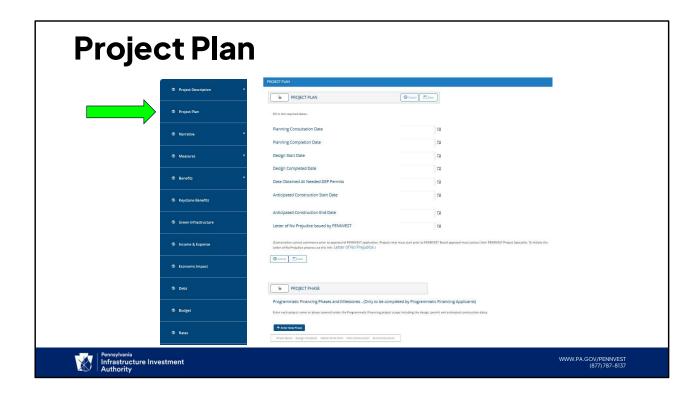
The first section under Funding asks how much funding you seek to request from PENNVEST. This should be the total amount of funding inclusive of all expected and eligible engineering, design, legal, construction, and contingency costs.

The second section is labeled "Committed Other Sources of Funds." If you wish to contribute other sources of funding to the project, you can list this information here. Examples of other funds that can be listed here are grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (PA DCED), the Commonwealth

Financing Authority (CFA), Act 13 monies, or local contributions. Please note that you must identify whether the funding is from a federal, state, or other source, as well as the name and amount of that funding. Your PENNVEST project specialist will work with you to collect additional details such as match requirements or other pertinent limitations.

Remember that any other source funding listed on the application MUST be fully committed. If you have simply applied for a grant or other funding but have not received those funds, you should not list them here.

The system will automatically calculate the Estimated Total Project Cost based on the funding you have requested from PENNVEST plus the other committed sources of funding you provided.



Next you need to enter your Project Plan, including dates for:

- The planning consultation
- Planning completion
- Design start
- Design completed
- Date all needed DEP permits need to be in hand
- Anticipated construction
- Anticipated construction completion
- Issue date of a Letter of No Prejudice Letter by PENNVEST

Let's talk briefly about the Letter of No Prejudice for a

moment. Entities who look to PENNVEST for funding of a project CANNOT start construction on the project until the board has approved funding award and the loan has completed Settlement. In emergency cases, a project may not be able to wait until those requirements are completed. In those cases, the applicant must reach out to PENNVEST to request the LONP. There is a link to initiate that request on this page.

If no LONP is needed for the project, the applicant can leave the date field blank for the that question.

The last section, Project Phase, only needs to be completed if you selected "Programmatic Financing" as the application type in the general questions of the Project Description.



The Narrative section is at least a 2-part section.

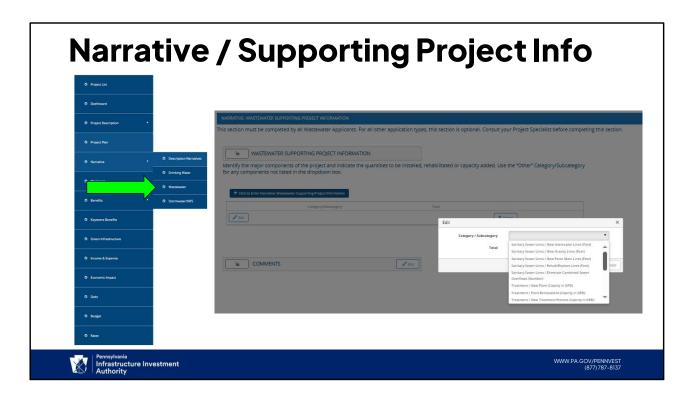
Every applicant must fill out the **Description Narratives** section. This page will have you expand on 3 topics:

- The problem that this project will correct or resolve
- The scope of the project
- The cost effectiveness of the project

At the end of each of the 3 topics, we provide guidance of the type of information that is most effective to answer each question. We often see a very long narrative about the entity overall with very little detail about the project itself, and this narrative is copied and used throughout the application in lieu of the concise information that provides **real** data.

Next every applicant will need to select the type of project to include additional details for the narrative. For our example today, because we are applying for funding for wastewater treatment plant upgrades, we will select Wastewater under Narrative to add details there.

