

Newsletter Edition: March 2025



INNOVATIVE FUNDING PARTNERS
Winning grants for community impact



Funding Opportunity Newsletter



Innovative Funding Partners Announces Free Webinar

**Sustainable Strategies for Nonprofits:
Navigating the Changing Federal Funding Landscape and Securing Your Future**

Webinar Date: March 5, 2025 10:00 AM PT / 11:00 AM MT / 12:00 PM CT / 1:00 PM ET (US and Canada)

Description: The federal funding landscape has shifted dramatically in recent weeks, leaving many nonprofits facing uncertainty. Presented by the experts at Innovative Funding Partners, this free webinar is designed to equip you with the knowledge, strategies, and tools needed to build a sustainable organization and navigate the complexities of the current funding environment.

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_srCG0nVPS76TXDqU7wNxOQ



Planning For Your Organization's Future

With the heightened concern about funding instability, now is the time to assess funding streams, organizational goals, and program offerings to plan for an uncertain future.

Innovative Funding Partners can help address these concerns for your organization through our organizational planning service line. As a trusted partner, we contribute an impressive track record of success bringing in revenue for organizations across a variety of sectors—success due not only to our substantial knowledge of funding sources and what attracts funders but also based on our relationship-building approach. Especially considering today's chaotic funding climate, this gives us a significant edge when supporting and planning for your organization's long-term sustainability and growth.

Innovative Funding Partners offers three types of organizational planning services:

- Operational Planning

If you are interested in more information on how we can support organizational planning for your unique needs, please contact us at info@innovativefundingpartners.com for a free consultation.



Innovative Funding Partners' Recent Successes

- **Appalachian Mountain Community Health Centers:** \$1.1 million HRSA Behavioral Health Services Expansion Grant
- **Gulf Wind Technology:** \$1.1 million from Dept. of Energy SBIR Phase II Grant
- **Tarrant County College:** \$350,000 from the National Science Foundation - Advanced Technological Education Grant
- **CARE Transylvania County:** \$999,947 from The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) Grant
- **Land of Sky:** \$1.5 million from the Department of Labor YouthBuild Grant



Top Grant Picks

HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – Pathways (RCORP-Pathways) (Application Deadline: April 14, 2025)

The purpose of RCORP-Pathways is to create innovative new youth-focused behavioral health care support programs, while also offering behavioral health care career pathway opportunities in rural communities. Award recipients will establish and work within a network of organizations to engage youth in developing and implementing behavioral health care support programming. Through these efforts, RCORP-Pathways will improve behavioral health care in rural areas. The goals of the program are to establish pathway programs to introduce youth to behavioral health careers and facilitate admittance into formalized training programs; engage youth to develop and implement peer-driven behavioral health programming in rural communities; and develop innovative, multi-sectoral approaches to ensure the continued availability of RCORP-Pathways supported activities in the target rural service area. [LEARN MORE](#)

USDA Value-Added Producer Grant (Application Deadline: April 17, 2025)

The objective of this grant program is to assist viable Agricultural Producers, Agricultural Producer Groups, Farmer and Rancher Cooperatives, and Majority-Controlled Producer-Based Businesses in starting or expanding value-added activities related to the processing and/or marketing of Value-Added Agricultural Products. Grants will be awarded competitively for either planning or working capital projects directly related to the processing and/or marketing of value-added products. Generating new products, creating and expanding marketing opportunities, and increasing producer income are the end goals of the program. All proposals must demonstrate economic viability and sustainability to compete for funding. [LEARN MORE](#)

Sun Life Health Access Heroes Grant Program (Application deadline: April 30, 2025)

The Sun Life Health Access Heroes Grant Program provides programmatic funding to nonprofit organizations improving health access in U.S. communities, with a focus on diabetes and oral health. Areas of interest include diabetes prevention, awareness, and education; diabetes management and care; treatment and recovery support for diabetes-related complications; obesity prevention; nutritional awareness and education; nutritional access and food insecurity; oral health equity and access; children's oral healthcare; and oral disease prevention and management. Organizations have the opportunity to select from three grant options: \$25,000, \$50,000 or \$100,000. [LEARN MORE](#)



Federal Healthcare & Behavioral/Mental Health Grants

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HRSA Regional Telehealth Resource Centers (Application Deadline: April 14, 2025)

We welcome eligible organizations to apply for funding under the Regional Telehealth Resource Center (RTRC) program and the National Telehealth Resource Center (NTRC) program. These telehealth resource centers will support healthcare organizations, networks, and providers with telehealth implementation and training for rural areas, frontier communities, and medically underserved areas, as well as for medically underserved populations. [LEARN MORE](#)

USDA The Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program - Nutrition Incentive Program (Application Deadline: April 15, 2025)

The GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program presents the opportunity to bring together stakeholders from various parts of the food and healthcare systems to foster understanding of how they might improve the health and nutrition status of participating households. NIFA requests applications for the GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program to support and evaluate projects intended to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables by providing incentives at the point of purchase among income eligible consumers participating in the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). [LEARN MORE](#)

Indian Health Service Tribal Management Grant Program (Application Deadline: April 28, 2025)

The Tribal Management Grant (TMG) Program is a competitive grant program offering capacity building and developmental support for federally recognized Indian Tribes and Tribal Organizations (T/TOs). The TMG Program was established to help T/TOs prepare for assuming all or part of existing IHS programs, functions, services, and activities (PFSA) and further develop and improve Tribal health management capabilities. The TMG Program provides competitive grants to federally recognized Indian Tribes and Tribal Organizations (T/TOs) to: (1) Establish goals and performance measures for current health programs, (2) Assess current management capacity to determine if new components are appropriate, (3) Analyze programs to determine if a T/TO's management is practicable, (4) Develop infrastructure systems to manage or organize PFSA. [LEARN MORE](#)

ACF Title V Competitive Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (Forecasted Deadline: May 1, 2025)

The purpose of the Title V Competitive Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) program is to competitively fund projects to implement sexual risk avoidance education that teaches youth how to voluntarily refrain from sexual activity. Projects must: 1) Use medically accurate information referencing peer-reviewed publications by educational, scientific, governmental, or health organizations. 2) Implement an evidence-based approach integrating research findings with practical strategies that align with the needs and desired outcomes for the intended audience. 3) Teach the benefits associated with

drinking or illicit drug use. 5) Be culturally appropriate, recognizing the experiences of youth from diverse communities, backgrounds, and experiences. 6) Normalize avoiding non-marital sexual activity. 7) Be age appropriate. [LEARN MORE](#)



Foundation Healthcare & Behavioral/Mental Health Grants

American Psychological Foundation: Direct Action Visionary Grants

(LOI Deadline: April 30, July 31, and October 31, 2025)

The American Psychological Foundation's Direct Action Visionary Grants seek to fund innovative interventions, based on psychological knowledge, that directly address pressing needs of communities in the United States. Grants will be awarded up to \$60,000. Projects should serve marginalized communities, end prejudice and stigma, prevent violence, and explore mind-body health connections. APF is particularly interested in supporting communities and populations dealing with prejudice, bias, intolerance, and all forms of bigotry including racism, antisemitism, homophobia, and misogyny. Examples of supported projects include evaluation of the implementation of an evidence-based intervention in a specific community, bringing an evidence-based intervention to a community in need, and translation of psychological knowledge into a form that can be easily distributed to and understood by a community in need. Project applicants may be individuals or organizations and are not required to be psychologists or mental health professionals; however, an expert in the relevant evidence-based foundation used for the project must be centrally involved. [LEARN MORE](#)

Sun Life Health Access Heroes Grant Program

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Dunkin' Connecting Joy

(Application Deadline: Forecasted Spring 2025, Deadlines to be Posted in March)

The mission of the Dunkin' Joy in Childhood Foundation is to provide the simple joys of childhood to kids battling hunger or illness. Funding is open to entities in the U.S. within geographic proximity to a Dunkin' location. This program helps bring comprehensive gaming programs to hospitals. The program supports hospitals with equipment, staffing, connectivity, and other needs so that kids can enjoy gaming experiences at their bedside and even play with family and friends back home. Organizations can apply for a variety of support, including: a pediatric gaming technology specialist; systems and connectivity; and, virtual programming that connects pediatric and teen patients with other patients their age. The grants are structured for single- or multi-year programming, not to exceed three years. Grant amounts vary but typically range from \$25,000 to \$65,000 per year. Grants do not exceed \$150,000. [LEARN MORE](#)

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation - Systems for Action: Community-Led Systems Research to Address Systemic Racism

(Application Deadline: June 4, 2025)

This 2025 call for applications (CFA) will provide funding for a new cohort of community-led pilot studies to produce new, actionable evidence about how to help medical, social, and public health systems work together to address forms of systemic racism. This CFA focuses specifically on systems alignment (SA) interventions that have the potential to dismantle or disrupt the health effects of systemic racism and to

and contexts across the U.S. in order to achieve broad national impact. [LEARN MORE](#)

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation - Exploring Equitable Futures

(Application Deadline: Rolling until October 15, 2025)

