



The Grantseeker's Guide to Federal Grant Funding

Prepared by the Office of Congressman Joe Courtney (CT-02)

This Grant Resource Guide provides an overview of federal grants, tips for applying for funding, and information on how Congressman Courtney can support applicants as they look to secure federal financial resources.

Dear Community Partner,

As your Representative in Congress, it is my privilege to deliver this grants guide to you. Our district is filled with passionate, civic-minded individuals and organizations who are committed to improving the lives of their communities. Bringing home federal funding that benefits our district is one of my highest priorities in Congress, and this resource guide will help you to identify the right opportunities for your project and submit high-quality, compelling proposals to federal agencies.

For many applicants, federal grants can be complex and the process of researching and applying for funding can be labor-intensive. This guide provides an overview of available funding opportunities; where to find future opportunities; tips and best practices for the grant application process; and information on how my office can help support you in this process. I hope this guide provides you with the information you need to put together a competitive grant application.

I am committed to making sure that my constituents have the resources they need from the federal government to accomplish local, regional, and national goals. Please always think of my office as a resource and partner in the process of applying for funding from the federal government each year. I look forward to working with you.

Should you have any questions or if you would like to learn more about federal grants, please contact Julia McGrath in my Norwich District Office at 860-886-0139 or email Julia.McGrath@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Courtney". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

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Grants 101

What is a federal grant?

A grant is a method the federal government uses to fund your ideas and projects to provide public services and stimulate the economy. A grant is one of many different forms of federal financial assistance. **Federal financial assistance** is a broad term to refer to the various ways the U.S. government redistributes resources to eligible recipients.

When it comes to receiving funds, all grants are divided into two generalized classifications: direct grants and pass-through grants.

- A **direct grant** means that the recipient receives the money directly from the federal government, with no intermediary in between.
- A **pass-through** grant is first given to the state by the federal government, which in turn distributes the funds to local applicants.

From these general guidelines, federal grants fall into a few specific types which identify their purpose and the ways which they can ultimately be distributed and used:

- A **Project Grant** consists of funds distributed by the government for a specific "project" or area of research. Generally, an applicant must have completed certain criteria or qualifications beforehand, (which is outlined in detail for the specific grant desired), and project grants generally have an end date when the funding expires.
 - These are often **Discretionary Grants** – award decisions in which a federal agency selects the awardee based on merit and eligibility. Submitted applications are sent to the federal agency for a competitive review process and final funding decision.
- A **Categorical Grant** can only be used for precise and spelled-out purposes. Recipients of these grants must often "match" the funds provided by the government, or at least provide a portion of the overall cost. These are the most common grants provided.
- **Mandatory grants** require a federal agency by statute to award if the recipients meet the eligibility and compliance requirements of the statute and regulations.
 - **Ex: Pell Grants**
 - Eligibility and grant size are determined based on criteria established in statute, i.e., financial need, full-time/part time status of the student, etc.
- A **Block Grant** is generally comprised of smaller, categorical grants, and is therefore a larger grant that is given to recipients to use as they see fit. Block grants are formula grants and are often distributed to state or local governments for large-scale community projects and maintenance.
- **Formula Grants** distribute funds as predefined by the law. A formula grant is determined by pre-existing factors such as population, poverty level, taxes, or even housing density, and where a community or potential recipient falls on this formulaic spectrum indicates the amount of funds they are qualified to receive.
- **Community Project Funding** requests are congressional provisions that direct funds toward a specific project within a community. Community Project Funding allows Members to put their deep, first-hand understanding of the needs of their communities to work to help the people we represent and make Congress more responsive. Per the most recent guidance, each House Member is limited to no more than **15** Community Project Funding

requests, and **submission of a project does not guarantee that the project will be funded**. Projects are restricted to a limited number of federal funding streams, and generally, only state and local governments and eligible non-profit entities are eligible.

Grants are not for individuals looking to the government for assistance. Those who need assistance should go to www.benefits.gov or contact my office for more information.

Who is eligible for grants?

Determining whether you are eligible to apply for and receive a federal grant is very important. If you are not legally eligible for a specific funding opportunity, you would waste time and money completing the application process for funding you will not be able to receive.

When considering eligibility, the first step is to know what type of organization you represent (or whether you are applying as an individual). If you already know what type of entity you plan to apply on behalf of, then you are ready to [check your eligibility](#).

