ILLINOIS CLIMATE BANK

How to Apply – IFA 40101(d) Grid Resilience Grants Round 3

Issued January 30, 2026

GATA Grantee Pre-Requisites

Grantee Pre-Requisites:

- Organization must be registered in the GATA Grantee Portal.
- User must create a public.external.illinois.gov account.
- The public.external.illinois.gov account must be linked to the correct Organization in the GATA Grantee Portal.
- AmpliFund User access is managed in the GATA Grantee Portal.
  - Grantee must be granted access to AmpliFund and the Applicant Portal.
- Review the GATA website for more information: https://gata.illinois.gov.
  - GATA Grantee Portal: https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/.
  - GATA Grantee Portal FAQs: https://gata.illinois.gov/grantee/grantee-portal-faq.html.
  - AmpliFund Support Article: https://il-amplifund.zendesk.com/hc/enus/articles/27588129343507-How-to-Add-New-Users-as-a-Grantee-and-SingleSign-On-SSO-Process.
- Contact OMB.GATA@illinois.gov with questions about the GATA Grantee Portal

Information provided by AmpliFund

GATA Grantee Pre-Requisites

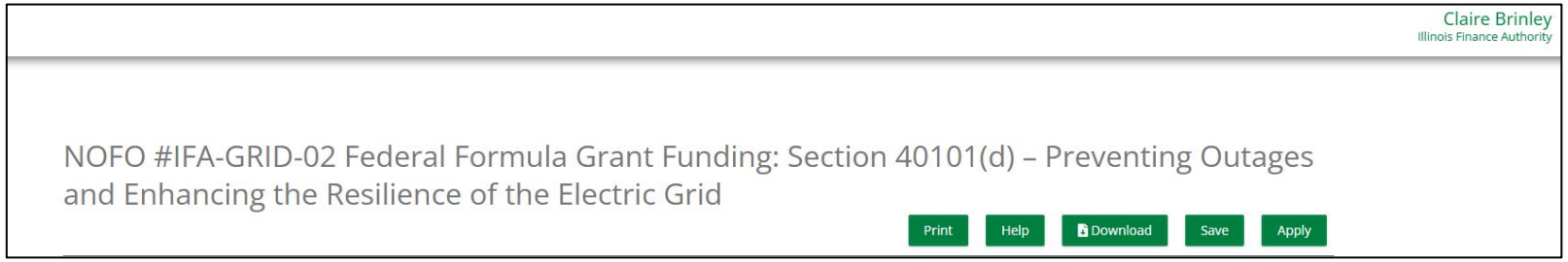
- Access the CSFA and a list of current funding opportunities here: https://gata.illinois.gov/grants/csfa.html
- Search “Grid” in the active programs box
- Select the program, scroll to the bottom of the page, and click on the NOFO
- Alternatively, “browse a list of current funding opportunities, and scroll down to “NOFO #IFA-GRID-02 Federal Formula Grant Funding: Section 40101(d) – Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid.”

- Continue to the NOFO in AmpliFund.

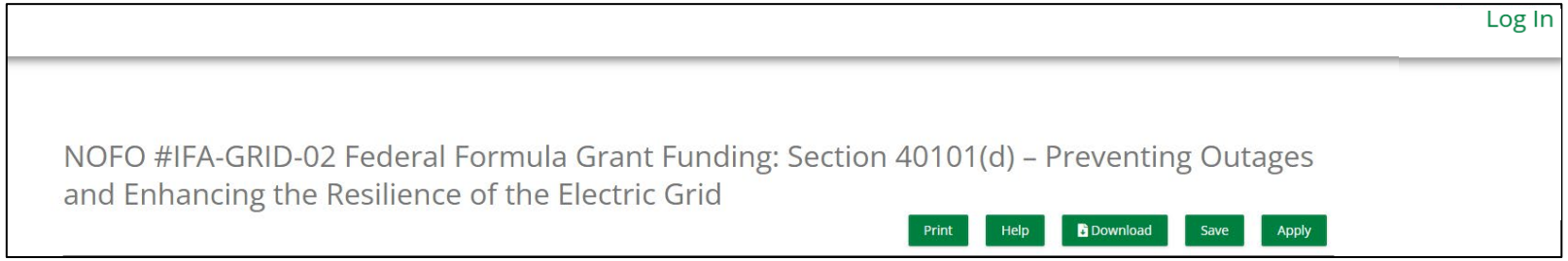
Information provided by AmpliFund

Applicant Portal – Log In

- Make sure you log in using your public.external.illinois.gov account.
- If you can see your name on the top right of the screen, you are logged in.



- If not, click log in on the top right of the screen.

