

# CHIPS for America How to Complete a CHIPS Incentives Program Pre-Application

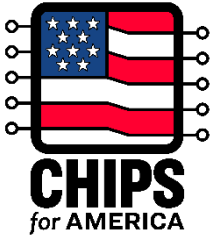
April 11, 2023



NIST



# Today's CHIPS Program Office Speakers



**Todd Fisher**  
Chief Investment Officer



**Sara O'Rourke**  
Investments Office  
Chief of Staff and Head of Operations



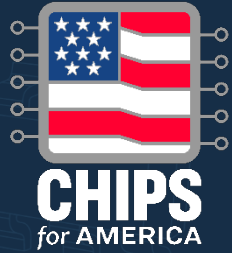
**Dan Kim**  
Chief Economist and Director of  
Strategic Planning and Industry  
Analysis



**Komie Jain**  
Director of the Environmental  
Division



**Rachel Lipson**  
Senior Policy Advisor



# AGENDA & OBJECTIVES FOR TODAY

## Agenda

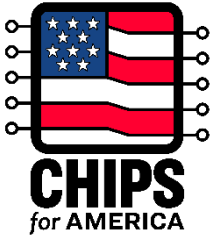
- Reminder of CHIPS for America Vision – 5 mins
- Reminder of Application Process – 5 mins
- Deep Dives into Pre-Application Sections and Relevant Priorities – 45 mins
- Next Steps and Additional Resources – 5 mins

## By the end, attendees should understand

- Why should applicants submit a pre-application
- What is required for a pre-application
- What we're looking for in a pre-application
- How to submit a pre-application



# CHIPS for America Vision



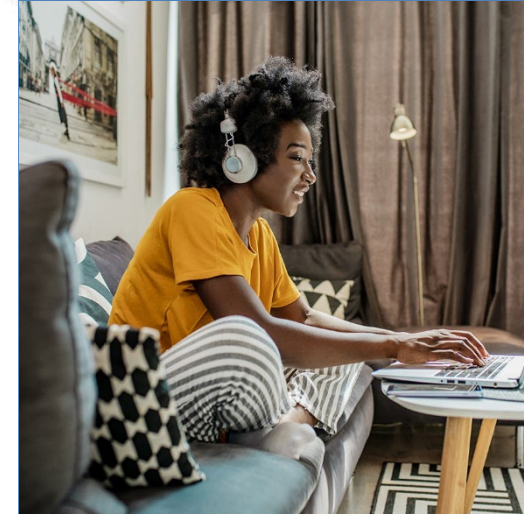
## Economic Security

The CHIPS Act will strengthen supply chain security and increase economic resilience in critical sectors.



## National Security

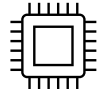
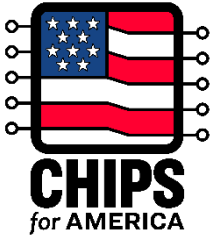
The CHIPS Act will ensure that the U.S. can manufacture advanced technologies, including secure chips for the U.S. military.



## Future Innovation

The CHIPS Act will spur innovation, increase competitiveness, and ensure long-term U.S. leadership in the sector.

# Vision for Success



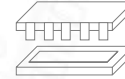
## Leading-Edge Logic

- ✓ The U.S. will have at least **two new large-scale clusters of leading-edge logic fabs**
- ✓ **U.S.-based engineers** will develop the process technologies underlying the **next gen of logic chips**



## Memory

- ✓ U.S.-based fabs will **produce high-volume memory chips on economically competitive terms**
- ✓ **R&D for next-generation memory** technologies critical to supercomputing and other advanced computing applications will be **conducted in the U.S.**



## Advanced Packaging

- ✓ The U.S. will be home to **multiple high-volume advanced packaging facilities**
- ✓ The U.S. will be a **global leader in commercial-scale advanced packaging technology**

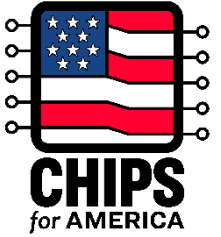


## Current-Generation and Mature

- ✓ The U.S. will have **strategically increased its production capacity** for current-gen and mature chips
- ✓ Chipmakers will also be able to **respond more nimbly** to supply and demand shocks

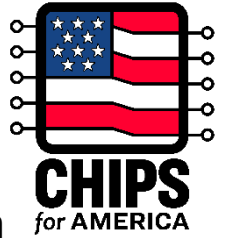
By the  
end of the  
decade...