For any applicant seeking funding for **stormwater or non-point source projects**, they would need to add additional details for their project under the Stormwater (or NPS) section.

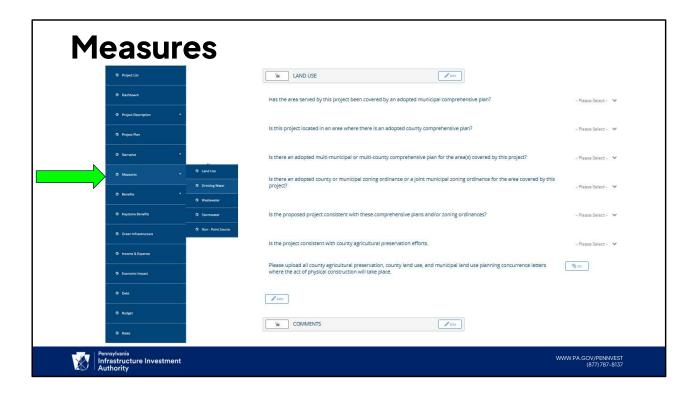


The additional information under the wastewater section is asking for a list of major components of the project including the quantities to be installed, rehabilitated, or capacity added.

Once you select the blue Click to Enter Narrative: Wastewater Supporting Project Information button, you will be provided with a drop-down list of components and a field to add the quantity (or total) of each component that will be included in the project. Continue building the list until all the components and quantities for the project are included in the list.

Think of this as building the project's "shopping list".

Work with your Project Specialist to determine if you need to fill out information for an additional project type under the Narrative section. Again, you will need to fill out at least the general Narrative section <u>and</u> the project type that that relates to your project.



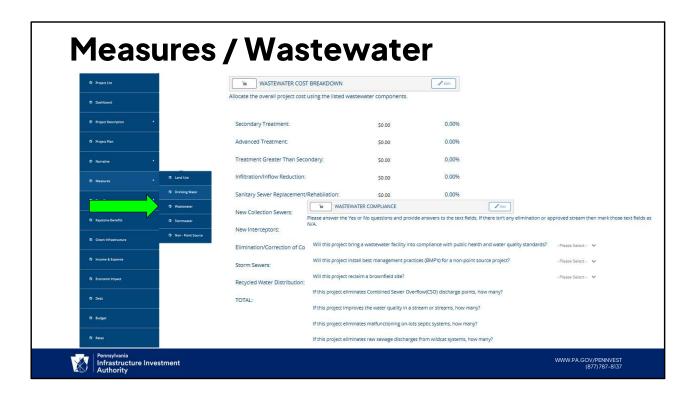
Next in the process is filling out the Measures area.

Like within the Narrative area, every applicant will fill out the Land Use section and the area for the project type they are applying for. Again, work with your Project Specialist to determine if you need to fill out information for an additional project type under Measures.

All questions under the Land Use section are Yes or No questions regarding municipal and county comprehensive plans, zoning ordinances, and agricultural preservation efforts.

county agricultural preservation, county land use, and municipal land use planning concurrence letters where the act of physical construction will take place. These letters are part of the preparation checklist we discussed early in the presentation, so by the time you apply, you should already have these in hand.

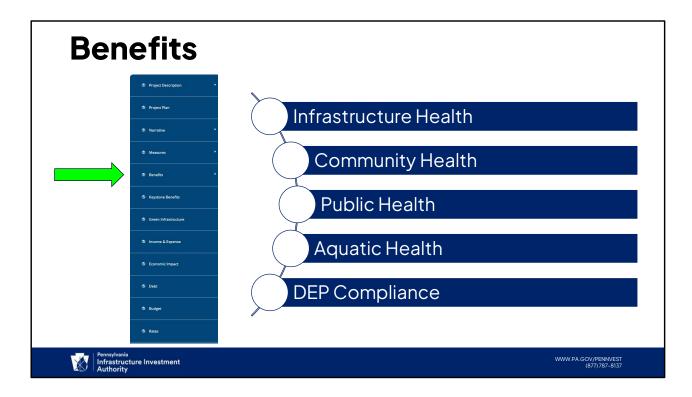
The county & municipal land use concurrence letters and ag preservation letters are required to be uploaded on this page.



Under the Wastewater section of the Measures area, there are two sections of questions.

The first is a wastewater cost breakdown. Much like we equated the components and quantities list under the Narrative area as your Shopping List, think of this cost breakdown as the Shopping Budget for your components by component category. How much of your total components cost equates to specific component categories?