There are many types of organizations generally eligible to apply for funding opportunities:

Government Organizations

- State governments
- County governments/Councils of Governments
- City or township governments
- Local Education Agencies
- Special district governments
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- Native American tribal governments (federally recognized)
- Native American tribal governments (other than federally recognized)

Education Organizations

- Independent school districts
- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education

Public Housing Organizations

- Public housing authorities
- Indian housing authorities

Nonprofit Organizations

- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education

For-Profit Organizations

- Organizations other than small businesses

Small Businesses

Small business grants may be awarded to companies meeting the [size standards established by the U.S. Small Business Administration \(SBA\)](#) for most industries in the economy.

Where can grantseekers find funding opportunities?

[SAM.gov](#) – The System for Award Management is an official website of the U.S. Government. There is no cost to use SAM.gov. Grantseekers can use this site to search for federal assistance using key words related to their funding need.

**Grantseekers will need to complete registration with SAM.gov before applying for any federal funding*

[Grants.gov](#) – This platform is designed to enable federal grant-making agencies to create funding opportunities and is designed so that applicants can find and apply for these federal grants.

**Applicants can use Grants.gov to submit applications for a wide range of programs*

[FedConnect](#) – FedConnect can help grant applicants find, respond to, and win opportunities for contracts, grants, and other types of assistance funding. Some grantmaking agencies will also use this platform for application submission.

Note – more information on tools to track open funding opportunities from federal agencies is in the section titled “Resources and Tools for Federal Grantseekers.”

Applying for Federal Grants

Registering your entity with SAM.gov and obtaining a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

If you want to apply for federal awards as a prime awardee, you need a **registration** from **SAM.gov**. A registration allows you to bid on government contracts and apply for federal assistance. As part of your registration, SAM.gov will assign you a Unique Entity ID (UEI).

To see comprehensive instructions and checklist for entity registration, download the [Entity Registration Checklist](#).

If you are only requesting a UEI and not completing a registration, you only need to provide your legal business name and physical address.

[Video: Get a Unique Entity ID](#)

When you log in to SAM.gov, if you select **Register Entity**, your UEI will be assigned during the registration process. Registration is for organizations that want to bid on government contracts and apply for federal assistance directly.

You can obtain a UEI for your organization without having to complete a registration. For example, if you only conduct certain types of transactions, such as reporting as a sub-awardee, you may not need to complete a registration. In this case, your entity may only need a UEI and not a registration.

If you choose to only obtain a UEI, you cannot apply directly for federal awards.

- [What is a Unique Entity ID?](#)
- [What does it mean to only get only a Unique Entity ID and not register?](#)
- [How do you know if you already have a Unique Entity ID?](#)

For assistance with SAM.gov, grantseekers may utilize the [Federal Service Desk](#).

Note – Grantseekers should allow ample time ahead of application deadlines to complete the process of obtaining a UEI and registering on SAM.gov. For less complex cases in which documents matching the requirements have been provided, UEI and registration may be resolved in as few as five days, whereas other cases may take several weeks. As of July 2024, the average time to complete a manual review of UEI and registration is three (3) business days.

There have been times when the average review period took 6-8 weeks. Do not wait to complete this step!

Creating a Grants.gov Account

1. Click the **Register** link in the top-right corner of the Grants.gov banner
2. Click the **Get Registered Now** button on the Register page.
3. Complete the **Contact Information** and **Account Details** sections. All fields with a red asterisk (*) are required.
 - a. **Email Address**
 - When entering an email address, please keep in mind that all correspondence with Grants.gov will be sent to that email address.
 - b. **Username**
 - Enter a username to log in to Grants.gov. It may only contain alphanumeric characters, question marks, periods, dashes, underscores, and the @ symbol. Your username cannot contain a space, nor can it only include numbers. Select a username you will remember.
 - c. **Password**
 - The password you choose must meet the following password requirements:
 - Must contain at least eight (8) characters
 - Must contain at least one (1) uppercase letter (A-Z)
 - Must contain at least one (1) lower case letter (a-z)
 - Must contain at least one (1) number (0-9)
 - Must contain at least one (1) special character (e.g. ! @ # \$ % ^ & *)
 - Cannot be the same as the previous six (6) passwords
 - Cannot contain dictionary words, names, or your Username
5. Click the **Continue** button.
6. Click the **Send Temporary Code** button, then access your email account to access the temporary code.
7. Enter the temporary code you received in the email from Grants.gov into the **Temporary Code field** and click the **Continue** button.
8. Decide if you would like to add a profile to your Grants.gov account or click the Continue button to log in. You need to add a profile to submit an application. After registering, review the Workspace Overview page to learn how to apply for a grant.