The purpose of this Exploring Equitable Futures call for proposals (CFP) is to support projects that seed new and unconventional ideas that could radically advance health equity for generations to come. We aim to fund projects that: Explore the future by researching and experimenting with ideas that are ahead of the curve or at the edge of our collective imagination; Shine a light on the emerging trends and forces that are shaping our future for better or worse—and suggest ways to navigate them to mitigate harm and advance health equity; Dream big and challenge conventional wisdom to surface possibilities and uncover new paths to dismantle structural racism and build a more equitable future. We are particularly interested in projects that seed new and unconventional ideas within the Health Science Knowledge System—or that reimagine this system completely. At RWJF, we believe that the knowledge and evidence that's needed to guide better decision making, as well as policies that influence health, must include wisdom generated and shared by communities, including those that have been traditionally ignored or undervalued. With our grantees and partners, we are working to transform the way we produce, share, and use health evidence so that it is rooted in equity and justice. [LEARN MORE](#)

The Hearst Foundation - Health

(Application Deadline: Rolling)

The Hearst Foundations assist leading regional hospitals, medical centers and specialized medical institutions providing access to healthcare for high-need populations. In response to the shortage of healthcare professionals necessary to meet the country's evolving healthcare demands, the Foundations also fund programs designed to enhance skills and increase the number of practitioners and educators across roles in healthcare. The Foundations also support public health, medical research and the development of young investigators to help create a broad and enduring impact on the nation's health. Preference Will Be Given To: Professional development; programs improving access to high-quality healthcare for low-income populations, rural populations and/or veterans; programs developing and providing specialized care for the complex needs of elderly populations; programs providing behavioral and mental health care; programs scaling innovative healthcare delivery systems to provide efficient, coordinated care; and research, particularly support for early career investigators and/or efforts related to finding new cures and treatments for prevalent diseases, such as cancer. [LEARN MORE](#)

Foundation for Rural Service - Virtual Living Room

(Application Deadline: Rolling)

Virtual Living Room is a grant program that combines rural technology, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) resources, and local support to provide solutions to improve healthcare access for veterans in rural areas. Communities that are located more than an hour away from a VA clinic or hospital can provide a private, comfortable location for veterans to access VA medical system telehealth and other online resources. To be eligible to apply for funding, the community must be located more than an hour away from a VA clinic or hospital. The applicant of record must be a member of NTCA: The Rural Broadband Association. Virtual Living Room venue locations should be comfortable, private, have adequate electricity, and have broadband service provided by the NTCA member. Venue examples include a Veterans of Foreign War lodge, American Legion, library, firehouse, church, and/or community center. [LEARN MORE](#)



Federal Education & Workforce Development Grants

Department of Defense (DoD) Defense University Research Instrumentation Program

(Application Deadline: April 25, 2025)

This announcement seeks proposals from universities to purchase equipment and instrumentation in support of research in areas of interest to the DoD. Typical funding per grant is \$50,000 to \$3,000,000.

DoD. This competition is open to accredited U.S. institutions of higher education with degree granting programs in science, mathematics, and/or engineering except for-profit educational institutions. University Affiliated Research Centers (UARCs) are eligible to participate in this competition. [LEARN MORE](#)

Department of Defense Research and Education Program for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority-Serving Institutions (HBCU/MI)

(Application Deadline: April 28, 2025)

The DoD is soliciting applications for the acquisition of equipment/instrumentation under the Fiscal Year 2025 Research and Education Program for HBCUs/MIs. The Research and Education Program is designed to enhance the research capabilities of HBCUs and MIs and to strengthen their STEM education programs. The purpose of the funding under this FOA is to (1) support the acquisition of equipment/instrumentation to augment existing capabilities or to develop new capabilities in research areas of interest to DoD, and (2) attract students to pursue studies leading to STEM careers. Individual awards will range from \$200,000 to \$1,000,000. Eligibility for this competition is open only to “covered educational institutions,” which are defined as: (a) institutions of higher education eligible for assistance under Title III or Title V of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.); or (b) accredited post-secondary minority institutions. Eligible applicants include community colleges or other two-year degree-granting institutions meeting the definition of a “covered educational institution.” [LEARN MORE](#)

NEA Humanities Initiatives

(Application Deadline: May 6, 2025)

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Division of Education Programs is accepting applications for the five Humanities Initiatives programs. These programs strengthen the teaching and study of the humanities at institutions of higher education by developing new or improving existing humanities programs, educational resources, or coursework. The Humanities Initiatives programs support activities such as: curriculum development, student enrichment, faculty development, and partnerships. The Humanities Initiatives programs are for U.S.-accredited public or 501(c)(3) private institutions of higher education. [LEARN MORE](#)

DOL FY25 Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations (WANTO) Technical Assistance Grant Program

(Forecasted Deadline: June 10, 2025)

