

A photograph of Congressman Joe Neguse, a Black man with short dark hair, smiling and looking towards the right. He is wearing a dark jacket and is outdoors in a wooded area. In the background, there are several people, including a woman in a blue jacket and another person in a purple jacket, standing on a dirt path. The scene is set in a forest with tall trees and a clear sky.

CONGRESSMAN JOE NEGUSE (CO-2)

# COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING

FISCAL YEAR 2026  
**GUIDE**

***PLEASE NOTE:*** CPF funding is ONLY for one-year projects.. Each project request must be for fiscal year 2026 funds only and cannot include multi-year funding.

For-profit recipients are **not** eligible for CPF funding. Memorials, museums, and commemoratives are also **not** eligible for CPF funding.

## **AVAILABLE ACCOUNTS:**

### **Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies**

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (Conservation Operations)
- Agricultural Research Service (Buildings and Facilities)
- Rural Housing Service (Community Facilities)
- Rural Utilities Service (ReConnect Program)
- Rural Utilities Service (Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants)
- Rural Utilities Service (Rural Water and Waste Disposal Grants)

### **Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies**

- NIST—Scientific and Technical Research
- NOAA—Coastal Zone Management
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration Safety, Security, and Mission Services

### **Department of Justice**

- COPS Technology and Equipment
- Byrne Justice

### **Energy and Water Development**

- Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works)
  - Investigations
  - Construction
  - Mississippi River and Tributaries
  - Operation and Maintenance
- Department of the Interior/Bureau of Reclamation
  - Water and Related Resources

### **Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies**

- Environmental Protection Agency STAG

### **Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies**

- DOT Transit Infrastructure Projects
- HUD Economic Development Initiatives
- DOT Highway Infrastructure Projects
- DOT Airport Improvement Program
- DOT Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements

## AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

*Any CPFs that are funded in an appropriations bill will need to apply to USDA for the award. The application will be reviewed for compliance prior to official award.*

**To ensure your projects meet eligibility requirements for the Rural Development and Natural Resources Conservation Service accounts, you must consult with your respective State Rural Development or State Conservation office, which can be found below. Failure to confirm eligibility with the State Offices may result in a project not being considered.**

- Rural Development: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices>
- Natural Resources Conservation Services:  
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservationbasics/conservation-by-state/state-offices>

### ACCOUNTS:

#### Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Community Facilities Grants

Grants to purchase, construct, or improve essential community facilities, to purchase equipment, and pay other related project expenses. Examples of eligible projects include but are not limited to: medical or dental clinics, healthcare facilities, police or fire departments, and public works vehicles.

***Project requests for non-essential facilities such as community gardens or museums will not be considered. Priority will be given to essential projects, such as those focused on public health and safety.***

Any project **must** serve a rural area as specified in 7 CFR 3570.53 (rural areas including cities, villages, townships and Federally Recognized Tribal lands with no more than 20,000 residents).

Such requests are also subject to cost share requirements specified in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). Please review program regulations carefully. In-kind contributions and other Federal formula or grant resources cannot be counted towards match requirements.

Community Facilities grants **cannot** be used to pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring expenses, refinance existing debt, pay interest, build or repair facilities in non-rural areas, or pay for construction costs of facilities that will be used for commercial rental space.

The State Rural Development Office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility and non-federal cost share requirements. For fiscal year 2024, the average Community Facilities CPF award was about \$1.2 million.

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## **Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, ReConnect Program**

ReConnect broadband pilot grants facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. Grant funds can be used for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service to rural areas without sufficient broadband access, defined as 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream.

The area must be rural and lack sufficient access to broadband service. A rural area is any area which is not located within a city, town, or incorporated area that has a population of greater than 20,000 inhabitants. Sufficient access to broadband is defined as greater than 90% of any rural area in which households have fixed, terrestrial broadband service delivering at least 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream. Mobile and satellite services will not be considered in making the determination of sufficient access to broadband.

Stand-alone middle-mile projects are not eligible under the ReConnect Program. However, middle-mile facilities are eligible if they are needed to bring sufficient broadband service to all premises in the area.

All policies and procedures apply, including environmental and related reviews and the non-federal cost share requirement of 25% of the overall project cost. Policies and procedures can be found at <https://go.usa.gov/xexPT>.

USDA's Rural Development office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility. For fiscal year 2024, the average ReConnect CPF award was nearly \$1.2 million.