# Funding Opportunities



Pre-Application submission is only available for applicants eligible for NOFO 1

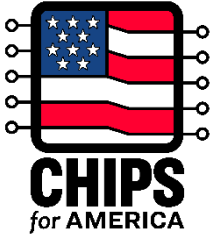
# Eligible Commercial Fabrication Facilities



<b>Leading-Edge Logic &amp; Memory</b>	For logic, this currently includes facilities that produce semiconductors at high volumes using extreme ultraviolet (EUV) lithography tools. For memory, this currently includes facilities capable of producing 3D NAND flash chips with 200 layers and above, and/or dynamic random-access memory (DRAM) chips with a half-pitch of 13 nm and below.
<b>Current-Generation</b>	Produce semiconductors that are up to 28 nm process technologies, and include logic, analog, radio frequency, and mixed-signal devices
<b>Mature- Node</b>	Fabricate generations of <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Logic and analog chips that are not based on FinFET, post-FinFET transistor architectures, or any other sub-28 nm transistor architectures</li><li>- Discrete semiconductor devices such as diodes and transistors</li><li>- Optoelectronics and optical semiconductors</li><li>- Sensors</li></ul>
<b>Back-End Production</b>	Assembly, testing, or packaging of semiconductors that have completed the front-end fabrication process including advanced packaging



# Application Process



## Submissions accepted as of...

Leading-edge

Current-gen, mature-node, and back-end

1 Statement of interest (*open to all*)

February 28, 2023

February 28, 2023

2 Pre-application (optional) **Feedback**

March 31, 2023

May 1, 2023  
*Focus for today!*

3 Full application

March 31, 2023

June 26, 2023

4 Due diligence

5 Award preparation



# WHY SUBMIT A PRE-APPLICATION?

## Objective

*Create an opportunity for dialogue between CPO and the potential applicant and enable the applicant to receive feedback on its submission – to ensure applications meet program priorities*

## Who should submit?

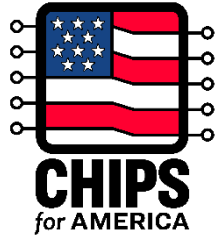
<b>Optional but Highly Recommended</b>	<i>Current-Generation Facility</i>
	<i>Mature-Node Facility</i>
	<i>Back-End Production Facility</i>
<b>Optional</b>	<i>Leading-Edge Facility</i>



## Outcome

*At the conclusion of a pre-application review, CPO will provide a **written assessment** of*

- Strengths and weaknesses of the pre-application
- Recommendations for next steps



# PRE-APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Web Form

PDF Upload

Excel Upload

**A** Cover Page



**B** Project Plan



**C** Financial Information



**D** Environmental Questionnaire

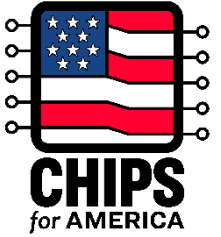


**E** Workforce Development



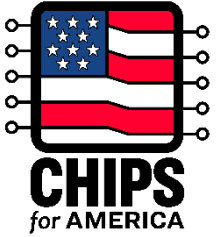
**F** Attestation & Submission





### How will the CHIPS Program Office protect confidential business information throughout the application process?

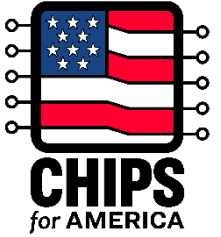
- We are instituting robust protocols, technology solutions, and organizational practices to keep all data safe, secure, confidential, and limited in distribution. Application data will be housed in a secure environment, upholding NIST's FIPS 199 high impact requirements for cybersecurity and data protection.
- In general, applicant information will be accessible only to federal employees, consultants, and contractors who have a need to know, including application reviewers and key investment decision-makers, to carry out the government's responsibilities in connection with the CHIPS Incentives Program, or as otherwise required by law.