This program aims to provide technical assistance (TA) to employers (which may include public sector entities) and labor unions in the United States and its territories to encourage employment of women in both apprenticeable occupations and nontraditional occupations (A/NTO), specifically in the following ways: Developing (establishing, expanding, and/or enhancing) pre-apprenticeship, youth apprenticeship, Registered Apprenticeship (as defined in Appendix B "Acronyms and Definitions"), or other nontraditional skills training programs designed to prepare women for careers in A/NTO; Providing ongoing orientations or other resources for employers, unions, and workers on creating a successful environment for women in A/NTO; and/or Setting up support groups, facilitating networks, and/or providing supportive services (as defined in section IV.E.3) for women in A/NTO to improve their retention. Applicants may propose to provide technical assistance to support women’s participation and success in the full range of industries in which women are historically underrepresented or where women are disproportionately concentrated in the lower-wage occupations. Such industries include, but are not limited to; advanced manufacturing, construction, energy, health care, information technology, finance, and transportation. Applicants with experience working with or as an equity intermediary are encouraged to apply, as well as applicants with a proposed focus on expanding outreach/recruitment to historically underrepresented communities, including but not limited to women of color, women with disabilities, women at or below the federal poverty line, and women who live in rural geographic areas.

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NSF Facilitating Research at Predominantly Undergraduate Institutions: Research in Undergraduate Institutions (RUI) and Research Opportunity Awards (ROA)

opportunities support research by faculty members at predominantly undergraduate institutions (PUIs). RUI proposals support PUI faculty in research that engages them in their professional field(s), builds capacity for research at their home institution, and supports the integration of research and undergraduate education. ROAs similarly support PUI faculty research, but these awards typically allow faculty to work as visiting scientists at research-intensive organizations where they collaborate with other NSF-supported investigators. Eligible PUIs are accredited colleges and universities (including two-year community colleges) that award Associate's degrees, Bachelor's degrees, and/or Master's degrees in NSF-supported fields, but have awarded 20 or fewer Ph.D./D.Sci. degrees in all NSF-supported fields during the combined previous two academic years. [LEARN MORE](#)



State Education & Workforce Development Grants

NORTH CAROLINA

NC Digital Learning Initiative Grant – Digital Learning Impact Grant (Application Deadline: April 11, 2025)

As the landscape of education continues to change across the state, the competitive Digital Learning Initiative Grants will support Public School Units (PSUs) as they address challenges, harness opportunities, and leverage resources for digital-age teaching and learning. The intention of these grants is to identify innovation across the state that models digital leadership, supports NC educators in their professional growth, and creates opportunities for student centered learning. All North Carolina Public School Units (PSUs) are eligible to apply for the Digital Learning Initiative Grants. Public School Units is an all inclusive term, which includes traditional public school districts, charter schools, lab schools, and regional schools. The Digital Learning Initiative Grants shall do the following: Prioritize NC Digital Learning Competencies and Digital Learning Standards for Students through the use of: Blended Learning; Innovative Digital Teaching and Learning; Coaching; Data Informed Instructional Practices; Emerging Technologies; Personalized Learning; and Restore technology and media spaces in school affected by Hurricane Helene. [LEARN MORE](#)

North Carolina Science Museums Grant Program (Application Deadline: May 31, 2025)

The competitive North Carolina Science Museums Grant Program is one of the many ways that the State of North Carolina invests in sustaining and advancing one of the most diverse and widespread networks of science museums in the country. These museums are critical resources for schools and communities in providing learning experiences in and out of the classroom that enhance science literacy. The museum must be a municipal or nonprofit organization and a science center, museum, or a children's museum that is physically located in the State. The museum must be open, operating, and exhibiting science or science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education objects to the general public at least 120 days of each year for the past two or more years. [LEARN MORE](#)

TEXAS

Texas Workforce Commission: Lone Star Workforce of the Future (Application Deadline: Rolling)

The Lone Star Workforce of the Future Fund (LSWF) is a program to increase the supply of qualified workers for entry-level to mid-level jobs in over 200 high demand occupations. In doing so, LSWF will ensure that the Texas workforce is capable of filling available and emerging jobs in this state. Grants may be awarded to public junior colleges, public technical institutes, and nonprofit organizations to develop and administer training programs to support this goal. Program parameters: (1) Cost per trainee up to \$7,500 (2) Grants up to \$250,000 (3) 40% of project funding must come from a source other than state government (4) At least 50% of program participants must be placed into high demand

Texas workforce Commission: Skills Development Fund**(Application Deadline: Rolling)**

The purpose of the Skills Development Fund is to assist businesses by financing the design and implementation of customized job-training projects to increase the skills level and wages of the Texas workforce. Eligible SDF applicants include: Public community and technical colleges, The Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX), Community-based organizations in partnership with a community or technical college or TEEX and Workforce Development Boards. Businesses (in partnership with an eligible applicant) can receive up to \$500,000 to meet their customized training needs. For a consortium of more than one business, the total grant amount can increase. The average per-trainee cost is \$2,000, and the trainees must be full-time, W-2 employees. TWC accepts project proposal submissions throughout the year. Each grant typically lasts 12 months. [LEARN MORE](#)