Please include the number of households, businesses, or farms will be served in the area, what the performance of the service to be offered will be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities will be served.

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## **Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants**

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program (DLT) helps rural residents better utilize the enormous potential of modern telecommunications and the internet for education and healthcare, two critical components of economic and community development. The DLT program helps rural communities acquire the technology and training necessary to connect educational and medical professionals with students, teachers, and patients in rural areas.

Grants may be used for audio and video equipment, broadband facilities that support distance learning or telemedicine (not actual broadband), computer hardware or network components/software, and acquisition of instructional programming.

Any requests are subject to all regulations governing the program which can be found at 7 CFR Part 1734. The program requires a 15% match that cannot come from another Federal source. Members are strongly encouraged to provide as much detail as possible on how the award will be utilized, what equipment or service will be acquired and any information on population(s) served. The program is intended to serve rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.

The State Rural Development Office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility. For fiscal year 2024, the average DLT CPF award was \$600,000.

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## **Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Waste Disposal Grants**

The Water and Waste Disposal Grant Program may be used to finance the acquisition, construction or improvement of drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage and disposal; sewer collection, transmission, treatment and disposal; solid waste collection, disposal and closure; and storm water collection, transmission, and closure.

Please provide details on the number of households and businesses served and details of the exact work to be completed.

Eligible entities include rural areas and towns with a population of 10,000 or less and Tribal lands in rural areas. Potential recipients will be required to provide a 25% non-federal cost share.

The State Rural Development Office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility. For fiscal year 2024, the average Water and Waste CPF award was nearly \$1.5 million.

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## **Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities**

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) owns and operates laboratories and facilities across the United States. Many of these laboratories/facilities are decades old, have outlived their functional lifespan, and are badly in need of major repairs, renovation, or replacement. Requests can assist in the acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research programs of the Department of Agriculture. Facility requests must be for ARS-owned facilities or for facilities that are already partnering with ARS.

Universities seeking new agricultural and/or veterinary facilities or labs are **not** eligible.

Please provide details on the research to be conducted, why the research is a high priority, as well as details on the modernization and why it is critical in carrying out the research. Requested funding for new facilities that do not have an existing ARS tie **will not** be considered.

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## Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) supports private landowners, conservation districts, and other organizations to conserve, maintain, and improve the Nation's natural resources. Examples of specific objectives include reducing soil erosion, improving soil health, enhancing water supplies, improving water quality, increasing wildlife habitat, and reducing damage caused by floods and other natural disasters.

Please provide details on the work to be done, including if the project will conduct surveys, investigations, or research, and if there is a plan to publish the results of any such work. Please also describe any preventive measures to be taken, such as engineering operations, methods of cultivation, or changes in use of land.

***For FY26, the Subcommittee will only consider projects for funding recipients that are State, local, and Tribal organizations, or conservation districts. Non-profit recipients will not be considered.***

The State Conservationist is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility. House CPFs in the account averaged about \$1.3 million in FY24.

### **Application Questions for ALL Agriculture Accounts:**

1. The website address of the proposed recipient.
2. Has the recipient secured non-federal funds to meet the cost share requirements, if applicable?
3. For Rural Development projects, is the project for an eligible purpose and does it meet all eligibility requirements, with the exception of any Median Household Income requirements, under current law?
4. Does the entity plan to make grants to other entities from the funds provided and, if so, to whom?
5. Why is the project a priority for the district? Briefly explain the community benefits.
6. Has any funding for the project been included in any presidential budget and, if so, how much, in which fiscal year, and in which agency or agencies and program(s)?
7. Has the project received federal funding before and, if so, how much, when, and from which agency or agencies and program(s)?
8. Have you contacted the State Rural Development Office/State Conservation Office to discuss the project and confirm eligibility? (If not, it is required to ensure project eligibility.)
9. For ARS B&F only, is it an existing USDA owned and operated facility? (It must be, in order to be eligible.)
10. For ARS B&F only, what is the estimated start date of the project? How soon could the feasibility/engineering design phase commence? [mm/yy]
11. For ARS B&F only, does the project have distinct and separable phases?
12. For ARS B&F only, what is the estimated completion date of the project? When does completion of construction occur? [mm/yy]

13. For ReConnect requests only, please provide relevant information, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served, what the performance of the service to be offered will be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities will be served.
14. For Conservation Operations requests only, briefly describe how the project will reduce soil erosion, enhance water supplies, improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat, or other objectives that will help conserve, maintain, and improve natural resources.
15. For water and waste requests only, provide relevant information, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served.