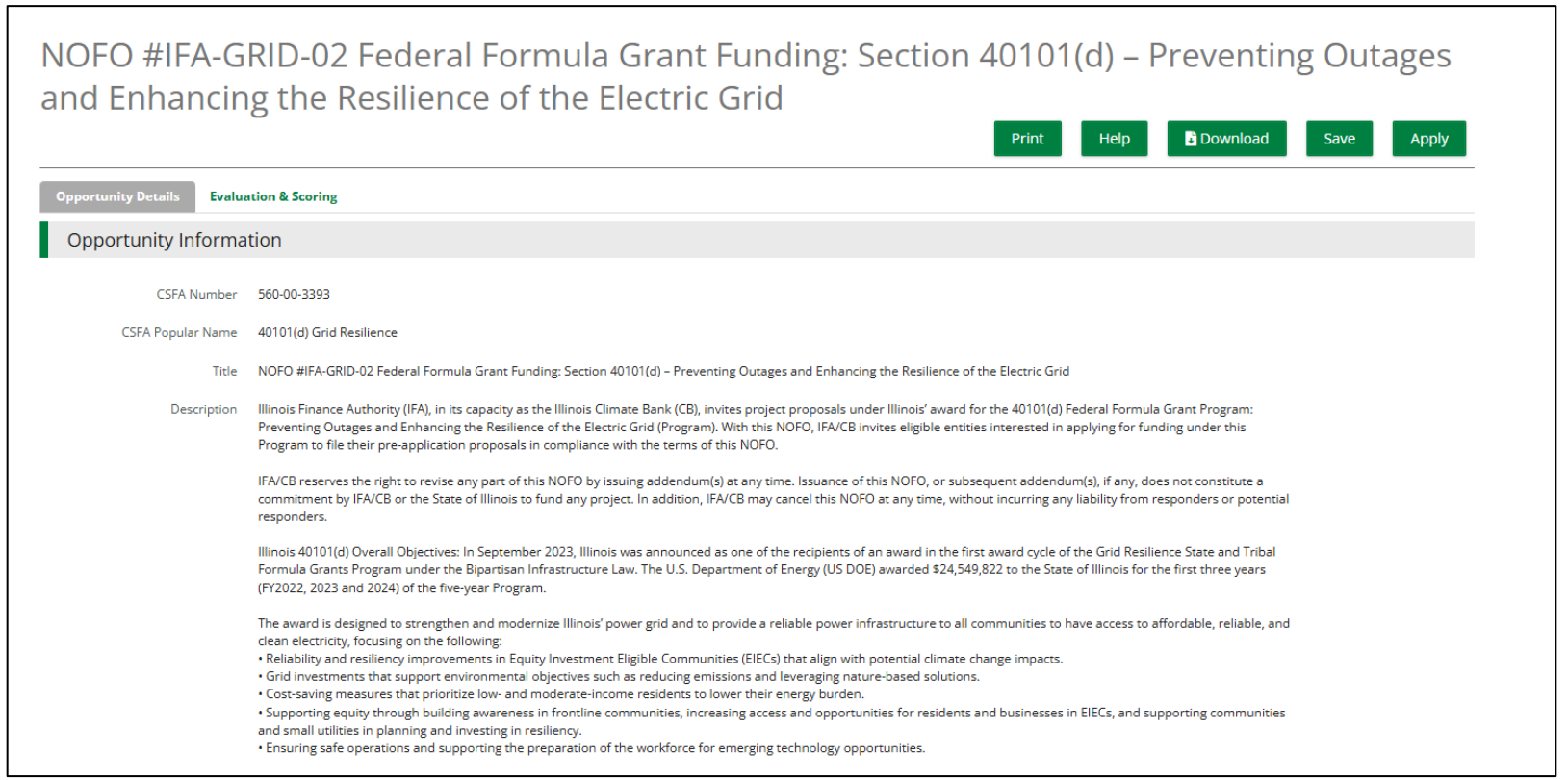


- Select the Public option and enter your credentials.

Information provided by AmpliFund

Navigation – Opportunity Details

- After accessing the public link via the CSFA or manually adding the URL, you will land on the Opportunity Details page in the Applicant Portal.
- Review the Details.
- If needed, click on the Download tab to download the application packet.



NOFO #IFA-GRID-02 Federal Formula Grant Funding: Section 40101(d) – Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid

Print | Help | Download | Save | Apply

Opportunity Details | Evaluation & Scoring

Opportunity Information

CSFA Number: 560-00-3393

CSFA Popular Name: 40101(d) Grid Resilience

Title: NOFO #IFA-GRID-02 Federal Formula Grant Funding: Section 40101(d) – Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid

Description: Illinois Finance Authority (IFA), in its capacity as the Illinois Climate Bank (CB), invites project proposals under Illinois' award for the 40101(d) Federal Formula Grant Program: Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid (Program). With this NOFO, IFA/CB invites eligible entities interested in applying for funding under this Program to file their pre-application proposals in compliance with the terms of this NOFO.

IFA/CB reserves the right to revise any part of this NOFO by issuing addendum(s) at any time. Issuance of this NOFO, or subsequent addendum(s), if any, does not constitute a commitment by IFA/CB or the State of Illinois to fund any project. In addition, IFA/CB may cancel this NOFO at any time, without incurring any liability from responders or potential responders.

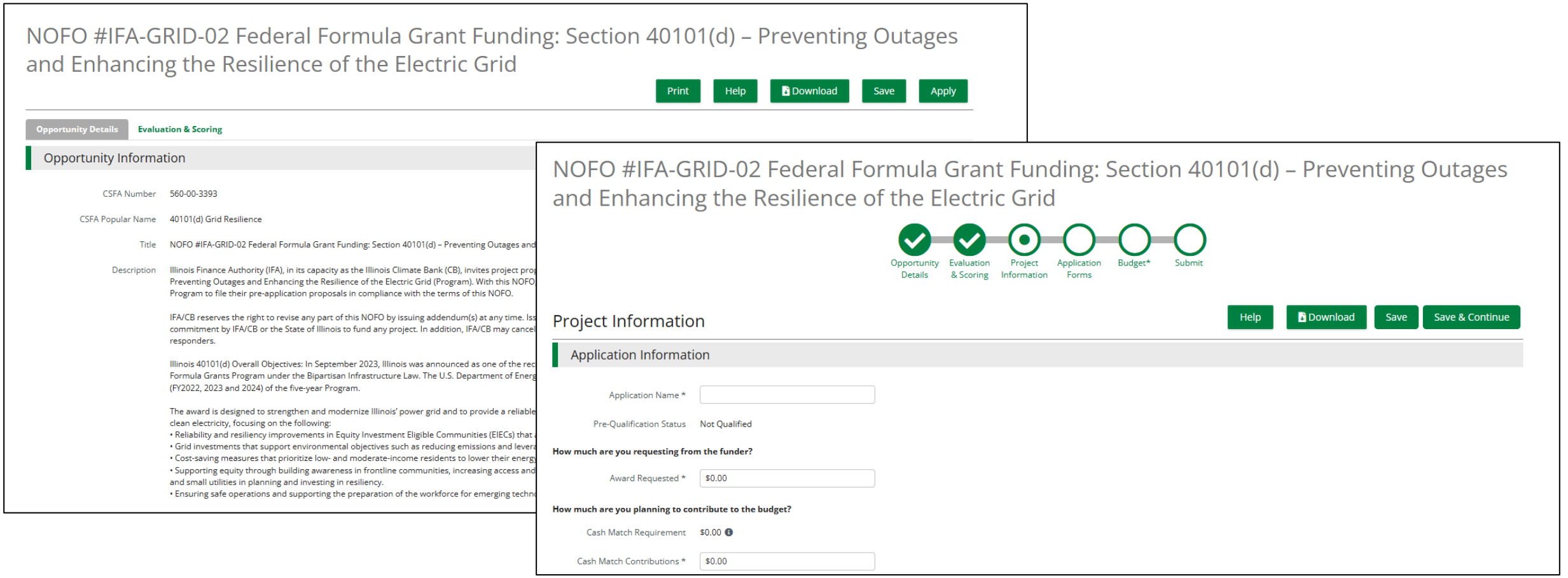
Illinois 40101(d) Overall Objectives: In September 2023, Illinois was announced as one of the recipients of an award in the first award cycle of the Grid Resilience State and Tribal Formula Grants Program under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The U.S. Department of Energy (US DOE) awarded $24,549,822 to the State of Illinois for the first three years (FY2022, 2023 and 2024) of the five-year Program.