**Does CPO plan to review pre-applications and full applications in order of receipt?**

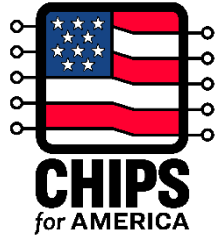
Initial eligibility review will be performed in order of receipt, subsequent deeper reviews will be prioritized based on program priorities laid out in NOFO.





### What constitutes a "covered incentive" from a state and local government?

- The CHIPS Act specifies that an applicant must have been offered a covered incentive from a state or local jurisdiction where the project is located for the purposes of attracting the construction, expansion, or modernization of the facility.
- Each applicant must provide a letter from a state or local government entity to demonstrate they have been offered a qualifying covered incentive.
- A “covered incentive” may take many forms, including a tax incentive, a workforce-related incentive, any concession with respect to real property, funding for research and development with respect to semiconductors, or any other incentive determined appropriate by the CHIPS Program Office.



Web form  
Document upload

## A COVER PAGE



*Name of Application*

Descriptive name for application / project(s)

*Applicant Organization Information*

Contact information for the applicant organization or consortium, SAM.gov account registration, UEI # (optional)

*UEI is required for award*

*Applicant point of contact*

Contact information of applicant's point of contact

*This should be an Authorized Representative who can make commitments on behalf of the applicant*

*Partnership information*

Information on potential partnerships with other entities

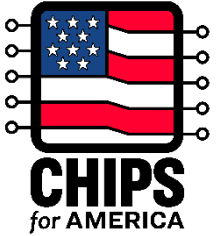
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*Pre-populated fields based on the SOI submission must be updated and verified for accuracy*

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## B PROJECT PLAN

 *Web form*  
 *Document upload*



### *Project(s) Plan Narrative*

Summary description of the project(s) that is responsive to the program description and the Evaluation Criteria



### *Project(s) Information*

Description of Project(s), Product End Market Application, Site location, Facility Type(s), Expected Total Capital Expenditures and estimated peak monthly unit production capacity for all proposed projects

### *Facilities Information*

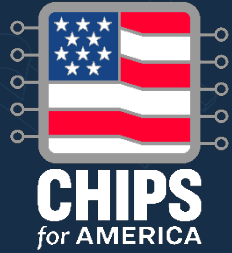
Number of facilities that will be within the scope of the application including name, brief description, technology type and expected construction and production start dates

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*Pre-populated fields based on the SOI submission must be updated and verified for accuracy*

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# Program Priorities



Economic  
and national  
security  
objectives



Commercial  
viability



Financial  
strength



Technical  
feasibility  
and  
readiness



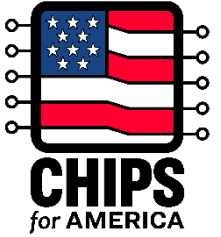
Workforce  
development



Broader  
impacts



# Economic Security



## SEEKING PROJECTS THAT

- Increase U.S. semiconductor production and align with U.S. strategic needs
- Create a more resilient semiconductor supply chain
- Build foundry or other capacity to serve many different customers
- Attract supplier, workforce, and other investments
- Contribute to a self-sustaining ecosystem and catalyze future upgrades

### Leading-edge

- Use the most advanced tech and produce products that are most critical to enhancing U.S. competitiveness
- Commit to ongoing investment in U.S.

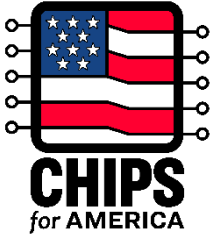
### Current-generation and mature-node

- Support production of chips vital to automobiles, aerospace and defense, and other critical infrastructure
- Use processes that convert to make other types of chips in times of disruption

### Back-end production

- Advanced packaging

# National Security



## SEEKING PROJECTS THAT

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Produce semiconductors that are relied upon by the Department of Defense, other government systems, or by critical infrastructure

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Support U.S. government national security needs, such as by providing U.S. government access to facility output, or adapting commercial production for low-volume and high-mix national security components

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Mitigate operational and cybersecurity risks

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Strengthen supply chain resilience by analyzing and managing risks to their own supply chains