Submit an Application with Grants.gov

Completing a grant application can take time and should be started as soon as possible.

For most federal grants, you will complete and submit your application through Grants.gov's workspace.

Workspace allows a grant team to simultaneously access and edit different forms within an application.

For more information on using Grants.gov workspace, including tutorial videos and informational articles, visit [Grants.gov/WorkspaceOverview](https://www.grants.gov/WorkspaceOverview).

More resources can be found at [grants.gov/applicants](https://www.grants.gov/applicants).

Tracking a Grant Application with Grants.gov

After an application is submitted, a grantseeker can track the status of their application by using the Grants.gov Tracking Number listed on the confirmation screen or email and entering this number in the appropriate field at [Grants.gov/track my application](https://www.grants.gov/track-my-application). There are several statuses a grantseeker might see:

- **Received:** Grants.gov has received the application, but the application is awaiting validation.
- **Validated:** Grants.gov validated the application and it is available for the agency to download.
- **Rejected with Errors:** Grants.gov was unable to process your application because of an error(s) and cannot accept the application until you correct the error(s) and successfully resubmit the application. You will receive an email with a list of errors. You can also view the errors at any time via the Check Application Status page: just click the Details link associated with the rejected application.
- **Received by Agency:** The agency has confirmed receipt of the application.
- **Agency Tracking Number Assigned:** The agency has assigned an internal tracking number to your application. This is the last status that Grants.gov tracks. Updates beyond this must be checked with the agency directly.

Note: Not all agencies assign tracking numbers. If you do not see an agency tracking number, this does not necessarily mean that the agency did not receive or process your application. The policy of a particular agency determines how and if tracking numbers are assigned by the agency.

Once the federal grant-making agency receives the application, you will need to contact the agency's point of contact for additional tracking and status information during the application review. **When you are reviewing the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), you should write**

down the agency contact listed in the opportunity to help you track the status of the application once it is received by the agency. You may also contact this person if you have any program-related questions throughout the application process.

Services My Office Can Provide

Weekly Grant Opportunities and Resources Newsletter

Each week my office sends out a Friday newsletter highlighting open funding opportunities relevant to Connecticut's Second District, as well as webinars and technical assistance resources for grantseekers.

To sign up for the **Federal Grant Opportunities & Resources Newsletter**, please reach out to Julia.McGrath@mail.house.gov.

Assistance Identifying Appropriate Funding Opportunities for Projects

If you need assistance, my staff may support you in the process of identifying which federal programs may meet your needs. To begin this process, please email Julia.McGrath@mail.house.gov with the following information:

- Project budget
- Activities to be funded
- Any other funding already secured
- Applicant's ability to provide cost shares/funding matches

Communication with Federal Agencies

My staff can facilitate communication between applicants and the relevant federal agencies if the situation requires direct agency communication. While we cannot decisively influence the outcome of a grant proposal, my office can ensure that applicants are connected to the appropriate programmatic staff to answer any questions that come up during the grant lifecycle.

Letters of Support

A letter of support from a relevant stakeholder or community partner can validate the importance of your proposal and make your proposal more competitive.

My office and I regularly provide letters of support to those requesting a letter as they pursue federal grant funding. Please send any requests for letters of support to Julia.McGrath@mail.house.gov **no less than 10 business days before the program's application deadline** with the organization's **Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)** and the **project narrative section of the proposal**. My staff will review your request in the order received.

If you are unable to provide this information to my office at least 10 business days prior to your submission date, my staff may supply a letter of support directly to the agency on a case-by-case basis to be added to your file after you have submitted your application. In these cases, please **provide the application number you receive at the time of submission.**

My staff cannot guarantee that we can provide a letter of support for any given application, but my office will consider all requests received for a letter.

My staff will no longer be providing letters of support for projects that do not meet an established federal nexus through at least one of the following criteria:

- a. Prior federal investment
- b. Application to a federal funding program
- c. Other type of established federal nexus (i.e., Section 8 vouchers at a non-HUD property)

In some cases, my staff and I may also coordinate joint letters of support from Connecticut's congressional delegation request.

