

Appalachian Water Infrastructure Workforce Development and Training Center

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

STATES IMPACTED



GRANTEE University of Kentucky Research Foundation



STATES IMPACTED Kentucky and West Virginia



ARC FUNDING **\$429,761**



PARTNERS

West Virginia University Research Corporation, Kentucky Water Research Institute (KWRI), Kentucky Rural Water Association (KRWA), West Virginia Rural Water Association



ANNOUNCEMENT DATE May 2024



PROJECT SUMMARY

Impacting 109 counties across Kentucky and West Virginia, this project will develop a plan for creating a water utility workforce development ecosystem to address the looming worker shortage in the sector.

Recent findings from the Kentucky and West Virginia Water Workforce Surveys demonstrated that more than half of the water utilities currently do not have enough operators. University of Kentucky Research Foundation and its partners will thoroughly assess staffing and resource needs to develop a workforce development system necessary to bolster the region's water workforce. Over the course of the planning grant, partners will detail the steps, resources, timelines, equipment, and facilities needed to support the creation of an Appalachian water infrastructure workforce development and training facility.

Project partners bring a combined \$107,440 in matching funds. The project will develop one comprehensive implementation plan over the 12-month performance period.