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## COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES

*Any CPFs that are funded in an appropriations bill will need to apply to the corresponding agency (NIST, NOAA, NASA) for the award. The application will be reviewed for compliance prior to official award.*

### ACCOUNTS:

#### **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Scientific and Technical Research**

NIST Scientific and Technical Research projects support standards-related research and technology development.

Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NIST's mission and aligned with one or more of the functions and activities described in section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

**Note:** Funding for building construction or renovation projects is **not** an eligible use of NIST Scientific and Technical Research Community Project Funding.

### Application Questions:

1. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]
2. Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.
3. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

###

#### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Zone Management**

NOAA Coastal Zone Management projects support the protection, restoration, and responsible development of our nation's diverse coastal communities and resources.

Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NOAA's mission and aligned with one or more of the purposes described in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.).

NOAA Coastal Zone Management projects are subject to any applicable cost-share required by law under the Coastal Zone Management Program.



**Application Questions:**

1. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]
2. Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.
3. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

###

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Safety, Security and Mission Services**

NASA Safety, Security and Mission Services projects support science education, research, and technology development related to NASA's mission. Funding must be for activities advancing the purposes described in section 20102 of title 51, United States Code. Projects should focus on science, education, research, and technology development related to NASA's mission.

The following projects will **not** be considered for NASA Safety, Security and Mission Services Community Project Funding:

- Building construction or renovation projects.
- Medical research projects.

**Application Questions:**

1. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]
2. Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.
3. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

###

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Any CPFs that are funded in an appropriations bill will need to apply to the Department of Justice for the award. The application will be reviewed for compliance prior to official award.*

### Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (Byrne Justice Grants)

DOJ Byrne Justice Grants projects assist state, local, and Tribal law enforcement efforts to enforce laws, address violent crime, increase prosecutions, improve the criminal justice system (including the correctional system), provide victims' services, and other related activities.

Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, the Office of Justice Programs' mission and aligned with one or more of the purposes described in the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) program, section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

#### **Prohibited Uses:**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no funds provided under this part may be used, directly or indirectly, to provide any of the following matters:

- (1) Any security enhancements or any equipment to any nongovernmental entity that is not engaged in criminal justice or public safety.
- (2) Unless the Attorney General certifies that extraordinary and exigent circumstances exist that make the use of such funds to provide such matters essential to the maintenance of public safety and good order:
  - (A) vehicles (excluding police cruisers), vessels (excluding police boats), or aircraft (excluding police helicopters);
  - (B) luxury items;
  - (C) real estate;
  - (D) construction projects (other than penal or correctional institutions); or
  - (E) any similar matters.

#### **In addition, funding cannot be used for:**

- Initiatives that involve the distribution of drug paraphernalia.
- Initiatives that undermine the 2nd Amendment or infringe upon rights guaranteed by the Constitution without due process of law.
- Initiatives that appear to be anti-law enforcement or unrelated to criminal justice.
- Larger projects for the construction or renovation of penal or correctional institutions that will exceed the capability of single-year funding.

#### **Projects focused on the following will be given priority:**

- Improving the effectiveness of law enforcement, increasing officer safety, curbing the opioid crisis, and other strategic priorities.

*Non-Profit Entities Projects with non-profit recipients may be eligible, so long as the purpose is to carry out work that closely aligns with the purposes of the Byrne Justice Grants program. Such projects will be closely examined.*

**Requirements:**

- Awarded grants will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#).
- Below are the links to the Department's guidance and frequently asked questions regarding the Byrne Justice Grants program, which may help guide you in gauging the eligibility of a proposed Byrne Justice Grants project:
  - <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/overview>
  - <https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/jag-faqs.pdf>
- Allowable costs are those costs consistent with the principles set out in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, and those permitted by the grant program's authorizing legislation.

**Application Questions:**

- Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]
- Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.
- Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

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**Department of Justice (DOJ) Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)  
Technology and Equipment**

DOJ COPS Technology and Equipment projects support state, local, and Tribal law enforcement efforts to develop and procure the technology and equipment needed to respond more quickly and effectively, improve officer safety, increase transparency and enhance community relations.

Funding must be aligned with the purposes of section 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8)). As such, the Chairman will consider projects to develop and/or acquire technologies and equipment, including interoperable communications technologies, modernized criminal record technology, and forensic technology, to assist State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies, including by reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime and training law enforcement officers to use such technologies.