The second section asks questions around Wastewater Compliance. These questions either require a Yes or No answer or a numerical answer.



An applicant need only fill out one area under Benefits. By hovering over Benefits, you can select the questions for Drinking Water, Wastewater, Stormwater, or Non-point Source. We'll select the Wastewater Questions.

There are 5 sections to the wastewater questions regarding infrastructure health, community health, public health, aquatic health, and DEP compliance. This area is where you can clearly define the value of the project to the community.

Because this page has numerous sections, I want to remind you to click on the appropriate Save button after

completing each section.

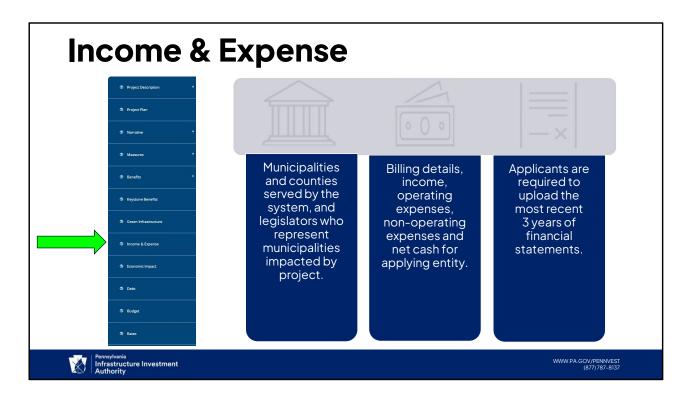


Answers you provide in the Keystone Benefits and Green Infrastructure sections may allow for the award additional ranking priority points.

Keystone Benefit questions involve supporting communities that have been granted special economic designation by DCED or the Governor's Action Team, have been designated as distressed under the Municipalities Financial Recovery Act 47 of 1987, serves a DEP-recognized Brownfield site, or serves a city, borough, or 1st Class Township.

Questions under the Green Infrastructure relate to

innovative water and energy saving technologies and methods.



Under income and expense, we require information regarding municipalities and counties impacted by the project as well as the legislators who represent those municipalities.

We also ask for financial information such as information regarding billing, income details, operating expenses, additional expenses outside of operations, and net cash.

At the very bottom of the Income & Expenses page, we require the applicants upload financial statements for the most recent 3 years.

## I want to share this tip with you:

When completing the Income & Expense section, much of this section is asking for financial information from the last completed audited year versus the first full year after the project is completed for both income and expenses. Think about how each of these numbers will change between the two time periods. For example, in the last audited year you may have received a \$100,000 grant from the federal government, but it is unlikely that the grant will be extended again the year after project completion. Use your historical knowledge and financial predictions to complete both income and expenses here.



Moving on to the Economic Impact area...

Here is another opportunity to acquire additional ranking points.

This section allows you to demonstrate how your project may create or retain jobs, impact private investment decisions, and support regional and state economic and investment strategies.

There are two sections in this area: Company and Industry.

In the Company section, you would enter a list of companies directly impacted by the project and we provide an area to upload letters of support from those companies affected.

In the Industry section, you would enter a list of industries or business parks that the project will affect.

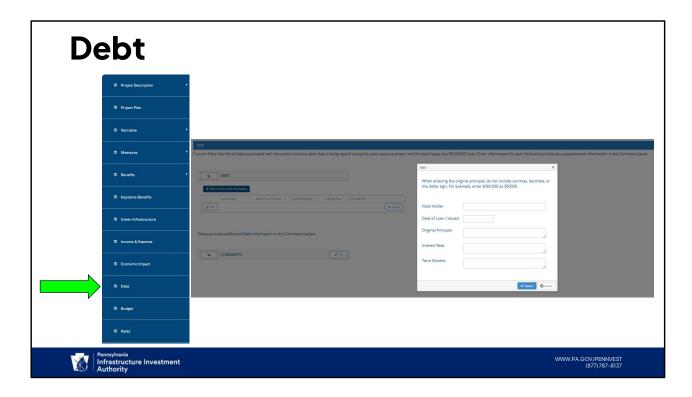
I want to share that in the past, these points have made all the difference in funding award for some funding applications. No job creation

**or retention is too small.** So, work with your community to see what businesses would be positively affected by your project to help you gain extra points.