**Foundation Education & Workforce Development Grants****W.K. Kellogg Foundation****(LOI Deadline: Rolling)**

Early childhood care and education systems play a hefty role in supporting children's learning and development, so they are ready for success in school and life. However, significant challenges and barriers disproportionately affect children of color, children from low-income families and English learners. This is why we focus on advancing equity and increasing access to culturally affirming care and learning in early childhood education, as well as school systems more broadly. [LEARN MORE](#)

The Hearst Foundation - Education**(Application Deadline: Rolling)**

The Hearst Foundations fund educational institutions demonstrating uncommon success in preparing students to thrive in a global society. The Foundations' focus is largely on higher education, but they also fund innovative models of early childhood and K-12 education, as well as professional development. Preference will be given to: Higher education programs and scholarships and, on a limited basis, scholarships for post-graduate education; college access and college success programming; professional development for educators; science education programs that focus on developing career pathways in science, technology, engineering, environment and math; and programs educating the next generation of health professionals, such as nursing and mental health. [LEARN MORE](#)

Charles Koch Foundation**(Application Deadline: Rolling)**

Our support focuses on identifying, exploring, and removing the barriers that keep individuals from realizing their unique potential. Focus areas include Future of Work: Empowering people to engage in work that leads to lives of meaning and contribution. The Foundation generally supports only Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) non-profit public charities and universities that are organized and operated within the United States. [LEARN MORE](#)

The Teagle Foundation**(Concept Paper Deadline: Rolling)**

The Teagle Foundation works to support and strengthen liberal arts education, which we see as fundamental to meaningful work, effective citizenship, and a fulfilling life. Our aim is to serve as a catalyst for the improvement of teaching and learning in the arts and sciences while addressing issues of financial sustainability and accountability in higher education. Major initiatives currently include: (1) Knowledge for Freedom, (2) Cornerstone: Learning for Living; (3) Transfer Pathways to the Liberal Arts; and (4) Civics in the City. The Teagle Foundation invites proposals from two- and four-year colleges, universities, higher education consortia, and non-profit entities that share our commitment to the liberal arts and aim to pursue programs under one of our current initiatives. [LEARN MORE](#)

(Application Deadline: Rolling)

The mission of the FINRA Investor Education Foundation is to provide underserved Americans with the knowledge, skills, and tools necessary for financial success throughout life. The Foundation's General Grant Program supports research and educational projects, with emphasis given to projects that: (1) expand the body of knowledge or provide practical materials that will have a positive impact on investor education or protection; (2) research methods to improve disclosure to investors about investments and financial services; (3) encourage investors to check the background of financial professionals prior to doing business with them; (4) empower the nation's young people who are about to enter the workforce to better prepare for retirement and to meet other financial goals; (5) better prepare older Americans for handling their finances during retirement; (6) further financial inclusion and address systemic financial inequities based on race, ethnicity, gender, disability status, and other social differences; (7) encourage women and minority populations to take control of their financial future through investor education; and, (8) advance practice, policy, and thought in the fields of investor education and protection. [LEARN](#)

[MORE](#)



Federal Community & Economic Development Grants

USDA Value-Added Producer Grant**(Application Deadline: April 17, 2025)**

The objective of this grant program is to assist viable Agricultural Producers, Agricultural Producer Groups, Farmer and Rancher Cooperatives, and Majority-Controlled Producer-Based Businesses in starting or expanding value-added activities related to the processing and/or marketing of Value-Added Agricultural Products. Grants will be awarded competitively for either planning or working capital projects directly related to the processing and/or marketing of value-added products. Generating new products, creating and expanding marketing opportunities, and increasing producer income are the end goals of the program. All proposals must demonstrate economic viability and sustainability to compete for funding. [LEARN MORE](#)

FEMA Fiscal Year 2024 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)**(Application Deadline: April 18, 2025)**

The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program makes federal funds available to states, U.S. territories, federally recognized tribal governments, and local governments for hazard mitigation activities. It does so recognizing the growing hazards associated with climate change, and the need for natural hazard risk mitigation activities that promote climate adaptation and resilience with respect to those hazards. These include both acute extreme weather events and chronic stressors which have been observed and are expected to increase in intensity and frequency in the future. The BRIC program's guiding principles include supporting communities through capability and capacity-building; encouraging and enabling innovation, including multi-hazard resilience or nature-based solutions including the use of native plants; promoting partnerships; enabling large, systems-based projects; maintaining flexibility; and providing consistency. Through these efforts communities are able to better understand disaster risk and vulnerabilities, conduct community-driven resilience, hazard mitigation planning, and design transformational projects and programs. FEMA will provide financial assistance to eligible BRIC applicants for the following activities: (1) Capability and Capacity-Building Activities, (2) Hazard Mitigation Projects, and (3) Management Costs. [LEARN MORE](#)