***Eligible recipients for COPS Technology and Equipment Community Project Funding are State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies.***

Funding for building construction or renovation projects is not an eligible use of COPS Technology and Equipment Community Project Funding.

**Application Questions:**

1. Is the recipient a State, Tribal, or local law enforcement agency?
2. Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.
3. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

###

## ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

*Please contact a Corps District or Reclamation Regional Office to confirm your project is authorized for this account.*

Projects must be an individually authorized project or a project under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program.

Please contact the relevant Corps of Engineers District Office or Bureau of Reclamation Regional Office to ask about the project of interest prior to submitting a Community Project Funding request.

### **ACCOUNTS:**

#### **Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works)**

Investigations

Construction

Mississippi River and Tributaries

Operation and Maintenance

#### **Department of the Interior – Bureau of Reclamation**

Water and Related Resources

### **Application Questions for ALL Energy and Water Accounts:**

- Is the project authorized?
- Is the scope of work to be funded within existing authorization?
- What is the statutory citation?
- If the project is an individually authorized project or a project under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program, include the statutory citation.
- For a Corps of Engineers project, is this project a new start? The Subcommittee may need to focus fiscal year 2026 resources on making progress on ongoing projects, in order to maximize federal benefits. If so, new starts may be very limited, if included at all.
- For a Bureau of Reclamation project, is this project authorized only under section 4007, 4009(a), or 4009(c) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–322)? If YES, the project is not eligible as a Community Project Funding request in the Energy and Water Development appropriations bill.

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## HOMELAND SECURITY

*Any CPFs that are funded in an appropriations bill will need to apply to FEMA for the award. The application will be reviewed for compliance prior to official award.*

*Please review the purpose and eligibility requirements, including any [environmental and historic preservation requirements](#), for these two grant programs to ensure proper consideration of the Member request.*

### **General Info:**

For each account, please provide a detailed project description as an addendum to your application. The project description should include a detailed budget describing how the requested federal funding will be spent and confirm the ability of the requesting entity to meet the cost-share requirement. Please also provide the minimum amount of federal funding required for a project to move forward.

### **Cost-Share Requirements:**

The PDM and EOC grant programs are eligible for up to 75 percent federal cost-share. The remaining 25 percent of eligible activity costs must generally be derived from non-federal sources. The non-federal cost-share contribution is based on the total cost of the proposed activity. For example, if the total cost is \$100,000 and the non-federal cost-share is 25 percent, then the non-federal contribution is \$25,000. For PDM grants, small impoverished communities are eligible for up to 90 percent federal cost-share for mitigation planning and project subapplications in accordance with the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. § 5133(a),(h)(2)).

### **ACCOUNTS:**

#### **FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grants**

FEMA's PDM grants assist state, local, Tribal, and territorial governments with planning and implementing sustainable, cost-effective measures to provide long-term, permanent risk reduction to individuals and property from future natural hazards, [such as floods and wildfires, while reducing reliance on federal funding for future disasters.](#)

For PDM grant requests, please ensure the proposed project meets FEMA's requirements as detailed in the most recent [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#).

For any PDM projects designated for funding in the FY 2026 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, must submit an application to FEMA and serve as the administrative agent for the grant on behalf of the entities responsible for the project (grant subrecipients). **Each project request must be accompanied by a letter from the respective [State or Territorial Administrative Agency](#), or Tribal government, to be considered for funding. This letter must confirm project eligibility and their willingness to administer the grant.**

CPF funding in FY 2024 ranged between \$75,000 and \$10,000,000 for individual PDM grants.