One of our favorite examples of this was a past application for a new public sewer. In

speaking with businesses in the area, the applicant found out that a Dairy Queen was limited to seasonal, counter-only service because existing on-lot sewage issues prevented them from offering seating in the building. The public sewer project would allow them to offer restroom facilities which is a requirement for in-restaurant dining. This expansion would allow them to extend their business year-round, potentially build their product offering, and would require at least one additional staff member.

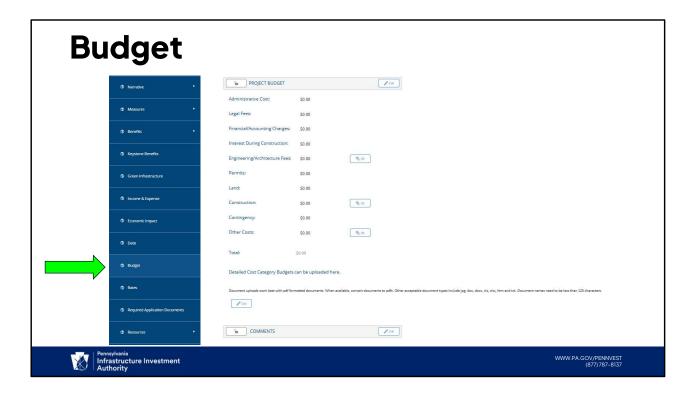
The need for just ONE additional staff member propelled the project from the status of a low to a medium job creation opportunity which in turn equated to the award of 5 additional ranking points.



Under the Debt area, we ask applicants to provide a list of all debt associated with the system and any debt that is being repayed using the same revenue stream which would be used to repay the PENNVEST loan.

We ask for each entry of debt that you include the:

- Note Holder
- Date of Loan Issued
- Original Principal
- Interest Rate
- Term Months



Many slides ago, we discussed your components shopping list vs. your components budget – which pertains to the hard-goods of the project's budget...

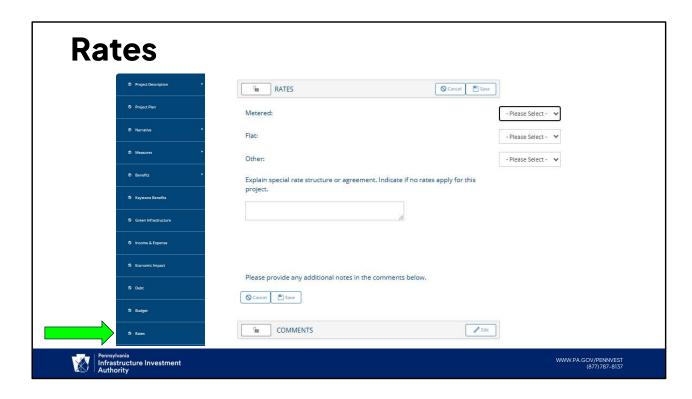
This budget section compiles estimated costs for the <u>overall</u>

project – hard goods plus services, fees, contingency, etc....

Here, applicants will provide a breakdown of the project costs including any pre-design, design and construction components of the project.

These figures may be estimates, based upon consulting services and engineering design specifications.

At the bottom of the page is an area where additional detail on Engineering, Construction, Other Cost, or Detailed Cost Category Budgets may be uploaded as supporting documentation.



Within the Rates section, you will select the rate structures and billing frequency from the drop-down lists.

Under Metered, Flat or Other, you can select from Monthly, Quarterly, Other, or N/A (not applicable).

There is an area to enter text to explain any special rate structures or agreements or if no rates apply for the project. Also, there is an additional area where you can include general notes that you may want to include about rates.

Required A	application Documents
<b>ூ</b> Green Infrastructure	Required Application Documents
<b>⑤</b> Income & Expense	Letter of Responsibility
<b>⑤</b> Economic Impact	Resolution to Apply
♦ Debt	Project Photos  Upload pictures of the problem(s) to be solved with the requested funding.
<b>⑤</b> Budget	You can only upload PDF, JPG (lins.  (b) (0)
⑤ Rates	Miscellaneous Documents  Uploads to Miscellaneous Documents should be limited to supplemental materials that do not fit into any other application category. Financial Statements, Land Use Concurrence Letters, and project budgets should be uploaded to the appropriate sections of the application.
Required Application Documents	Document uploads work best with pdf formatted documents. When available, convert documents to pdfs. Other acceptable document types include jpg, doc, docx, xis, xisx, htm and tot. Document names need to be less than 125 characters.
① Resources	
Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority	WWW.PA.GOV/PENNVEST (877)787-8137