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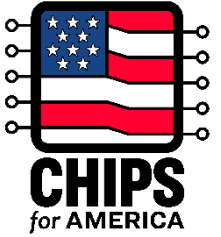
Ensure that foreign entities of concern will not pose undue risks

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Produce mature-node semiconductors that are then supplied to critical manufacturing industries



# Commercial Viability



Demand for the product

Size / diversity of customer base

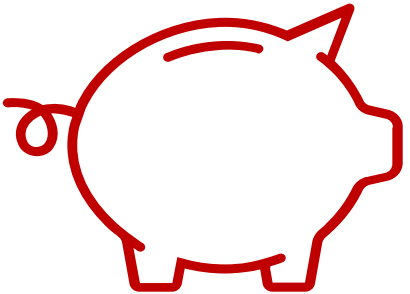
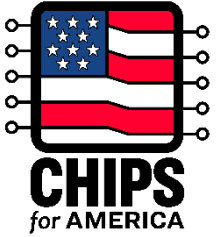
Existing and planned supply

Expected volume and pricing dynamics

Ability to counter potential technological obsolescence of the facility

Stability and predictability of key supplies

# Financial Strength



Financial strength of the applicant / parent

Financial strength of the project

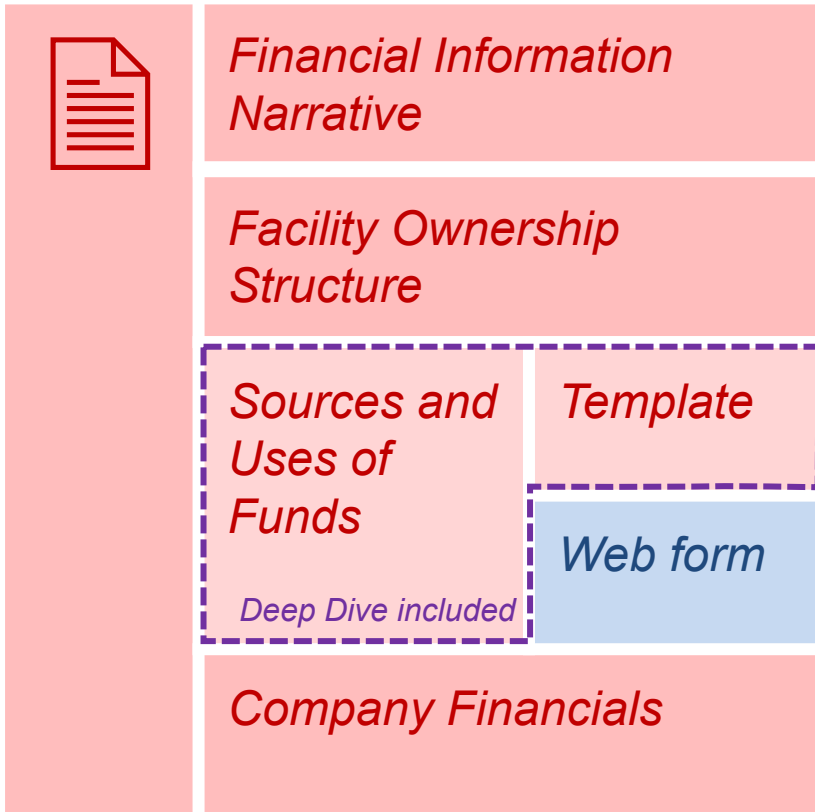
Commitment of private/third-party investment

Reasonableness / suitability of CHIPS funding request



# C FINANCIAL INFORMATION (1/2)

■ Web form  
■ Document upload



Summary narrative of financial information for the applicant and the project(s)

*Submission of supporting documents or more detailed information on facility ownership structure is optional*

Formal legal entity and organizational structure for the project

Information on project costs and capital sources via a descriptive narrative and via the spreadsheet template  
*For discussion in this Thursday's webinar*

Audited consolidated financial statements at fiscal year-end and any key performance metrics

***Continue on the next page...***

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION (2/2)