Resources and Tools for Federal Grantseekers

How to Develop and Write a Grant Proposal

Step 1 – Preparation

The potential applicant should first become familiar with all pertinent program eligibility criteria for the funding program.

Before developing a proposal, the potential applicant may refer to the information contact listed in the agency program description to learn whether funding is available, when applicable deadlines occur, and the process used by the grantor agency for accepting and reviewing applications.

Grantseekers should know that the basic requirements, application forms, information, and procedures vary among grant-making agencies.

Individuals without prior grant proposal writing experience may find it useful to attend a grantsmanship class or workshop.

Step 2 – Developing Your Idea

The first step in proposal planning is the development of a clear, concise description of the proposed project.

To make a compelling case, the following should be included in the proposal:

- nature of the project, its goals, needs, and anticipated outcomes;
- how the project will be conducted;
- timetable for completion;
- how best to evaluate the results (performance measures);
- staffing needs, including use of existing staff and new hires or volunteers; and
- preliminary budget and cost-sharing provisions, covering expenses and financial requirements, to determine what funding levels to seek.

When developing an idea for a proposal, it is also important to determine if the idea has already been considered in the applicant's locality or state. If a similar program already exists, the applicant may need to reconsider submitting the proposed project, particularly if duplication of effort is perceived by the agency.

However, if significant differences or improvements in the proposed project's goals can be clearly established, it may be worthwhile to pursue federal funding or partner with the organization spearheading the similar program to leverage resources and seek funding to expand the program and/or service area, rather than duplicate an existing program.

Step 3 – Identifying Funding Resources

Once the project has been specifically defined, the grantseeker needs to research appropriate funding sources.

Many projects may only be accomplished with funds coming from a combination of sources, including federal, state, or local programs, as well as grants from private or corporate foundations.

If the grantseeker is anticipating needing multiple funding streams, it may be useful to break out the project into distinct phases and seek funding from different sources for each phase of the project.

A review of the program's descriptions, objectives, and uses, as well as restrictions on the use of grant funds, can clarify which programs might provide funding for a project.

The grantseeker should carefully study the eligibility requirements for each government program under consideration. Federal department and agency websites generally include additional information about their programs.

A grantseeker should also do a self-assessment to consider their organizational ability to manage a particular grant, should it be awarded. This also includes the financial capacity of the grantee to make any matching (cost-share) requirements, both cash and in-kind.

Step 4 – Writing an Effective Proposal

The basic sections of a standard grant proposal include the following:

1. Cover letter
2. Proposal summary or abstract
3. Introduction describing the grantseeker or organization
4. Problem statement (or needs assessment)
5. Project objectives
6. Project methods or design
7. Future funding
8. Project evaluation

An effective grant proposal needs to make a compelling case. Things to be considered include:

- All the requirements from the funding source must be met:
 - Prescribed format, necessary inclusions, deadlines, etc.
- The proposal should have a clear, descriptive title.

- The proposal should be a cohesive whole, building logically, with one section leading to another; this is an especially important consideration when several people have been involved in its preparation.
- Language should be clear and concise, devoid of jargon; explanations should be offered for acronyms and terms which may be unfamiliar to someone outside the field.
- Each of the parts of the proposal should provide as brief but informative a narrative as possible, with supporting data relegated to an appendix.

At various stages in the proposal writing process, the proposal should be reviewed by a number of interested and disinterested parties.

Other resources on writing proposal:

[How do I write a grant Proposal? \(Candid\)](#)

[How to Write a Winning Grant Proposal \(Candid\)](#)

[Online Proposal Writing Course \(Candid\)](#)

[Document Checklist for Grant Proposals \(Candid\)](#)

[Tips for a Successful Grant Application \(Environmental Protection Agency\)](#)

[20 Tips for Grant Writing Success \(U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture\)](#)

[Developing and Writing Grant Proposals \(Rutgers\)](#)

[Writing a Winning Grant Proposal \(Education Money\)](#)

Step 5 – Gathering Community Support

Once a proposal summary is developed, an applicant may look for individuals or groups representing academic, political, professional, and volunteer organizations which may be willing to support the proposal in writing.

These letters are crucial in building the case that your project is of regional importance with invested stakeholders to the review team.