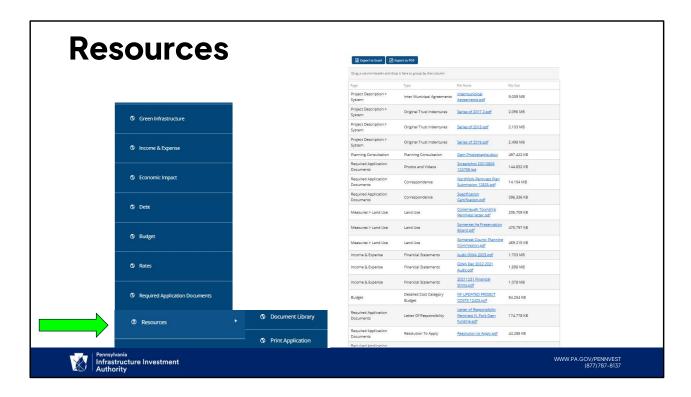
Next, under Required Application Documents, you will upload some of the required documentation we discussed early in presentation such as the:

- Letter of Responsibility
- Resolution to Apply
- Project Photos
- And miscellaneous documents that are

supplemental materials that do not fit into any other application

Category. Miscellaneous documents could include Articles of Incorporation, Form 147 C from the IRS or other items that support the application.

PDF documents should be used whenever possible. When conversion to a PDF is not possible, you can upload jpg, doc, docx, xls, xlsx, htm and txt file types. Document names need to be less than 125 characters.



The last selection in the left-side panel is the Resources section.

By selecting Document Library under Resources, you will see a list of all documents you have uploaded within your application. This list can be exported as an excel or PDF document.

By selecting Print Application, the application can be downloaded for easy viewing and to save in your project files.

# **Application Best Practices**

**Name:** Include the entity name and short project description ("ABC Municipal Authority – Lead Service Line Replacement, Phase 1")

**Committed Funding:** Other sources of funding you've received must be included in application

**Timeline:** An anticipated timeline for design and construction of the project is required

**Narrative:** Should include the problem(s) being experienced and construction components and equipment to be funded



WWW.PA.GOV/PENNVES

The PENNVEST online application is designed to walk you through each step of the application process and provide details of what should be included in each section. However, we wanted to offer some best practices to help you provide the most valuable detail to aid our team. DEP

you provide the most valuable detail to aid our team, DEP and DCED in the application review process and help you achieve the status of what is an "administratively complete" application.

• The **Name** of the application should include the name of the entity applying for funding as well as a

# short description of the project. **Example: ABC Municipal Authority – Lead Service Line Replacement, Phase 1**

- Committed Funding Other Sources of funding you've received for the project must be included in the application.
- An anticipated timeline for the design and construction of the project is required
- The Narrative should include the problem being experienced and construction components necessary to solve those problems.
  - Many applicants will provide a long history of the system with little description of the project and the problem being addressed. A system history is fine to include, but when discussing the problem, the main focus in the narrative should include:
    - the problem being addressed by the funding requested
    - The cause of the problem
    - How many people or households are impacted by the problem
    - What permit exceedances or compliance problems have occurred because of the problem
    - What operational issues caused or contributed to the problem
    - What actions, components and equipment is

# planned to correct the problem

# **Application Best Practices**

**Cost-effective Analysis:** Alternate solutions considered and explanation of why the proposed solution is most cost-effective

**Cost Breakdown/Budget:** An anticipated list of costs/budget is required.

Yes/No Questions: All must be answered

Read Each Application Page for Special Notes of Help...

Do not open two applications at the same time under separate windows.



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- A cost-effective analysis is required for every project, indicating alternate solutions you explored and an explanation as to why the solution decided on is the most cost-effective. This information is coordinated with your DEP coordinator.
- Detailed anticipated **cost breakdown/budget** is required. We understand this information can change as the formal bidding process takes place.
- ALL yes or no questions must be answered.
- Read each application page...your answer may be provided in the Help area of a page.