 Web form  
 Document upload

*Summary Financials includes both a summary narrative in Word and an Excel*



### *Summary Financials*

*Deep Dive on the next page*

*CHIPS  
Program  
Incentives  
Request*

*Web form*

*Narrative*

Summary of the expected revenues, costs, and cash flows for the project, including key income statement, cash flow statement, and balance sheet information via a narrative and spreadsheet format  
*For discussion in this Thursday's webinar*

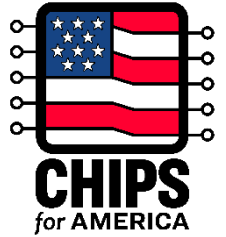
Summary of the type and amount of funding request and available credit ratings from borrowing entity and its corporate parent / sponsor

- Narrative description for how the financial information submitted for the project(s) support program priorities
- Description of how the incentives requested were sized based on applicable analyses

# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Sources and Uses of Funds Template

## Summary Financials Financial Model Tool



Financial Model Tool is provided as an aid; usage of this specific tool is not a requirement for the pre-application submission

**Template for Project Sources and Uses of Funds**  
Pre-Application Stage

**Summary across Projects Sources and Uses template**  
Please refer to the Sources & Uses template instruction guide available for download in the pre-application section of the CHIPS Incentives Portal and at this link: <https://www.nist.gov/document/chips-nofco-commercial-fabrication-facilities-pre-application-instructions>. Applicants should complete this template on a best-effort basis. Figures provided in this template are expected to be estimates and are permissible to be rough approximations for high-level cost categories. While estimated figures are allowable, applicants who provide greater detail in the Pre-Application phase will maximize the value of CFO pre-application feedback which can potentially accelerate the application and award processes. Each cell in the Summary across Projects Sources and Uses template should be a basic summation across each of the corresponding cells in every project template completed.

**Schedule A: Summary across projects - Uses Schedule**      **Schedule B: Summary across projects - Funding Sources Schedule**

Uses of Funds	Amount (USD)	Percentage of eligible for ITC
<b>1. Capital Investment</b>	0.00	
Land		
Construction		
Equipment		
Infrastructure Improvements		
Administrative Expenses directly attributable to facility construction		
Other Capital Investment		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
<b>2. Operating losses and other cash outflows until project breaks even on a cash</b>	0.00	
<b>3. Workforce Development Costs</b>	0.00	
Academy Costs		
Construction of Training Center		
Training and Education Costs		
Wage-Related Support Costs		
Childcare Costs		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
<b>4. Other Uses of Funds</b>	0.00	
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
(Please describe)		
<b>5. Total Project Costs</b>	0.00	
Estimated Costs eligible for the Investment Tax Credit (ITC)		
<b>5. Total Project Funding</b>	0.00	

**Department of Commerce**  
CHIPS Incentives Program - Commercial Fabrication Facilities Pre-Application Project Forecasting - Example Tool

**Introduction to the Pre-App Project Forecasting Example Tool**

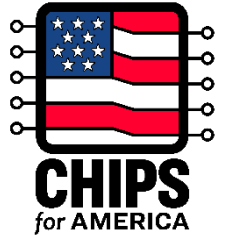
The purpose of this document is to provide an example of the level of granularity and structure for the summary project financials for the purposes of the Pre-App. This document is an example, is not expected to be completed, and will not be collected.

**Purpose:**

**Description of contents**

Worksheet Legend:	Worksheet	Description
Inputs >>	Control Panel	Main tab for the user that controls assumptions and inputs
Processing >>	Assumptions Processing	Helper worksheet to structure inputs for model outputs
	Depreciation Schedule	Helper worksheet to calculate depreciation and investment tax credit
	Income Statement	Model output summarizing income statement for the project
Outputs >>	CashFlow	Model output summarizing a cash flow statement for the project
	Balance Sheet	Model output summarizing a balance sheet for the project
Other >>	Drop-downs	Helper worksheet to define options in tool's drop downs

The Financial Information sections above will be covered in detail in Thursday's webinar



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## D ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE

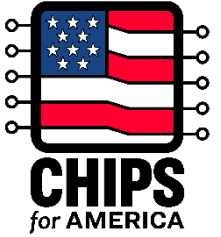


### *Environmental Questionnaire*

Provide the requested information on the Environmental Questionnaire using the template available on the CHIPS Incentives Program application portal

*If an applicant chooses to submit a pre-application, the Environmental Questionnaire is a required portion of the submission; however, it can be preliminary and partially complete at this stage*





### **How should applicants prepare for environmental review under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?**

The first step for potential applicants is to submit an environmental questionnaire as part of a pre- or full application. The environmental questionnaire will assist the CHIPS Program Office's Environmental Division in assessing the likely level of NEPA review that will be required for the proposed project and allows the team to work with the applicant to ensure that all required environmental information is available as early as possible, which can help expedite the NEPA review process for potentially successful applications.