Several months may be required to develop letters of endorsement, since something of value (e.g., buildings, staff, services) is sometimes negotiated between the parties involved.

Note – Letters from Members of Congress may be requested once a proposal has been fully developed and is ready for submission.

Office of Management and Budget Uniform Guidance

The [OMB Uniform Guidance](#) is the common set of rules governing most federal grantmaking to charitable nonprofits, state, local, and Tribal governments, and others.

Initially issued on December 26, 2013, this guidance is compiled from previously separate OMB circulars that addressed separately administrative requirements, audits, and cost principles for specific entities such as States and local governments, non-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, and Indian Tribes.

The overarching goal of the Uniform Guidance is to improve program performance, reduce the administrative burden on award recipients and mitigate the risk of the inappropriate use of Federal funds. **This document is considered guidance and not regulation.**

An updated version of this guidance was released in April 2024 and will go into effect on **October 1, 2024** – now called the **OMB Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance**.

All grantseekers should familiarize themselves with these guidelines.

Chief Financial Officers Council

[CFO.gov](#) is a hub for Federal financial management and the Chief Financial Officers Council. This platform hosts policies and priorities, training materials, and solutions sponsored by the Council on topics such as:

- Uniform Guidance
- Financial Reporting
- Federal Financial Assistance

Investing in America Technical Assistance Guide

This [technical assistance guide](#) is one tool the federal government is deploying to help make it easier for communities across the country to navigate, access, and deploy infrastructure, climate resilience and clean energy funding. The guide provides comprehensive information about more than 100 federal technical assistance programs that can support efforts to win Federal funding and deploy it in communities across the nation.

- Click [HERE](#) to access the Investing in America technical assistance guide.
- Click [HERE](#) to access the accompanying sortable spreadsheet.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Rural Playbook

[This playbook](#) is intended to help rural communities understand the available funding for infrastructure provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and other sources – offering information on the “what, where, and how” to apply for federal infrastructure dollars. Specifically, this playbook:

1. Identifies programs and sources of funds set aside for rural communities under the law.
2. Provides an overview of key flexibilities and other benefits available to rural communities under the law such as waivers for matching requirements. As part of this effort, 7 key federal agencies have published rural factsheets that highlight how to leverage agency resources and capabilities to help rural communities:
 - [Department of Transportation](#)
 - [Department of Commerce](#)
 - [Environmental Protection Agency](#)
 - [Department of the Interior](#)
 - [Department of Energy](#)
 - [U.S. Department of Agriculture](#)
 - [FEMA](#)

Accompanying this playbook is the [Rural Cost Share Analysis](#) tool, which lists over 100 programs with cost share or matching requirement waivers and flexibilities under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Tribal Playbook

[This playbook](#) has two specific goals, and is organized in two parts:

1. **Identify programs and sources of funds specifically set aside for Tribal communities under the law.** There are over \$13 billion dollars in Tribal-specific programs or set-asides for Tribes within existing programs under the law. The first half of this document provides an outline of these funds and guidance on where to seek technical assistance and further information.
2. **Provide a guide to Tribal eligibility for other programs under the law** and identify specific benefits or flexibilities for Tribes and Tribal communities – like waivers for Federal matching requirements for Tribal Nations that apply for competitive funds or enhanced benefits under existing programs for members of Tribal Nations. In partnership with the Bureau of Indian

Affairs, the White House also has identified more than 150 programs under the law where Tribes or Tribal entities are eligible to apply for funding.

[Full List of Tribal-eligible Programs](#)

Tools for Tracking Funding Opportunities

Multi-Agency Inventories

[Federal Program Inventory](#) – The FPI is a comprehensive, searchable tool with critical information about all Federal programs that provide grants, loans, or direct payments to individuals, governments, firms or other organizations. Users of this platform will be able to explore program objectives, applicant eligibility, and both estimated and actual program spending. Users can also be direct to available grant opportunities via Grants.gov.

[Access to Capital Clearinghouse](#) – A multi-agency strategy to improve awareness of, access to, and utilization of federal funding resources for Tribal governments, Tribal enterprises, Native entrepreneurs, and Native Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs).