The award is designed to strengthen and modernize Illinois' power grid and to provide a reliable power infrastructure to all communities to have access to affordable, reliable, and clean electricity, focusing on the following:
• Reliability and resiliency improvements in Equity Investment Eligible Communities (EIECs) that align with potential climate change impacts.
• Grid investments that support environmental objectives such as reducing emissions and leveraging nature-based solutions.
• Cost-saving measures that prioritize low- and moderate-income residents to lower their energy burden.
• Supporting equity through building awareness in frontline communities, increasing access and opportunities for residents and businesses in EIECs, and supporting communities and small utilities in planning and investing in resiliency.
• Ensuring safe operations and supporting the preparation of the workforce for emerging technology opportunities.

Information provided by AmpliFund

Navigation – Apply

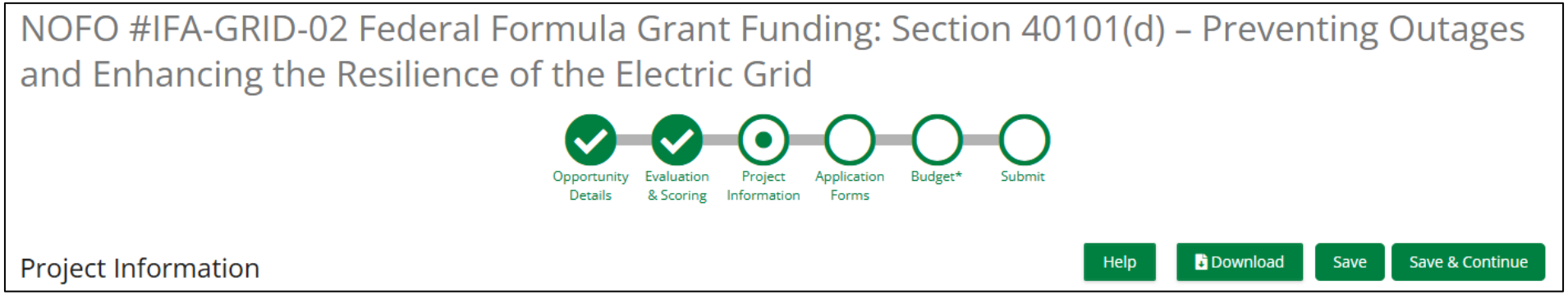
- When ready, click on Apply.
- Land on the Project Information page.



Information provided by AmpliFund

Navigation Continued

- All navigation sections on the top of the screen must be complete before submitting your application (hit “Mark as Complete” in addition to “Save and Continue” if you’re finished with a section).
- Each circle should be green with a white checkmark, like the Opportunity Details section below. You can still reopen sections after marking them as complete, if desired.
- Navigate to different sections of the application by clicking on the desired navigation section.



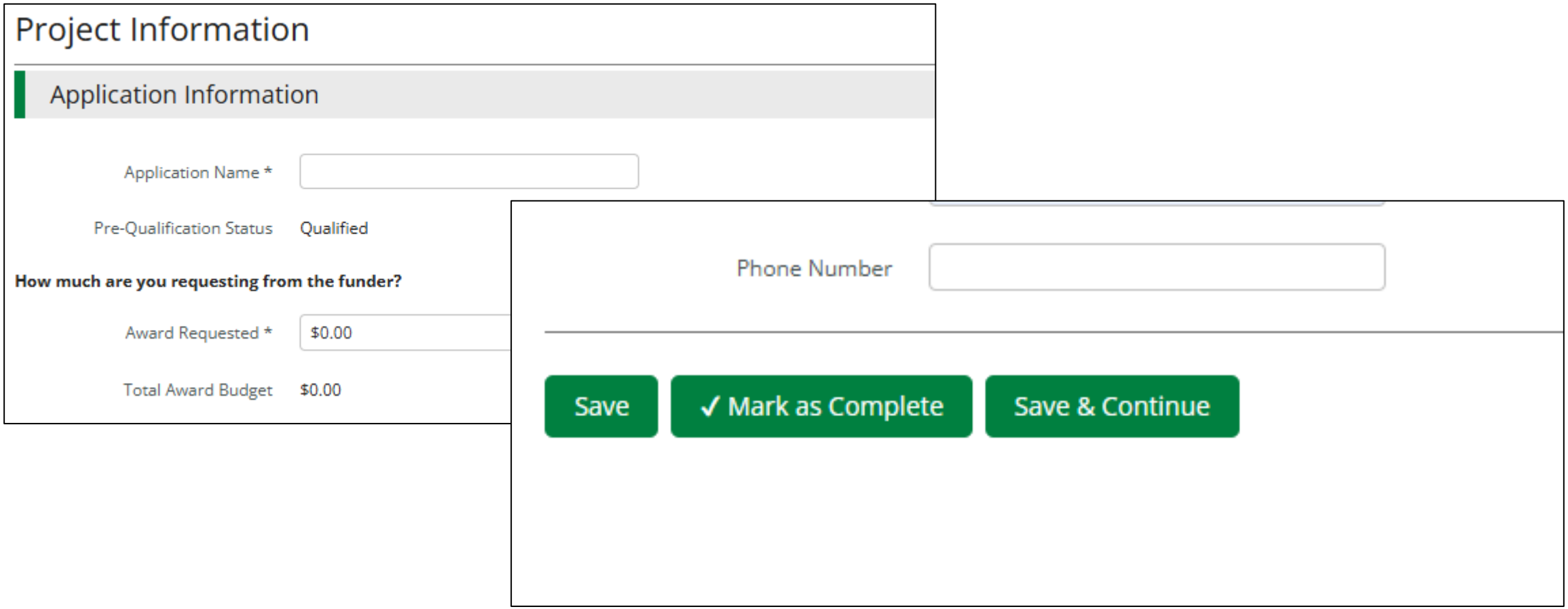
Project Information – Cost Match

Please review the Notice of Funding Opportunity regarding your required cost match*

- Example: You are requesting $1,500,000 in federal funding for your project.
- **If you are a Small Utility:** you must provide a non-federal cost match of $225,000 (15%) plus $500,000 (1/3) for your project, so your total cost match would be $725,000.
- **If you are a Large Utility or any other Eligible Entity that is not a Small Utility:** you must provide a non-federal cost match of $1,225,000 (115%). Enter the appropriate cost match based on the example above.

