Exhibit A:

Growing Tomorrow’s Tree Care Professionals

# 2024 Application

Please refer to the Request for Applications (RFA) when completing this application.

*Submit this form, along with required attachments, to* *ucf.dnr@state.mn.us* *by October 8th, 2024. Follow all word count guidelines for each question. Document should stay in current format (Calibri font type, size 11 pt font, narrow 0.5 inch margins).*

*Checklist:*

# [ ]  Application Form (ﬁlled out, guided by the RFA)

# [ ]  Budget Form (Attachment A)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organization Name** |  |
| **Project Coordinator** |  |
| **Coordinator Title** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **City, State, Zip** |  |
| **County** |  |
| **Coordinator Email** |  |
| **Coordinator Phone Number** |  |
| **Grant Amount Requested** |  |

**Have you received a DNR community forestry grant in the past?**  [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Don’t Know

**Is this application limited to serving environmental justice communities?**

# (Please refer to the RFA to view eligible geographic areas for this grant)

# [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Don’t Know

Funding provided by the Inflation Reduction Act and the USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. These organizations are equal opportunity providers and employers.

**Project Overview and Need** (25 points; 2,050 character maximum including spaces) Provide a summary of the project, why this funding is needed, what project work will not happen without these grant funds and expected outcomes. This should include a description of the project location (general areas within eligible map delineation, specific eligible communities or community groups, etc.). A successful application will demonstrate a readiness to take on a project of the proposed scope and size and will show the ability to recruit and train individuals from environmental justice communities in the tree care industry. Additional efforts to retain individuals in the tree care industry can be outlined here as well.

**Project Timeline** (15 points; 2,600 character maximum including spaces) *Describe the approximate project schedule showing intermediate steps and milestones. A successful timeline will provide speciﬁc dates, is easy to comprehend, and will follow best management practices.*

**Project Budget Explanation** (20 points; 2,200 character maximum including spaces)

Provide additional remarks to clarify the budget request. If applicable, provide an explanation of how you are funding portions of your project that are not eligible with grant dollars. A successful budget will provide speciﬁc dollar amounts for anticipated use, will be ﬁnancially realistic and cost eﬀective. Budget will be correctly calculated.

***Project Impacts on Priority Populations*** *(25 points; 2,200 character maximum including spaces)*

This grant opportunity aligns with state initiatives to reduce disparities in health and environmental quality for diverse populations. A successful proposal will show planning and collaboration that clearly serves and includes areas of concern for environmental justice. The applicant will describe actionable items for these communities, how these communities will be engaged throughout the project, how their input will be incorporated throughout the project, how the applicant is addressing internal workplace barriers, and their ability to provide or connect participants with additional employment opportunities beyond grant award period.

**Communication** (10 points; 2,200 character maximum including spaces) *Describe the methods you will use to conduct outreach to residents about this grant project. A successful communication strategy will use multiple formats that have the potential to reach the public about the use of grant funds and tree care workforce development.*

**Key Personnel** (10 points; 2,200 character maximum including spaces) Please list all certiﬁcations and education degrees for staﬀ or contractors involved in the project. Describe the duties internal staﬀ will conduct, and any work that will be contracted out, or the partnerships you will leverage to complete tasks. Include key personnel and their past experience with similar tasks. If you expect to contract work out, describe requirements you will have for contractors.