[Federal Grants for Harm Reduction and Other Low-Threshold Services](#) – There is grant funding available across agencies to support harm reduction services and other low-threshold services that support people with substance use disorders. Additionally, there are funds that can be used to train the substance use disorder workforce and other professionals on harm reduction topics. Harm reduction services funded under federal grants must adhere to federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Use the tabs at the bottom of the document to navigate to each service area to determine which grants can be used to fund that service. Please note awards are funded through varying grant cycles; this is a point in time data collection of federal funding and may not represent future funding availability.

Agriculture

[Agricultural Marketing Service Grants & Opportunities](#) – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) works to improve domestic and international opportunities for U.S. growers and producers. AMS works with a variety of organizations to support rural America and the Nation's agricultural sector.

[Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Open Funding Opportunities](#) – APHIS leads efforts to keep U.S. plants and animals healthy, funding efforts to producer organizations, State and Federal agencies, Native American Tribes, universities, and others nationwide to support projects that help strengthen our Nation's safeguarding system and prevent, control, or mitigate pests or diseases.

[Food and Nutrition Service Open Grant Opportunities](#) – FNS provides funding to increase food security and reduce hunger in partnership with cooperating organizations by providing children and low-income people access to food, a healthy diet and nutrition education.

[Forest Service Grants and Agreements Resource Center](#) – The Office of Grants and Agreements (OGA) award grants and agreements to individuals, organizations, institutions, businesses, tribes, state and local government agencies, and other entities to carry out the agency motto: Caring for the land and serving people. The Forest Service works to strengthen partnerships, promote opportunities, and build collaborative approaches to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation’s forests and grasslands.

[National Institute of Food and Agriculture Open Funding Opportunities](#) – NIFA awards research funding through a combination of competitive grants and funds allocated to states under statutory formulas.

[Natural Resources Conservation Service Programs & Initiatives](#) – NRCS makes investments in their operations and local communities to keep working lands working, boost rural economies, increase the competitiveness of American agriculture, and improve the quality of our air, water, soil, and habitat.

[Rural Development Programs in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island](#) – Rural Development grant and technical assistance programs have the potential to support rural communities’ economic development effort and maintain and improve a healthy rural population by leveraging funding assistance.

Arts & Humanities

[Grants for Cultural Resources, Consultation, and Repatriation](#) – In general, grants fund projects that extend financial support to cultural resources and assist recipients in complying with federal laws that relate to cultural heritage and patrimony. Grants fund a broad range of planning, development, and research projects for historic sites. Projects include the survey, inventory, documentation, architectural services, historic structure reports, preservation plans, and bricks and mortar repair for historic structures and landscapes. Grants may also fund research in technology, training, interpretation and education programs and products, and the respectful repatriation of human remains.

[Institute of Museum and Library Services Funding Opportunities](#) – The mission of IMLS is to advance, support, and empower America’s museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development. The agency carries out its charge as it adapts to meet the changing needs of our nation’s museums and libraries and their communities. IMLS’s mission is essential to helping these institutions navigate change and continue to improve their services

[National Endowment for the Arts Funding Opportunities](#) – The NEH is an independent federal agency that is the largest funder of the arts and arts education in communities nationwide and a catalyst of public and private support for the arts.

[National Endowment of the Humanities Funding Opportunities](#) – The National Endowment for the Humanities supports research, education, preservation, and public programs in the humanities.

Broadband

[National Telecommunications Information Administration Funding Programs](#) – NTIA administers grant programs that further the deployment and use of emerging technologies, spectrum, broadband and other technologies in America, laying the groundwork for sustainable economic growth; improved education, public safety, and health care; and the advancement of other national priorities.

Clean Energy

[Open Inflation Reduction Act Funding Opportunities](#) – This document highlights Inflation Reduction Act funding opportunities that are open for application for state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments; nonprofit organizations; agricultural producers; manufacturers; and more. The list includes information on the Inflation Reduction Act program, the deadline for applying, and a link to the application, where applicable. For more information on the full set of funding programs in the Inflation Reduction Act, refer to the [guidebook](#).

Economic Development

[Economic Development Administration Funding Opportunities](#) – EDA leverages federal investments to build a foundation for sustainable job growth and the building of durable regional economies throughout the United States. This foundation builds upon two key economic drivers - innovation and regional collaboration.

Education

[U.S. Department of Education Opening Funding Opportunities](#) – The Department of Education administers grant funding programs that fulfill the Department's mission to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness, to foster educational excellence, and to ensure equal access.