Considerations

- Anything marked with an (*) is required.
- All pages must be marked as complete and saved before submitting the application.
- Note that there is no cost matching requirement for this grant. Leave any boxes related to cost matching or sharing blank.



Information provided by AmpliFund

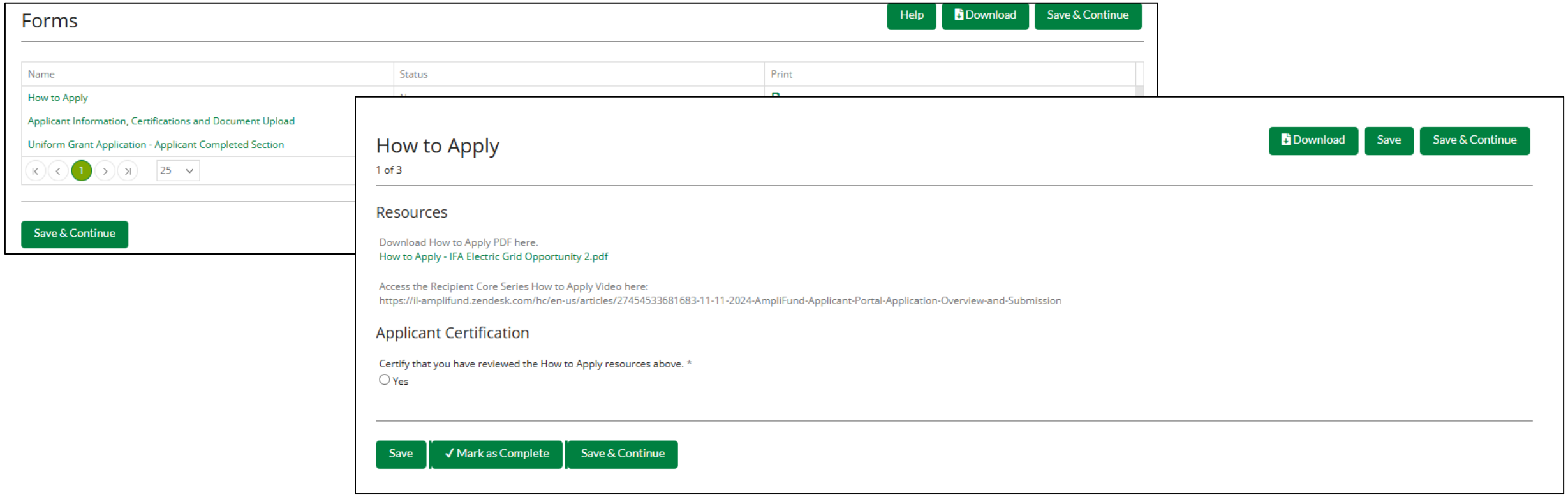
Suggested Order of Operations

Find below a suggested order of operations when completing this application in AmpliFund:

- Project Information.
- Application Forms.
- Budget.
- Submit.

Application Forms –How to Apply

- Land on the Application Form grid.
- Review the ability to download and print.
- Click on the How to Apply and complete all required fields.
- Click Mark as Complete and Save and Continue.



Information provided by AmpliFund

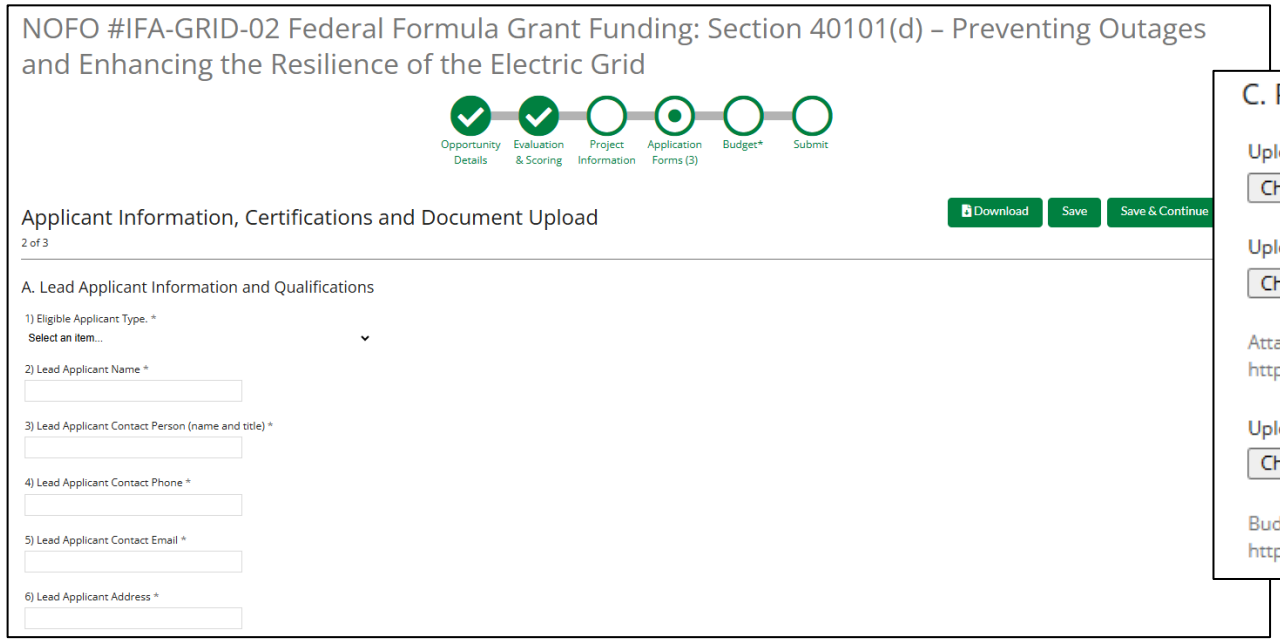
Application Forms – Uniform Grant Application

