

E-Enterprise Connect! FAQ

1. What is E-Enterprise Connect! (EEC!)?

EEC! is designed to bring together environmental professional staff across EPA, state, and tribal government agencies by pairing up participants for bi-monthly, informal, 1:1 conversations.

2. Why should I join?

EEC! connects staff who work on or are interested in E-Enterprise for the Environment efforts and innovative ideas that improve how we implement federal environmental programs - a shared inter-governmental responsibility.

3. When will this opportunity begin?

EPA is planning to pilot EEC! in the summer/fall of 2024, as soon as we reach "critical mass" for purposes of matching participants.

4. How does EEC! work?

- Participants voluntarily join using an online <u>sign-up form</u> providing contact information, such as, agency, office, position, interest areas.
- Every two months (approximately 6 times per year), two participants are randomly paired to meet 1:1.
- Participants schedule meetings at their convenience.
- Participation in each bi-monthly meeting interval is optional, allowing for flexibility.
- Click <u>here</u> for a publicly available, free resource for icebreakers and conversation starters to support your experience. Participants will also receive samples in their "match-up" email.
- Once we have reached sufficient participation numbers, we plan to schedule a kick-off orientation meeting before launching the pilot, providing basic "how to" instructions and answering any questions.

5. How does EEC! benefit me?

- Learn firsthand about E-Enterprise, innovative approaches, practices, and applications being tested or used that improve how we run and manage environmental programs.
- Connect with other environmental professionals representing a range of specialties and experience within and beyond your agency.
- Exchange ideas with other professionals with multi-disciplinary knowledge, distinctive skillsets, diverse perspectives, etc.
- Know who to call on when you have a problem to solve, a challenging issue to untangle, or are in need of subject matter expertise or advice.
- Expand trusted working relationships across organizations in support of E-Enterprise.
- Practice good listening and coalition-building skills, critical for effective collaboration.

6. How long do meetings last?

The duration of each meeting is flexible and determined by participants, with a recommendation of 15-30 minutes.

7. How are participants matched for a meeting?

Participants are randomly paired for each meeting to encourage a variety of interactions.

8. How does participation work?

- Participation is entirely voluntary.
- Participants may skip any bi-monthly meeting interval.
- Participants schedule 1:1 meetings based on their availability.
- Participants can try just once to see if this program works for them.
- Participation or the ability to join is always available.

9. How do I join the EEC!?

- Complete the sign-up form online, indicating contact information, areas of interest, etc.
- You will receive a confirmation email, including general information about EEC!
- Subsequently, you will be paired with a partner and provided basic scheduling and practical tips such as this FAQ.

10. Who can participate in the program?

Environmental staff across EPA, state, and tribal government agencies may participate.

11. Can I request specific preferences for meeting others?

Pairings are randomly assigned for each meeting to intentionally broaden interactions and opportunities for improving environmental protection, for instance, by sharing "how to" ideas for streamlining, adapting, making more efficient environmental program management.

If possible after EEC! is piloted, we may consider other ways to accommodate preferences, pair participants with similar interests, etc.

12. How can I provide feedback or suggest improvements for EEC!?

Feedback is encouraged and can be submitted to EEC! contacts via email below or during feedback sessions. Your input helps us ensure the experience is valuable for participants and expand and improve the program. Thank you.



CONTACTS

Lisa Comer • comer.lisa@epa.gov

Brooke Morales • morales.brooke@epa.gov