Discretionary grant funds are awarded through a competitive process based on program eligibility to:

- State Educational Agencies,
- Local Educational Agencies (e.g., school districts, including public charter schools that operate as a local educational agency),
- Tribes and Tribal organizations,
- Institutions of Higher Education (including Tribal colleges and universities),
- Non-profit organizations,
- Other entities (e.g., community-based organizations, public agencies, etc.).

Energy

[Public Sector Funding & Technical Assistance Navigator](#) – This database is a gathering of public funding and technical assistance offerings available to states, local governments, schools, tribes, and community-serving organizations to help them implement high-impact, self-sustaining clean energy projects that center the needs of low-income and disadvantaged communities.

[National Energy Technology Laboratory Solicitations and Funding Opportunities](#) – NETL funds projects to drive innovation and deliver solutions for an environmentally sustainable and prosperous energy future:

- Ensuring affordable, abundant and reliable energy that drives a robust economy and national security, while
- Developing technologies to manage carbon across the full life cycle, and
- Enabling environmental sustainability for all Americans.

[Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs Funding Opportunities](#) – The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs is authorized to fund and implement a variety of programs and projects that promote Tribal energy development, efficiency and use; reduce or stabilize energy costs; enhance and strengthen Tribal energy and economic infrastructure; and electrify Indian lands and homes.

[ARPA-E Funding Opportunities](#) – ARPA-E issues periodic Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs), which are focused on overcoming specific technical barriers around a specific energy area. ARPA-E also issues periodic OPEN FOAs to identify high-potential projects that address the full range of energy-related technologies, as well as funding solicitations aimed at supporting America's small business innovators. ARPA-E funds technology-focused, applied research and development aimed at creating real-world solutions to important problems in energy creation, distribution, and use.

[Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy \(EERE\) Open Funding Opportunities](#) – EERE's mission is to accelerate the research, development, demonstration, and deployment of technologies and solutions to equitably transition America to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide by no later than 2050, and ensure the clean energy economy benefits all Americans, creating good paying jobs for the American people—especially workers and communities impacted by the energy transition and those historically underserved by the energy system and overburdened by pollution.

[State and Community Energy Programs Funding & Technical Assistance Opportunities](#) – The Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP) is part of a concerted effort at the DOE to extend the capacity and capability of states, tribes, local governments, schools, and community-serving organizations to implement high-impact, self-sustaining clean energy projects that center the needs of low-income and disadvantaged communities. SCEP does this through the management

and oversight of over \$16 billion in formula grants, competitive grant awards, consumer rebate grants, and technical assistance.

[Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations Funding Opportunities](#) – OCED is a multi-technology office with demonstrations that include clean hydrogen, carbon management, industrial decarbonization, advanced nuclear reactors, long-duration energy storage, demonstration projects in rural or remote areas and on current and former mine land, and more.

[Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains Funding Opportunities](#) - Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains (MESC) plays a critical and unique role in catalyzing investments in America's energy future to support the re-shoring, skilling, and scaling of U.S. manufacturing across energy supply chains. MESC addresses critical vulnerabilities in U.S. energy supply chains, serves as the frontline of clean energy deployment, and accelerates America's transition to a resilient, equitable energy future through direct investments in manufacturing capacity and workforce development. MESC also develops and provides the energy supply chain focused analytical tools needed to inform programs and investments across DOE, the U.S. Government, and the private sector by identifying gaps, vulnerabilities, and other needs across U.S. clean energy supply chains.

Environmental Resilience & Protection

[NOAA Climate Program Grants](#) – The Climate Program Office (CPO) manages competitive research programs in which NOAA funds high-priority climate science, assessments, decision support research, outreach, education, and capacity-building activities designed to advance our understanding of Earth's climate system, and to foster the application of this knowledge in risk management and adaptation efforts.

[Office for Coastal Management Funding Opportunities](#) – The Office for Coastal Management is working to increase the resilience of the nation's coastal zone, and take the actions needed to keep coastal residents safe, the economy sound, and natural resources functioning as they should.

[NOAA Fisheries Funding Opportunities](#) – NOAA Fisheries is responsible for the stewardship of the nation's ocean resources and their habitat. The service provides vital services for the nation, all backed by sound science and an ecosystem-based approach to management:

- Productive and sustainable fisheries
- Safe sources of seafood
- Recovery and conservation of protected resources
- Healthy ecosystems

[Office of Response and Restoration Marine Debris Program Funding Opportunities](#) – The Marine Debris Program investigates and prevents the adverse impacts of marine debris through prevention, removal, research, monitoring and detection, response, and coordination.