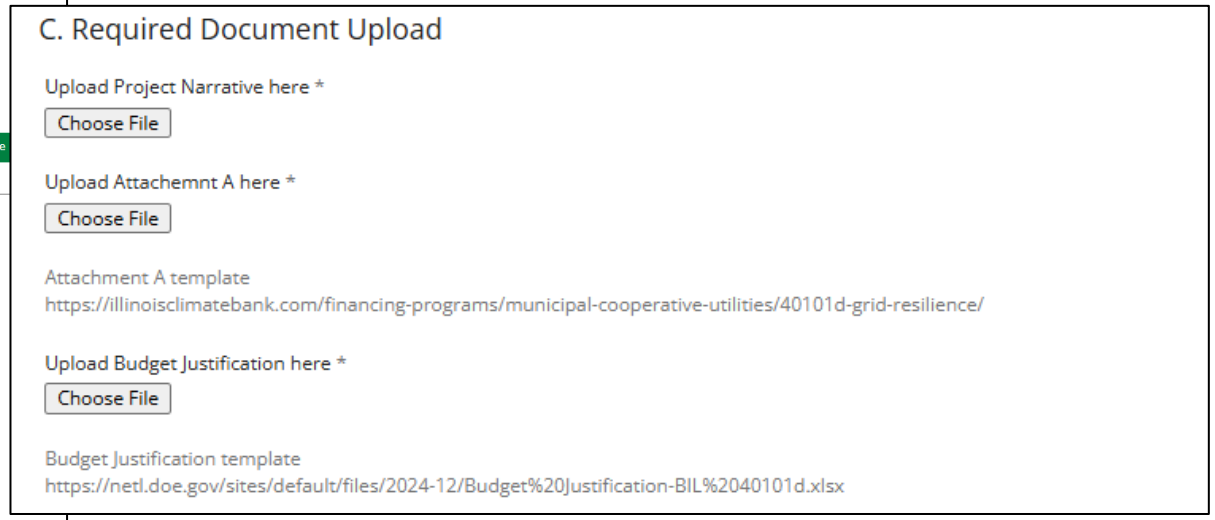
- Read the instructions carefully.
- Complete all required fields.
- Click Mark as Complete and Save and Continue.

Information provided by AmpliFund

Application Forms – Applicant Information, Certifications, and Document Upload

- Read the instructions carefully and fill out all required fields.
- Under Part C, download all attached documents:
  - Attachment A Template
  - Budget Justification Template
  - Cost Commitment Letter Template
  - Environmental Questionnaire Template
- Complete and upload the required documents. Supporting documentation is *not* required.
- Click Mark as Complete and Save and Continue.

