



26        (a) Evaluate and implement innovative technologies and  
 27 solutions for the disposal of biosolids; or

28        (b) Construct, upgrade, expand, or retrofit domestic  
 29 facilities that convert wastewater residuals to Class AA  
 30 biosolids, nonfertilizer uses or disposal methods, or  
 31 alternatives to synthetic fertilizers.

32        (2) An applicant for a biosolids grant must be a county,  
 33 special district, or municipality; however, applicants are  
 34 encouraged to form public-private partnerships with private  
 35 utilities and firms.

36        (3) Projects eligible for funding under this section may  
 37 include, but are not limited to, projects that:

38        (a) Reduce the amount of nutrients in biosolids.

39        (b) Reduce the amount of emerging contaminants in  
 40 biosolids.

41        (c) Provide alternatives to the land application or  
 42 landfilling of biosolids as a method of disposal.

43        (4) In allocating grant funds, the department shall  
 44 prioritize projects by considering the environmental benefit  
 45 that a project may provide. To evaluate the environmental  
 46 benefit of a project, the department shall review an analysis of  
 47 how the project's conversion of wastewater residuals to Class AA  
 48 biosolids, nonfertilizer uses or disposal methods, alternatives  
 49 to synthetic fertilizers derived from wastewater residuals, or  
 50 innovative technologies and solutions for the disposal of

51 biosolids are projected to minimize the impact of nutrients and  
52 other pollutants on water quality and the environment.

53 (5) The department shall administer the grant program so  
54 that at least 10 percent of the funds made available each year  
55 under this section are reserved for projects within an area  
56 designated as a rural area of opportunity under s. 288.0656. If  
57 the department does not receive sufficient applications for  
58 projects within an area designated as a rural area of  
59 opportunity, the department may reallocate the reserved funds to  
60 other projects prioritized by the department pursuant to  
61 subsection (4).

62 (6)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the department  
63 shall require that each biosolids grant has a minimum of a 50  
64 percent funding match from local, state, federal, or private  
65 funds.

66 (b) The department may waive, in whole or in part, the  
67 funding match requirement in paragraph (a) for proposed projects  
68 within an area designated as a rural area of opportunity under  
69 s. 288.0656.

70 (7) The department shall develop annual reporting  
71 requirements for each county, special district, or municipality  
72 awarded a grant under this section which must include the  
73 phosphorous and nitrogen content, the type, and the amount of  
74 each grant-funded product derived from wastewater residuals and  
75 the buyers and users of such products.

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76 |           Section 2.   This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.           |