• Do not open two applications at the same time under separate windows. When you do this, a condition called "cross scripting" can occur and may result in the loss of data. We recently had 2 applicants who thought they completed a section and saved it but found out after the submission deadline that they lost the data they entered. If you have two applications to enter, it is best that you copy and paste information into to a Word document and then paste that information into the second application.

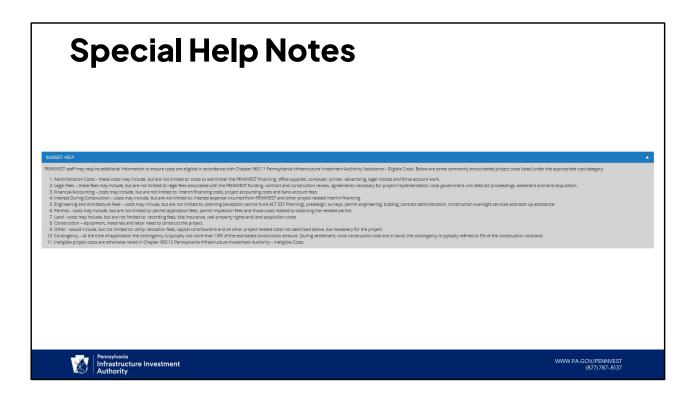
Speci	al Help	Notes	<u> </u>	
BUDGET INFORMATION		on components of the project. These figures may be est		
detail on Engineering, Construction,	Other Cost, or Detailed Cost Category Budgets.			
PROJECT BUDGET				
Administrative Cost:	\$0.00			
Legal Fees:	\$0.00			
Financial/Accounting Charges:				
Interest During Construction:	\$0.00			
Engineering/Architecture Fees:				
Permits:	\$0.00			
Land:	\$0.00			
Constructions	\$0.00 <u>%</u> m			
Contingency:	\$0.00			
Other Costs:	\$0.00			
Total:	\$0.00			
Detailed Cost Category Budget	s can be uploaded here.			
Document uploads work best with pdf fo	ormatted documents. When available, convert documents to pdfs. O	er acceptable document types include jpg, doc, docs, xis, xiss, htm and t	it. Document names need to be less than 125 characters.	
€ COMME	ENTS			
BUDGET: HELP				
Pennsylvania Infrastructure Inve	stment			WWW.PA.GOV/PENNVEST
Authority				(877) 787-8137

At the top of each page, under the first blue bar, you will usually find a description of what the page is asking you to provide and often includes special notes that give additional context to the information needed.

The bottom of each page has another blue bar – the HELP bar for that page. At the end of the bar, you will see an expansion carrot. On some of the pages, if you expand that section you will find detailed information providing additional help notes.

Let's expand the help section within the Budget

category...



Once expanding the Budget Help area, you see a list of each of the project budget line items that you find in the Budget section of the application, but it also provides a listing of examples of eligible costs that can be factored into each cost category on this page.

For example, within the Administrative Fees cost category, you can include costs incurred around the administration of PENNVEST financing, office supplies, computer, printer, advertising, legal notices and force account work.

The expandable help section is not available on every page.



The PV Portal is not just the platform that you use to submit a funding application. This platform is what you'll use through the life of your PENNVEST financing. Remember, when you first enter the portal, you will see the list of projects that you are listed as a contact under.

Each project will include the items circled in yellow on the slide at the bottom.

If you want to view all components that you entered in your application, you can select the Application tab and the left navigation panel will change to align with the items we went over during the application demo.

Back to the yellow circled area, you can also add additional contact information using the Contacts tab. Remember, if someone is not listed as a contact within the project, they cannot see the project in their PV Portal list.

What we'll focus on briefly now is the Settlement, Loan Servicing and Funds Disbursement tabs.

# Settlement and Loan Closing Settlement Checklist Settlement Date Amortization Calculator Loan Servicing Continuing Education Plan Financial Summary Report Financial Summary Report

## The settlement area will provide you will a

- checklist of what you'll need for settlement
- The settlement date
- And also an amortization calculator