### **Will the CHIPS Program Office support applicants in the environmental review process?**

Yes. The CHIPS Program Office's Environmental Division will work with applicants and their third-party contractors in an iterative process to help ensure smooth and expeditious completion of the NEPA review process.

## E WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION



### *Workforce Development Narrative*

Summary with information on the three topics below regarding workforce development

- Approach to recruit, train, and retain a diverse and skilled set of workers
- The status and goals of discussions with relevant policy stakeholders
- Details on any conversations or planning done in concert with partners

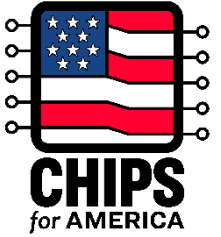


### *Additional questions*

Explanation and estimate of the number of jobs that will be created during the construction and production phases of the project(s)

*Includes jobs that are both directly and indirectly involved in the construction activities for the construction, expansion, or modernization of a facility*

# Workforce Development Vision



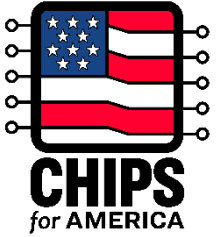
Delivering on our **national and economic security objectives** demands **major investments in the semiconductor workforce** that will support **good-paying jobs across the industry.**

**America's diversity is a comparative advantage;** we must make significant investments to create opportunities for **Americans from historically underserved communities.**

Effective workforce solutions **enable key stakeholders to work together.**



# Strong Partnerships Critical to Project Success



## Partners can help applicants:

Effective workforce investments rely on successful strategic partnerships, and partnerships will be critical to achieve CHIPS program goals.

Attract new sources of talent

Increase awareness of opportunities

Provide wraparound supports

Retain and grow the workforce

Applicants **must secure commitments** from strategic partners and are expected to engage with these partners on an **ongoing basis**.

# HOW TO SUBMIT



**Earliest submission for  
leading edge applicants**  
**March 31, 2023**

**Earliest submission for  
current-generation, mature-  
node or back-end production  
facilities**  
**May 1, 2023**

**May be submitted a minimum  
of 21 days following the  
submission of a Statement of  
Interest (SOI)**



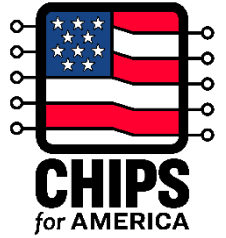
**Submit the pre-application  
through**  
**[applications.chips.gov](https://applications.chips.gov)**

## **After Pre-Application Submission**

The CHIPS Program Office will

- ✓ Send a confirmation email once the pre-application is submitted
- ✓ Review submission and may reach out for additional information or clarification
- ✓ Provide a written assessment with suggested next steps





# Next Steps

- Submit a Pre-Application - *resources listed in the next page*
- Visit [CHIPS.gov](https://chips.gov) for additional resources
- Join our mailing list
- Contact us: [apply@chips.gov](mailto:apply@chips.gov) – application-related inquiries
- Upcoming webinars:
  - Overview of the Financial Information Required for Pre-App and Full App – Thur., April 13, 2023
  - Environmental Review – TBD Date
  - Partnerships – TBD Date

## ***Additional Resources Available*** *General*

- [Pre-Application Instructions](#)

## *Sources & Uses of Funds*

- [Pre-Application Sources and Uses Template](#)

## *Summary Financials*

- [Pre-Application Example Financial Model White Paper](#)
- [Pre-Application Example Financial Model](#)

## *Environmental Questionnaire*

- [Pre-Application Environmental Questionnaire](#)



**CHIPS**  
for AMERICA

**Thank you**