FEMA Fiscal Year 2024 Flood Mitigation Assistance**(Application Deadline: April 18, 2025)**

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program makes federal funds available to states, U.S. territories, federally recognized tribal governments, and local governments to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and within NFIP-participating communities. It does so with a recognition of the growing flood hazards associated with climate change, and of the need for flood hazard risk mitigation activities

in intensity and frequency in the future. [LEARN MORE](#)

USDA RUS Community Connect Grant Program

(Application Deadline: April 21, 2025)

The Community Connect Grant Program provides financial assistance to eligible applicants that will provide service at or above the Broadband Grant Speed (100 Mbps down and 20 Mbps up) to all premises in rural, economically-challenged communities where broadband service (10 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up) does not exist. The deployment of broadband services on a “community-oriented connectivity” basis stimulates economic development and provides enhanced educational and health care opportunities in rural areas. [LEARN MORE](#)

HUD FY2023 and FY2024 Authority to Accept Unsolicited Proposals for Research Partnerships **(Application Deadline: Rolling until June 30, 2025)**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) issues this Notice to announce that it has authority to accept unsolicited research proposals that address the current research priorities, which are included in this Notice. In accordance with statutory requirements, the research proposals must be submitted by eligible applicants and provide cost sharing of at least 50 percent of total project cost from philanthropic entities or Federal, state, or local government agencies. The current research priorities include: (1) Strategic Goal 1: Support Underserved Communities - Fortify support for underserved communities and support equitable community development for all people. (2) Strategic Goal 2: Ensure Access to and Increase the Production of Affordable Housing - Ensure housing demand is matched by adequate production of new homes and equitable access to housing opportunities for all people. (3) Strategic Goal 3: Promote Homeownership - Promote homeownership opportunities, equitable access to credit for purchase and improvements, and wealth-building in underserved communities. (4) Strategic Goal 4: Advance Sustainable Communities - Advance sustainable communities by strengthening climate resilience and energy efficiency, promoting environmental justice, and recognizing housing's role as essential to health.

[LEARN MORE](#)

USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program

(Application Deadline: Rolling)

This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings. Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and / or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment and pay related project expenses. Examples of essential community facilities include: (1) Health care facilities such as hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics, nursing homes or assisted living facilities (2) Public facilities such as town halls, courthouses, airport hangars or street improvements (3) Community support services such as child care centers, community centers, fairgrounds or transitional housing (4) Public safety services such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles or equipment (5) Educational services such as museums, libraries or private schools (6) Utility services such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment (7) Local food systems such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs or greenhouses. [LEARN MORE](#)



State Community & Economic Development Grants

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Dept of Commerce Utility Account

(Application Deadline: Pre-application due 35 days prior to next RIA meeting, occurring April 17 and June 19, 2025)

[distressed](#) under G.S. 143B-437.08. Funds may be used for construction or improvements to water, sewer, gas, telecommunications, transportation infrastructure or electrical utility lines. To be eligible for funding, the infrastructure is required to be on the building site or if not located on the site, directly related to the operation of the specific industrial activity. The site must be publicly owned and there must be a reasonable expectation that jobs will be created as a result of the project being funded.

[LEARN MORE](#)

North Carolina Dept of Commerce Rural Building Reuse, Infrastructure, & Demolition Programs (Application Deadline: Rolling)

Rural Reuse & Development Programs (RDP) offer building reuse, infrastructure, and demolition grants in support of economic development projects that lead to job creation. Eligible applicants are units of local government located in Tier 1 or Tier 2 counties, or within a rural census tract in a Tier 3 county. As prescribed in N.C.G.S. 143B-472.127(a)(2), a rural census tract is an area having a population density of less than 500 people per square mile in accordance with the most recent decennial federal census. Tier ranking information can be found [here](#) on the NC Department of Commerce website. [LEARN MORE](#)

North Carolina Dept of Commerce Rural Downtown Economic Development Program (Application Deadline: Rolling)

The purpose of this program is to support downtown revitalization and economic development initiatives that are intended to help local governments grow and leverage downtown districts as assets for economic growth, economic development, and prosperity. Funding availability is at the discretion of the Rural Infrastructure Authority. [LEARN MORE](#)

The One North Carolina Fund

(Application Deadline: Rolling)