Health & Social Services

[Indian Health Service Funding Opportunities](#) – The Indian Health Service, an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services, is responsible for providing federal health services to American Indians and Alaska Natives.

[Health Resources & Services Administration Funding Opportunities](#) – HRSA provides equitable health care to the nation's highest-need communities. Our programs support people with low incomes, people with HIV, pregnant people, children, parents, rural communities, transplant patients, and the health workforce.

[Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Funding Opportunities](#) – Grant announcements from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for supporting research to improve the quality, effectiveness, accessibility, and cost effectiveness of health care.

[Administration for Community Living Funding Opportunities](#) – ACL awards more than one billion dollars in grants, primarily to state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education and small businesses. Some are awarded in accordance with formulas (mandatory grants) established in legislation, while others are awarded in a competitive process (discretionary grants). ACL awards grants to states and organizations that provide services and support for older adults and people with disabilities, conduct research, and develop innovative approaches to doing both.

[Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Grants Dashboard](#) – SAMHSA's mission is to lead public health and service delivery efforts that promote mental health, prevent substance misuse, and provide treatments and supports to foster recovery while ensuring equitable access and better outcomes.

Housing

[U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Funding Opportunities](#) – HUD awards discretionary funding through over 20 Grant programs that support HUD initiatives, including Affordable Housing Development and Preservation, Community and Economic Development, Environment and Energy, Fair Housing, Homelessness, Homeownership, Rental Assistance, Supportive Housing and Services.

Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness

[Department of Homeland Security: Find and Apply for Grants](#) – The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) distributes grant funds to improve the ability of regional authorities to prepare, prevent and respond to terrorist attacks and other disasters. Localities use grants for planning, equipment, training and exercise needs.

[SchoolSafety.gov - Grants Finder Tool](#) – This tool helps you find applicable funding opportunities to help keep your school community safe. The tool features a variety of Federally available school safety-specific grants that you can navigate based on school safety topic, award amount, application level of effort, and more. As Federal agencies release school safety funding opportunities and grants throughout the year, the tool will be updated on an ongoing basis to reflect these opportunities.

[Community Oriented Policing Services Funding Opportunities](#) – Community policing begins with a commitment to building trust and mutual respect between police and communities. The COPS Office awards grants to hire community policing professionals, develop and test innovative policing strategies, and provide training and technical assistance to community members, local government leaders, and all levels of law enforcement.

[Office of Justice Programs Funding Resource Center](#) – The Office of Justice Programs is the largest grantmaking component of the Department of Justice and houses the Department’s criminal and juvenile justice-related science, statistics, and programmatic agencies. OJP provides federal leadership, funding, training and technical assistance, research and statistics, and other critical resources to advance work that strengthens community safety, promotes civil rights and equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, and builds trust between law enforcement and communities.

[Office on Violence Against Women \(OVW\) Grant Programs](#) – These grant programs are designed to develop the nation's capacity to reduce domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking by strengthening services to victims and holding offenders accountable.

Transportation & Infrastructure

[Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Open Funding Opportunities](#) – This document highlights funding opportunities that communities can apply for today, along with a calendar for funding opportunities updated regularly. The list includes information on the program, the deadline for applying, and a link to the application, where applicable.

[DOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard](#) – The DOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard provides communities with an overview of discretionary grant opportunities that can help meet their transportation infrastructure needs. Designed with all communities in mind, the Dashboard identifies grant programs with rural and Tribal set-asides or match waivers available. The Dashboard also includes Federal grant programs outside of DOT that may be of particular interest to rural communities. The Dashboard is updated weekly. **Importantly, if you are interested in pursuing funding from the federal Department of Transportation, you must discuss the project with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation and/or the local Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). We highly recommend working with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation to fully vet the project and secure placement of the project on the State of Connecticut’s State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) or the relevant MPO’s Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Additionally, you must verify the**

ownership of the road or region in question and confirm eligibility for funding based on whether the road falls within local, state, or federal jurisdiction.

Workforce Development & Labor Issues

[Department of Labor Funding Opportunities](#) – Funding to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.