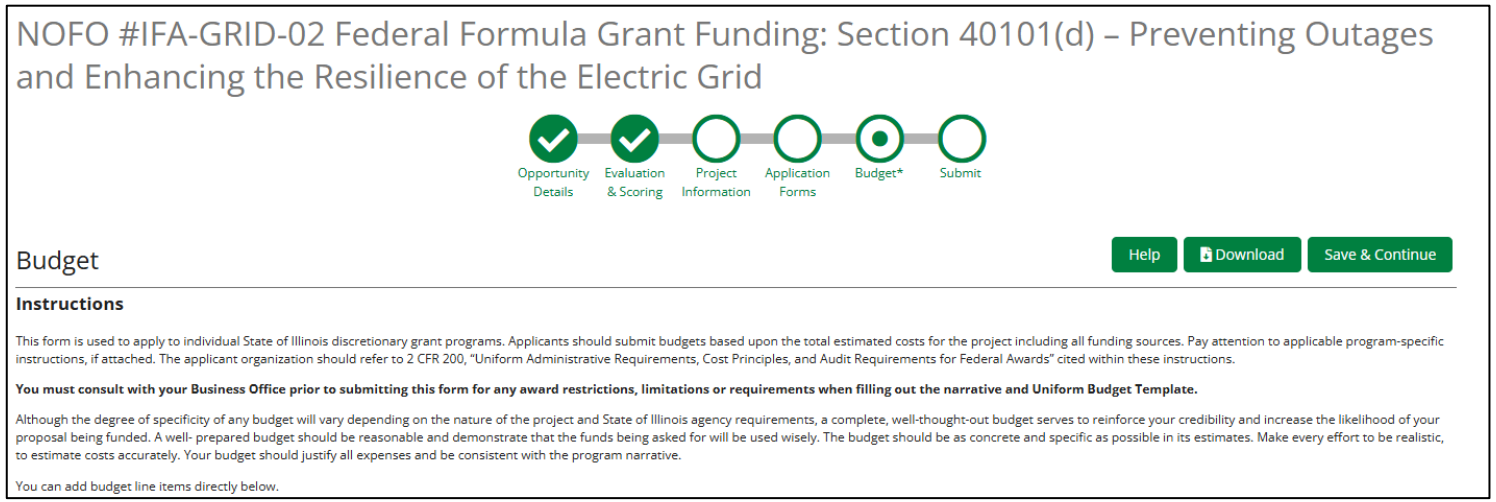


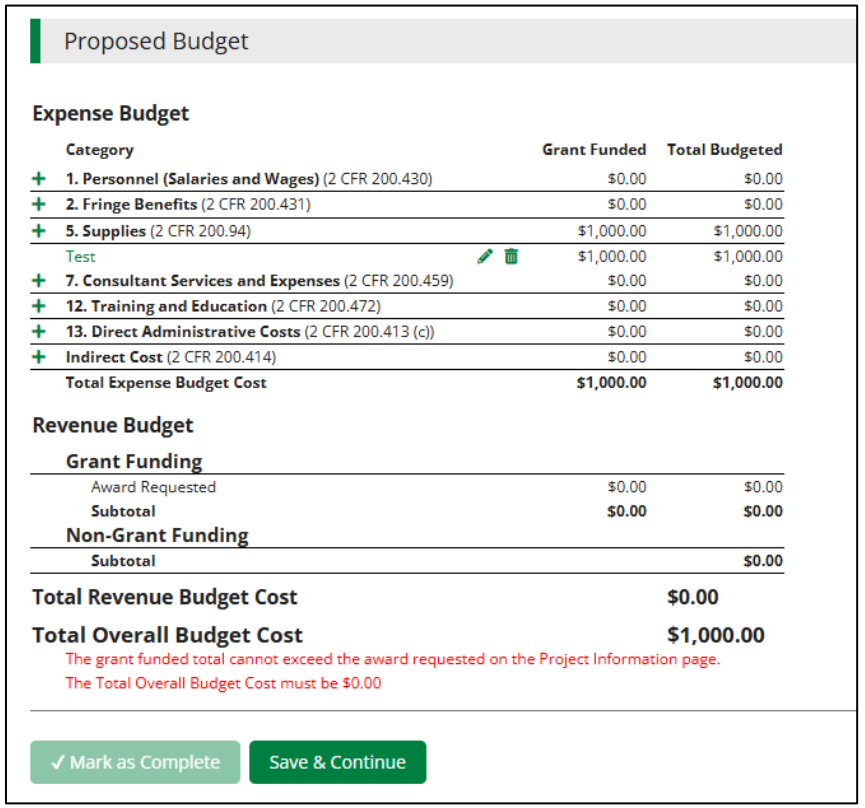


Information provided by AmpliFund

Budget Template

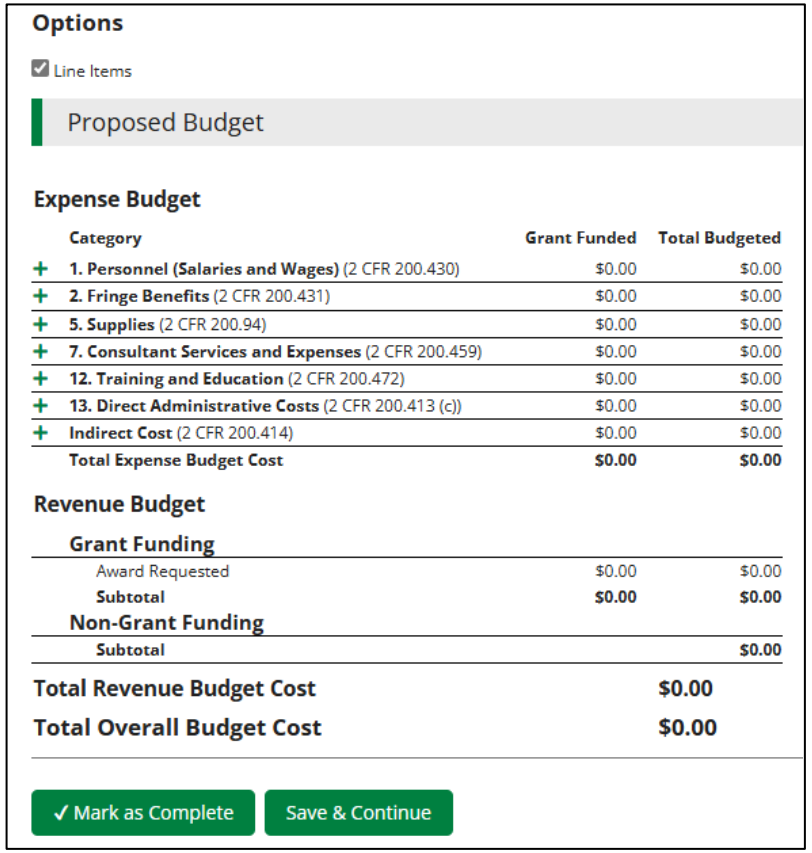
- Land on the Budget navigation item.
- Read instructions carefully.
- The total budget must match the amount requested on the “Project Information” page.