The One North Carolina Fund (OneNC) is a discretionary cash-grant program that allows the Governor to respond quickly to competitive job-creation projects. The North Carolina Department of Commerce administers OneNC on behalf of the Governor. Awards are based on the number of jobs created, level of investment, location of the project, economic impact of the project and the importance of the project to the state and region. Awards are allocated to local governments as part of a negotiated challenge grant. By statute, OneNC requires that a local government provide an incentive to match the OneNC funding. The required local match depends on the tier designation of the county. Funds awarded to a company must be used for: (1) Installation or purchase of equipment (2) Structural repairs, improvements or renovations of existing buildings (3) Construction of or improvements to water, sewer, gas or electric utility distribution lines or associated equipment for existing buildings (4) Construction of or improvements to water, sewer, gas or electric utility distribution lines or associated equipment for new or proposed buildings to be used for manufacturing and industrial operations. [LEARN MORE](#)

VIRGINIA

Virginia DHCD Community Business Launch (CBL)

(Application Deadline: April 25, 2025)

The Community Business Launch (CBL) is a place-based entrepreneurial development strategy that meets a critical need or gap in the community's market by filling a concentration of vacancies, reactivating white elephant buildings or underutilized properties with expansion or start-up ventures. Local CBL programs train entrepreneurs, creatives, producers, and small business owners on best practices in business planning and operations. This training culminates in a group of finalists pitching their ideas to a panel of judges, with winners receiving grant funding and support services from the community to kick-start or expand their venture. The following entities are eligible to apply for FY26 CBL: (1) local governments, (2) non-profit economic development organizations, (3) Main Street organizations, (4) regional economic development groups, and (5) chambers of commerce. The maximum CBL award for FY26 is \$100,000 per community/applicant depending on matching funds from the applicant. [LEARN MORE](#)

(Forecasted: June 2025)

CDBG Community Improvement Grants are competitive grants, which aid eligible localities in implementing projects that will most directly impact the greatest needs of the community. There are five primary project types under this funding source: Economic Development, Comprehensive Community Development, Community Service Facilities, Targeted Neighborhood Housing Rehabilitation, Public Infrastructure. Localities with potential projects that have activities applicable to more than one of these project types should contact DHCD for technical assistance. Non-entitlement units of local government are the only eligible recipients of Virginia CDBG funding, but these local governments may contract with Planning District Commissions, nonprofit organizations and other competent entities to undertake project activities. [LEARN MORE](#)

Virginia CDBG Planning Grants

(Application Deadline: Rolling from May 10th to November 15th or all funding allocated)

DHCD offers planning grants through the CDBG program to increase the potential for project success and impact. These grants aid in developing clearly articulated strategies for addressing a locality's greatest community development needs following meaningful citizen participation. Non-entitlement units of local government are the only eligible recipients of Virginia CDBG funding, but these local governments may contract with Planning District Commissions, nonprofit organizations, and other competent entities to undertake project activities. There are two categories of Planning Grants, which may or may not be used in preparation for a future CDBG competitive application submission: (1) Activation Planning Grants and (2) Project-Driven Planning Grants. Activation Planning Grants are to utilize public input to determine a locality's highest priority needs and plans for future implementation. Project-Drive Planning Grants are directly tied to DHCD's CDBG Competitive and Open Submission Projects and are to increase a prior identified project's readiness. [LEARN MORE](#)

GO Virginia

(Application Deadline: Varies by region)

GO Virginia is an economic development initiative that encourages collaboration between local governments, higher education, private industry and workforce. The Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board is responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of the GO Virginia program, including receiving and assessing applications for funding submitted by the nine regional councils. In 2016, the board certified nine distinct GO Virginia regions across the commonwealth. These regions consist of nine to 18 localities that share similar economic development and workforce needs. GO Virginia works with partners at the state, regional and local levels to advance opportunities for growth in every region of the commonwealth. To find your regional council and learn more about their grant cycle and requirements, [LEARN MORE](#)



Foundation Community & Economic Development Grants

The Nathan Cummings Foundation

(LOI Deadline: June 30, 2025)

The Nathan Cummings Foundation (NCF) is a multigenerational family foundation working to help create a more just, vibrant, sustainable, and democratic society by supporting social change movements, organizations, and entrepreneurs. Support is provided in the United States, including U.S. territories, with particular interest in work focused on the U.S. South. NCF is currently accepting applications for grants and program-related investments that align with the following interconnected focus areas: racial justice, including work that fosters civic engagement, addresses the racial wealth gap, and combats racism and oppression; economic justice, including work that fosters systemic economic security, increases access to capital, and combats monopoly power; and environmental justice, including work that addresses environmental harms, creates inclusive participation in the green economy, and develops regenerative economic models. NCF is offering two types of funding



Federal Human Services Grants

ACF FY25 Street Outreach Program

(Forecasted Deadline: May 1, 2025)

