

Budgeting for NEPA Review

NEPA costs should be a clearly identified project cost within the SF-424cbw detailed submitted at the Application stage. NEPA costs should be included in the SF-424cbw under Category 6, Consultants. The costs should range from \$500-\$10,000+ depending on the expected level of review and corresponding actions required to complete the environmental review process. If your project triggers an Environmental Assessment (EA), seeking quotes from potential contractors may be helpful in having a more accurate cost estimate for the budget.

| CATEX | CATEX + Section 106 | Environmental Assessment |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| Brief review, no public comment period | Required Section 106 review for historic or eligible structures | Robust review |
| <1 month to develop | 2-6 months depending on consultation | 6-12+ months |
| \$0-\$500+ | ~\$500-\$1,500 | ~\$5,000-\$10,000+ |

NBRC does not conduct preliminary NEPA review prior to award. In developing an application, projects should review the NEPA web page and associated resources, including the EA Template and Guidance Documents and NBRC's CATEX Adoption List, which shows the types of NBRC projects that have previously received a Categorical Exclusion (CATEX). This will assist you in both preparing your budget and your workplan/project timeline in alignment with grant requirements, such as securing a Notice to Proceed within one year of award. If your project is awarded funding and you have not allocated sufficient dollars to complete NEPA review, an amendment to correct the SF-424cbw will be required. Questions about NEPA? www.nbrc.gov/content/NEPA