



Date: September 25, 2025

To: Nebraska Environmental Quality Council

From: Sarah Starostka, Administrator
Planning & Aid Division

Subject: Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant Program
2026 Funding Percentage Allocations

The Litter Reduction and Recycling Act states: “The department shall allocate and distribute funds in percentage amounts to be determined by the council on an annual basis.” Each year, the Environmental Quality Council establishes the percentage of how the funds will be allocated for each grant category.

The department’s recommended percentage allocations for the 2026 grant year, along with the funding amounts requested, are as follows:

Category	2026 eligible requests		2025 eligible requests	
Recycling	47%	\$2,532,367	38%	\$1,288,163
Public Education	51%	\$2,768,116	59%	\$1,967,478
Cleanup	2%	\$ 103,166	3%	\$ 105,007
Totals	100%	\$5,403,649	100%	\$3,360,648

Note: The 2026 amounts are requested, and not necessarily the amount that will be available for award. The amount available will be known in late November.

These recommended percentages are based on the actual applications received for the 2026 and 2025 grant years. For the 2025 grant year the Council granted the department the ability to adjust these percentages by up to 20% if it determined it was necessary to enable the funding of good projects. The department asks and recommends that it again be allowed to adjust these percentages by up to 20% for the 2026 grant year if warranted.