The Street Outreach Program (SOP) provides street-based services to runaway, homeless, and street youth who have been subjected to or are at risk of being subjected to sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, and severe forms of human trafficking in persons. These services, targeted in areas where street youth congregate, are designed to assist such youth in making healthy choices and providing them access to shelter as well as basic needs, including food, hygiene packages and information on a range of available services. [LEARN MORE](#)

HUD FY2023 and FY2024 Authority to Accept Unsolicited Proposals for Research Partnerships (Application Deadline: Rolling until June 30, 2025)

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) issues this Notice to announce that it has authority to accept unsolicited research proposals that address the current research priorities, which are included in this Notice. In accordance with statutory requirements, the research proposals must be submitted by eligible applicants and provide cost sharing of at least 50 percent of total project cost from philanthropic entities or Federal, state, or local government agencies. The current research priorities include: (1) Strategic Goal 1: Support Underserved Communities - Fortify support for underserved communities and support equitable community development for all people. (2) Strategic Goal 2: Ensure Access to and Increase the Production of Affordable Housing - Ensure housing demand is matched by adequate production of new homes and equitable access to housing opportunities for all people. (3) Strategic Goal 3: Promote Homeownership - Promote homeownership opportunities, equitable access to credit for purchase and improvements, and wealth-building in underserved communities. (4) Strategic Goal 4: Advance Sustainable Communities - Advance sustainable communities by strengthening climate resilience and energy efficiency, promoting environmental justice, and recognizing housing's role as essential to health. [LEARN MORE](#)

DOL Announcement of Stand Down Grants

(Application Deadline: Rolling until September 30, 2025)

VETS awards these noncompetitive grants on a first-come, first-served basis to support one-day or multi-day events at up to \$7,000 or \$10,000, respectively. They are collaborative events coordinated between VA, DOL, other federal, state, and local government agencies and community-based organizations providing services and supplies to veterans experiencing and at risk of homelessness. In the event of a federal disaster declaration, VETS will accept applications up to \$50,000 to conduct Stand Down events in the impacted areas. [LEARN MORE](#)



State Human Services Grants

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Emergency Assistance for Postsecondary Students (EAPS) Grant Program

(Application Deadline: April 24, 2025)

This program seeks to improve college retention and completion for students experiencing food/housing insecurity or an unforeseen financial emergency. Grant funds are intended to meet immediate student needs related to housing, food, and transportation. Institutions eligible for EAPS grant funding include private, non-profit postsecondary institutions and/or Tribally-affiliated postsecondary institutions with a demonstrable homeless population. Institutions are required to have a physical campus in the state of Minnesota. The maximum allowable request per institution is \$75,000; a 25% match (monetary or in-



Foundation Human Services Grants

The Home Depot Foundation - Veteran Housing Grants (Application Deadlines: July 3, 2025)

The Home Depot Foundation's Veteran Housing Grants program awards grants to nonprofit organizations for the new construction or rehabilitation of multifamily, permanent supportive housing for veterans throughout the United States, including Puerto Rico. Rural areas will be considered, but priority will be given to "large cities" defined as populations over 300,000 people. Specifically, there is a focus on projects in the following cities: Los Angeles, CA; Seattle, WA; New York, NY; Houston, TX; Detroit, MI; San Diego, CA; Denver, CO; Chicago, IL; Atlanta, GA; and Tampa, FL. The grants fund physical construction costs, and must comprise less than 50% of the total development cost of the project. Rural areas will be considered, but priority will be given to large cities with populations of over 300,000 people. [LEARN MORE](#)

The Hearst Foundation - Social Service (Application Deadline: Rolling)

The Hearst Foundations fund direct-service organizations that tackle the roots of chronic poverty by applying effective solutions to the most challenging social and economic problems. The Foundations prioritize supporting programs that have proven successful in facilitating economic independence and in strengthening families. Preference is also given to programs with the potential to scale productive practices in order to reach more people in need. Preference Will Be Given To: Affordable housing; Food banks and food delivery, provided services are program-related; Job creation and job training; Legal services for those in need of legal representation; Prison education and reentry programs; Two-generation family programs; and Youth development. [LEARN MORE](#)

Michael & Susan Dell Foundation (Application Deadline: Rolling)

We fund social enterprises that directly serve or impact children or youth from urban low-income communities in the areas of education, health, and family economic stability (including livelihoods and financial inclusion). These social enterprises may be structured as for-profit or nonprofit entities. As a guideline, the foundation does not fund more than 10% of an organization's total annual operating expenses. [LEARN MORE](#)

For more information on these and other funding opportunities, please contact Innovative Funding Partners at info@innovativefundingpartners.com or contact one of our Senior Partners directly:

[Dr. Brian Kelley](#) or [Louise Mathias](#)



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