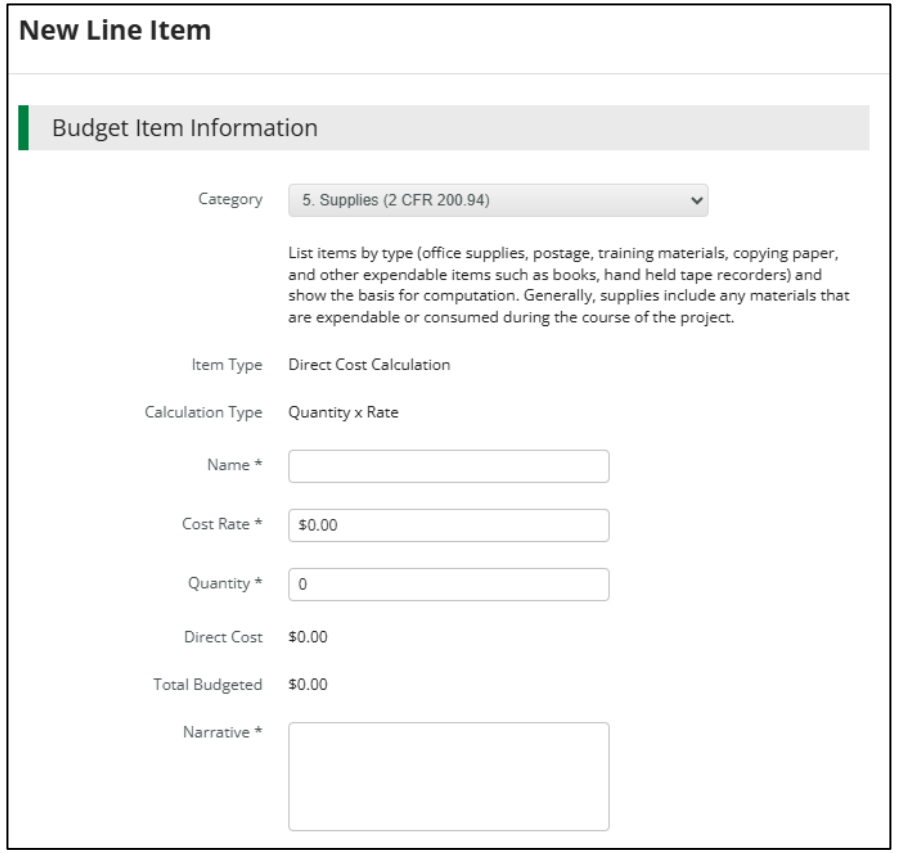




Budget Template - Continued

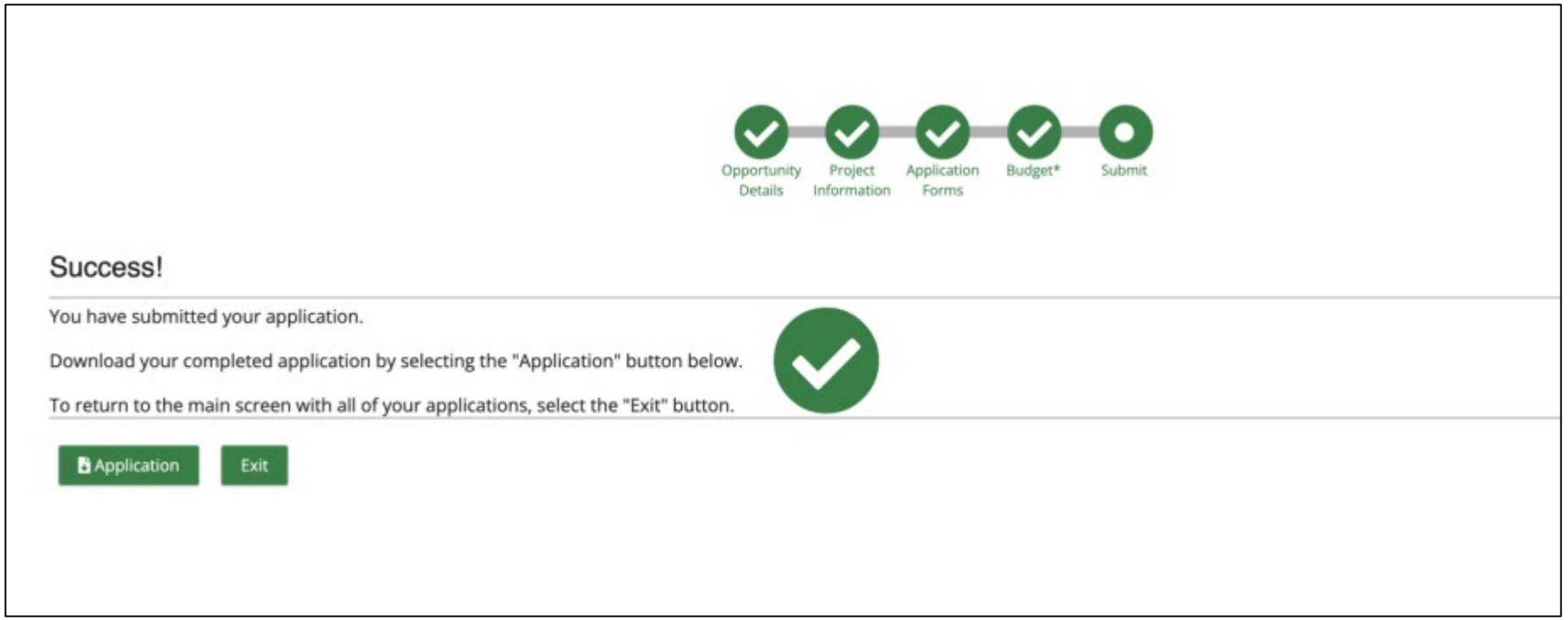
- Click the "+" button next to a category to add a line item for that category. You can add multiple line items for each category.
- Fill out the required fields for each line item.





Submission – Ready to Submit

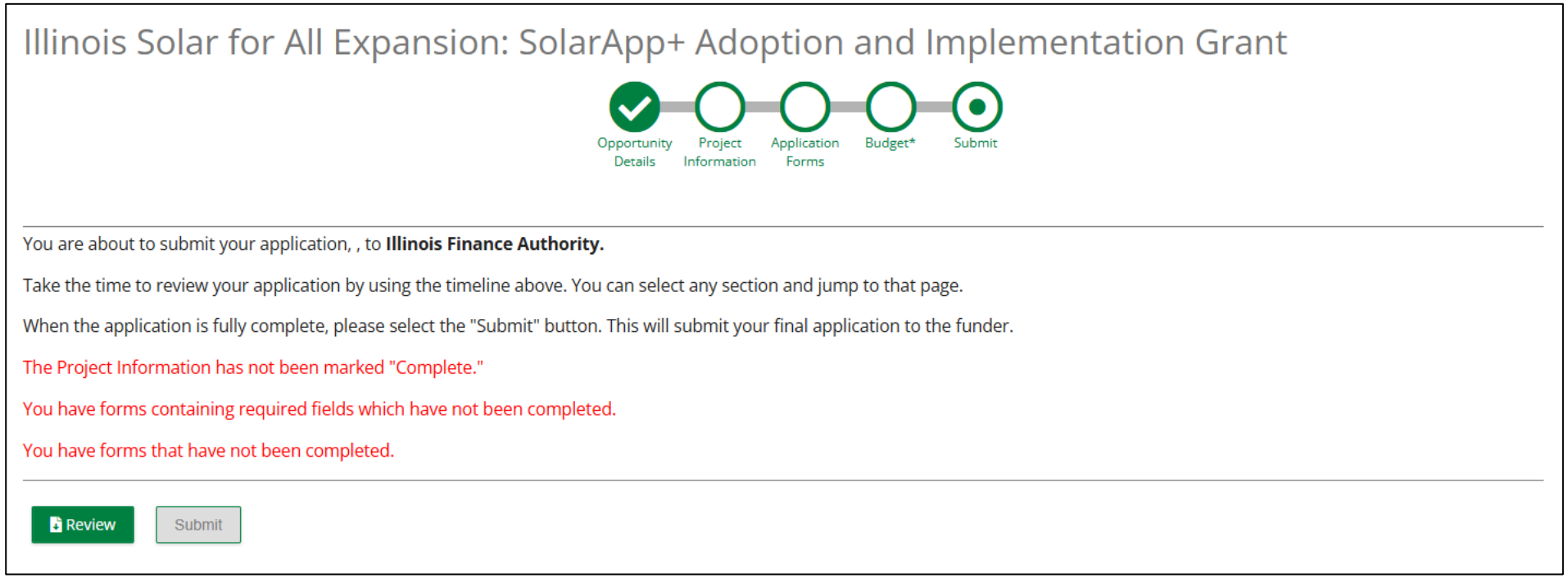
- If the Application is complete, all navigation elements will be green with a checkmark.
- Click on the Submit button to submit the Application.
- AmpliFund will display a success message.
- Click the Application tab on the bottom left to download your Application if needed.



Information provided by AmpliFund

Submission – Not Ready to Submit

- AmpliFund will display a validation error on the Submission page if there are any incomplete items or items not marked as complete.
- If so, navigate to the appropriate section by clicking the tab across the top of the screen.
- Complete the required information and Mark as Complete.
- Navigate back to the Submit tab across the top of the screen and click Submit.

