



About the RREO Grant Program

Colorado's Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity Act (HB 07-1288) created the RREO Grant Program with the intent to fund implementation projects that promote economic development through the productive management of recyclable materials that would otherwise be treated as discards. Projects that meet this goal are designed to implement recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion, source reduction, and beneficial use/reuse for a wide variety of materials.

The grant program is under the authority of the [Colorado's Pollution Prevention Advisory Board](#) and is administered by the Colorado Department of Health and Environment.

Why this grant program matters

The RREO Grant Program affords the opportunity for state government and local employers to work together to keep waste out of landfills, create green-sector jobs and grow the state's economy:

- In 2014, of all the residential and commercial materials tracked by the CDPHE, including scrap metal, roughly 23 percent of the 9 million tons of solid waste was diverted from Colorado landfills as a result of reducing, reusing and recycling materials. This is well behind the national average. Including scrap metal recycling, the national average is well above 35%. The RREO Grant Program gives private, state and local entities the infusion of funds they need to expand access to recycling and help Colorado surpass the national average.
- Solid waste management is an industry that is often overlooked in terms of being an economic engine for the state. In fact, recycling, reusing and remanufacturing have the following impact on the state's economy:
 - Generates state and local tax revenues of nearly \$1.3 billion per year.
 - Accounts for approximately 5 percent of Colorado's overall economic output.
 - Sustains more than 85,000 jobs. Plus, for every job created within the waste diversion industry, one additional job is created elsewhere in the labor market.
- Since its inception in 2007, the grant program has awarded more than \$11 million to nearly 90 employers throughout Colorado in order to develop a recycling infrastructure. This has helped to:
 - Create 321 jobs over the last 9 years.



- Divert more than 123,000 of tons of waste from Colorado landfills.

Grantee eligibility

- CDPHE awards RREO grants every year. They are open to any business, government entity or organization operating in Colorado, whether they're a for-profit or nonprofit entity.

Fiscal year timeline

- Applications accepted beginning in January.
- Applications due at the beginning of March.
- Awards issued from May through the end of June.
- Earliest start-work date for awardees is July 1.

For the current fiscal year's deadlines, see

www.colorado.gov/cdphe/recyclinggrantrebates

For more information on RREO grants

- Visit www.colorado.gov/cdphe/recyclinggrantrebates
- Please direct questions to (303) 691-4955 or cdphe.ppp2@state.co.us