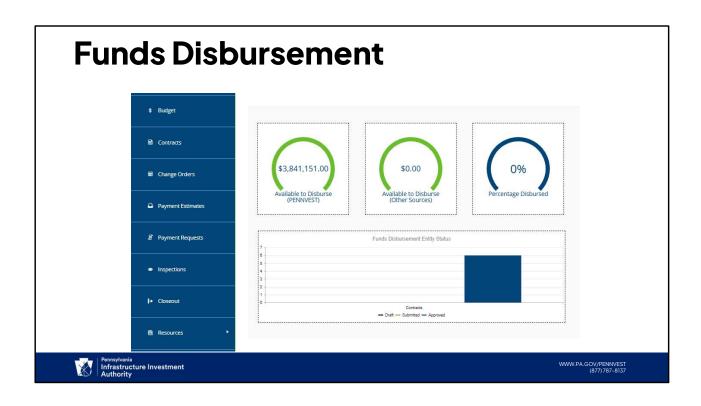
The amortization calculator provides monthly payment estimates for a loan. Project management uses this to do rankings after cut-off dates. This is NOT the official amortization schedule produced by the Office of the Budget once a project is in disbursement or final amortization status. the official amortization schedule has to be requested via the Business Partner Portal.

## Under Loan Servicing section, you will find

• The Continuing Education Plan (if your project is related to drinking or wastewater)

## The Financial Summary Report

You will need to do nothing under loan servicing or settlement areas prior to application submission. These sections will be more useful around and after settlement.



Because the application we created together hasn't gone through settlement, we can't see our Funds
Disbursement, so we took a snip from another entity's financing to show you.

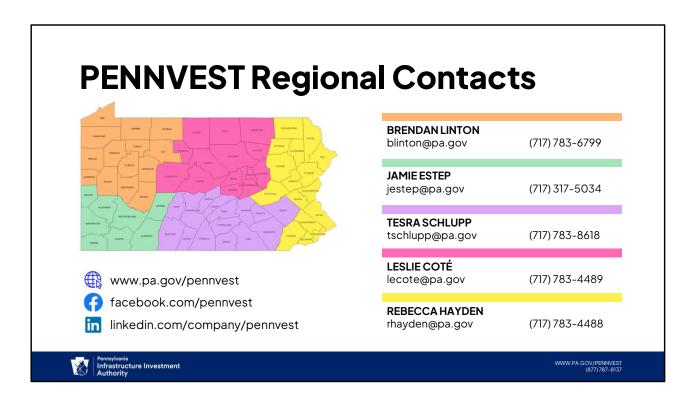
This provides an overview of the money you have already received from PENNVEST vs. the money still available for disbursement.

PENNVEST is a reimbursement lender and what that means is, as your construction project moves forward you incur costs and pay those expenses. Each month, you

will fill out a payment request for the sum of money that equals the invoices you upload for that month to be reimbursed for the costs you have already paid to your contractors.

I also want to point out, as you can see, because we entered the Disbursement section of our project, the left navigation panel options have changed to align with the categories and actions within the Disbursement part of the PV Portal.

We aren't going to focus on each step of Disbursement as this will be covered by our staff when you enter Settlement.



As you heard throughout the presentation today, your first step in securing funding through PENNVEST is to speak to your PENNVEST project specialist.

Here is a list of all the PENNVEST project specialist names, e-mail addresses and phone numbers, as well as the counties that they serve across the Commonwealth.

If you have questions, feel free to reach out to your region's specialist. They are eager to help and look forward to working with you to finance your clean water project.

### **Training Center** PENNVEST www.pa.gov/pennvest > Apply for PENNVEST Funding **Training Tutorials** Resources Tools and Training > About Us **Training Center** Contact PENNVEST **PENNVEST** Notices Information Exchange Scroll down to the Training Tutorials Programs and Services section. Application Documents and Forms "Preparing for a PENNVEST Application" Projects and Funding Select the tutorial named "Preparing for a PENNVEST Application" to view Preparing for a PENNVEST Application the recording. PENNVEST Calendar PENNVEST Search Hubs Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority

As I promised at the beginning of today's session, I want to quickly show you where to find the PENNVEST Training Center within www.pa.gov/pennvest.

On the left navigation panel, expand the Resources Tools and Training section to select the Training Center.

Our Training Tutorials are located at the bottom of the Training Center. We recommend you view the recording of the "Preparing for a PENNVEST Application" session if you have not already.

A recording of today's session will also be available in the Training Tutorials area soon.



We thank you for joining us for this session on the PENNVEST Application Process. We hope you found the information presented today valuable.

Again, we are here to help, so do not hesitate to reach out to us at any time should you have questions.

Before we wrap up today, though, I want to open the floor to any questions you may have right now...