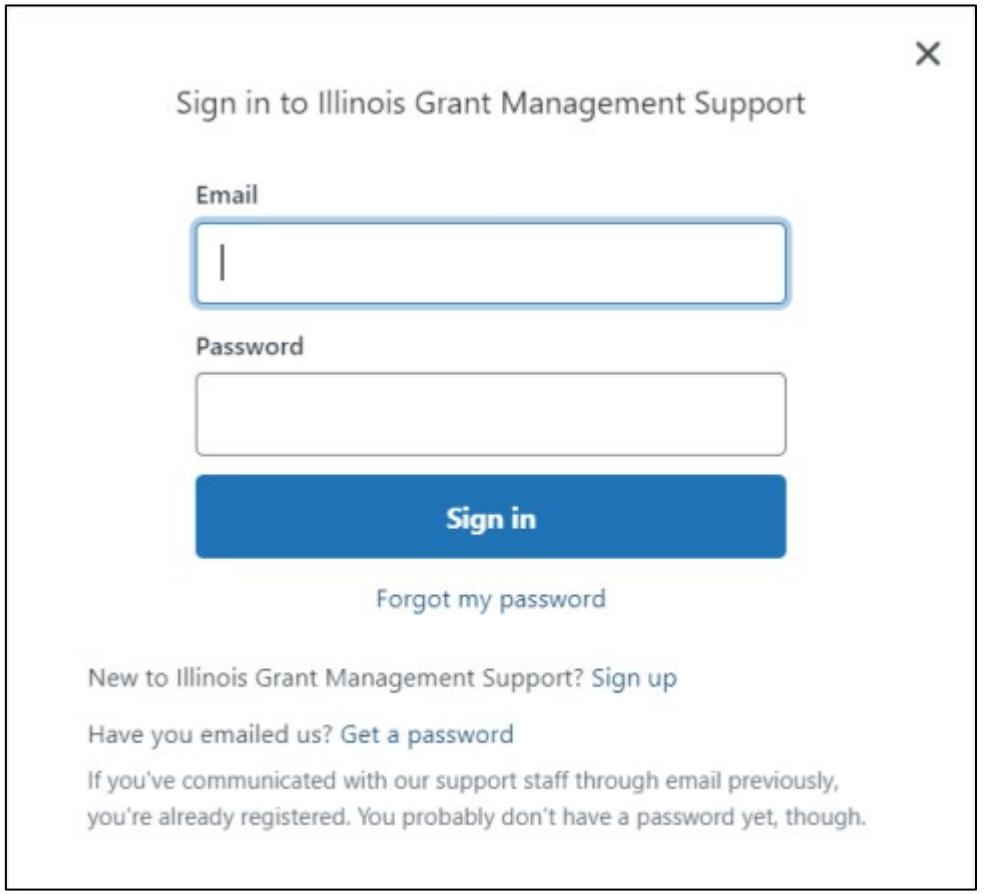


Information provided by AmpliFund

Customer Support – Create Support Account

If you're having issues with submitting, you can reach out to AmpliFund customer support by creating an account following the steps below:

1. Go to https://il-amplifund.zendesk.com
2. Click the Sign up link
3. Enter your full name
4. Enter your email address
5. Complete the "I'm not a robot" check
6. Click the Sign up button
7. An email from support@zendesk.com will be sent to you via email
8. Click the link to set your password



Information provided by AmpliFund

AmpliFund Illinois Support Portal

Submit a support ticket:

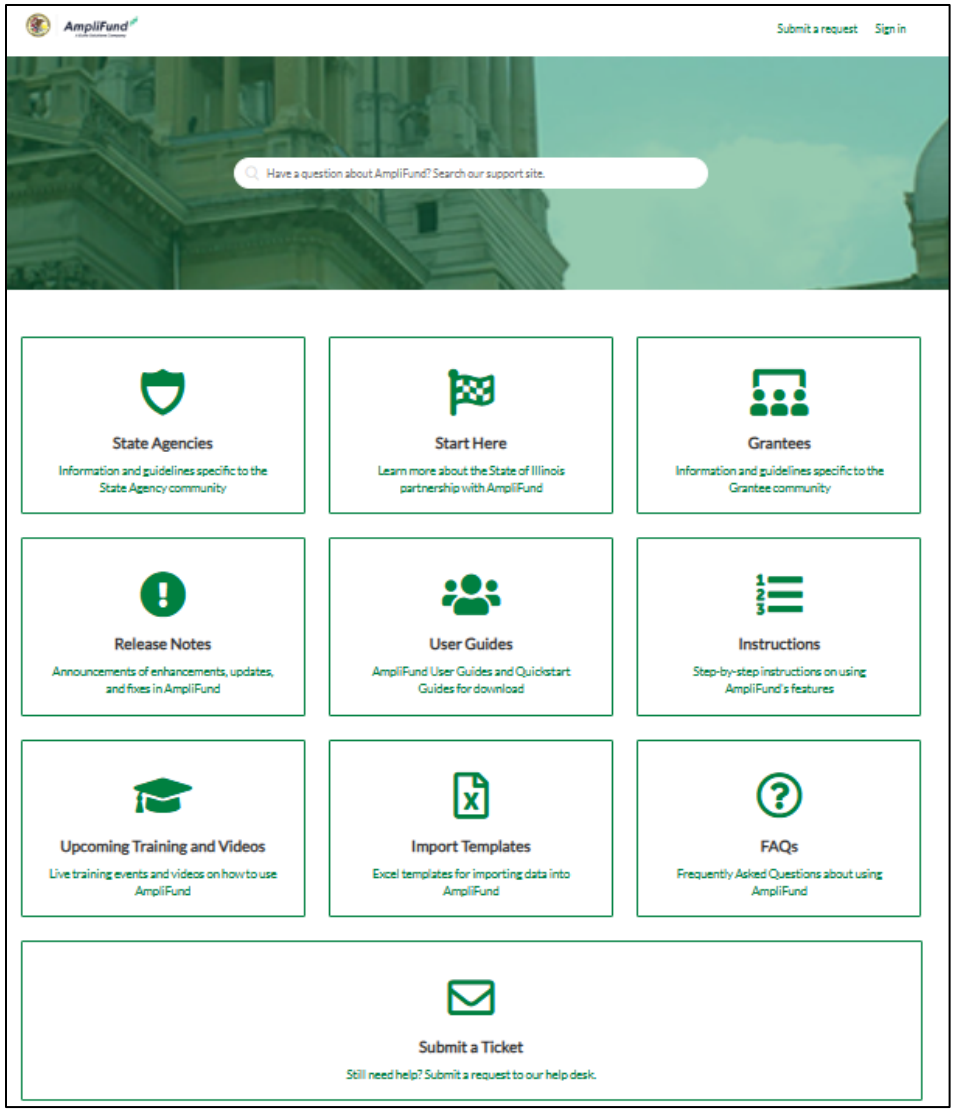
support@il-amplifund.zendesk.com

Visit the support portal:

https://il-amplifund.zendesk.com

Supported Browsers:

- Google Chrome (current supported releases)
- Mozilla Firefox (current supported releases)
- Microsoft Edge (current supported releases)
- Apple Safari 10+



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