**Application Questions:**

1. Can the requesting jurisdiction provide the required non-federal cost-share (25% of total eligible activity costs, or 10% for small, impoverished communities), as detailed in the NOFO?
2. If less than the requested amount is provided as the federal share, would additional state, local, or other eligible funding sources be available to support the project?
3. Can the requesting jurisdiction provide a Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) or other documentation that validates cost-effectiveness, which is defined by FEMA as having a BCA of 1.0 or greater? A non-FEMA BCA methodology may only be used if preapproved by FEMA in writing.
4. Consistent with the NOFO for PDM grants, is the proposed activity consistent with the goals and objectives in both the state or Tribal hazard mitigation plan (44 CFR Part 201) and the local hazard mitigation plan of the jurisdiction in which the project is located?
5. If so, what is the FEMA approval date and when will the plan expire?
6. Does your project include prohibited activities for PDM grants (e.g., dredging waterways; the purchase of emergency vehicles and equipment)?
7. Describe how the proposed activity expands mitigation capacity rather than repair and maintenance of existing capacity.
8. How will the project provide long-term, permanent risk reduction, as opposed to simply supporting short-term, temporary emergency protective measures?
9. Can the recipient describe how the activity supports the needs of people disproportionately at risk of the harmful impacts of natural disasters?
10. Does the recipient specifically encourage adoption and enforcement of the latest disaster resistant building codes?
11. Provide a clear and detailed description of the proposed mitigation activity.
12. How will the mitigation activity be implemented?
13. Who will manage and complete the mitigation activity?
14. What risks will remain from natural hazards after project implementation (i.e., residual risk)?
15. How does the activity reduce the risk to individuals and property for future natural hazards, while reducing reliance on federal funding for future disasters?
16. Has the project been submitted, selected, or awarded funding in current or previous PreDisaster Mitigation (PDM), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC),
17. Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), or Hazard Mitigation Grant Program fiscal year grant cycles?
18. If so, what is the subgrant ID, or in which grant program and fiscal year was the application submitted, selected, or awarded funding?
19. Have you consulted with state, county, or local emergency management officials, or with FEMA about the proposed project?
20. If so, please provide the name of the official, the agency they represent, and their contact information.

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## FEMA Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grants

FEMA's EOC grants improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, strategically located, and fully interoperable EOCs with a focus on addressing identified deficiencies and needs. According to the National Fire Protection Association, an EOC is defined as a "facility or capability from which direction and control is exercised in an emergency. This type of center or capability is designated to ensure that the capacity exists for leadership to direct and control operations from a centralized facility or capability in the event of an emergency." Similar to CPF requests for PDM grants, the database includes specific eligibility questions for EOC grants to ensure the proposed project meets FEMA's requirements as detailed in the most recent [NOFO for the competitive EOC Grant Program](#).

For any EOC projects designated for funding in the FY 2026 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, must submit an application to FEMA and serve as the administrative agent for the grant on behalf of the entities responsible for the project (grant subrecipients). **Each project request must be accompanied by a letter from the respective [State or Territorial Administrative Agency](#), or Tribal government, in order to be considered for funding.**

CPF funding in FY 2024 ranged between \$89,000 and \$3,000,000 for individual EOC grants.

### **Application Questions:**

1. Is the proposed project eligible under the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program?
2. Is the requested federal funding amount limited to a maximum of 75% of the total project cost?
3. Can the requesting jurisdiction provide the required 25% non-federal cost-share?
4. If less than the requested amount is provided as the federal share, would additional state, local, or other eligible funding sources be available to support the project?
5. Does your project include unallowable activities for EOC grants (e.g., personnel costs; replacement radios for police, fire, and other response personnel; generators for emergency shelters; any equipment that is portable and does not directly support the functional and operational capabilities of an EOC)?
6. Is the proposed project related to a structure or facility that meets the definition of an EOC, to include supporting incident management (on-scene) operations across multiple functional disciplines and/or jurisdictions?
7. For EOC projects that involve construction or upgrading of multipurpose facilities, such as public safety facilities, police/fire stations, etc., EOC grants may only be used for those parts of the facility that are directly associated with the EOC. Does the requested federal funding amount reflect the proportionate facility construction cost, which is generally based on the square footage (floor space) of the EOC compared to the square footage of the entire facility?
8. Have you consulted with state, county, or local emergency management officials, or with FEMA about the proposed project?

9. If so, please provide the name of the official, the agency they represent, and their contact information.

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## INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

### Environmental Protection Agency – State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)

For FY 2026, the Interior Subcommittee will accept Community Project Funding requests in the Environmental Protection Agency – State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) account for certain clean water and drinking water infrastructure projects.

These projects include construction of and modifications to municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. Similar to past practice, the Committee will be limiting STAG infrastructure grants **only to projects that are publicly owned or owned by a non-profit entity and that are otherwise eligible for the funding from that state's Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan programs.**

There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG CPF and the subcommittee will not waive matching requirements.

Below are EPA brochures on eligibility guidelines for the CWSRF and DWSRF programs. Please read through the eligibility requirements prior to submitting projects.

- [EPA's Overview of Clean Water State Revolving Fund Eligibilities](#)
- [EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Eligibility Handbook](#)

The subcommittee will not fund projects, or the portion of a project, for the direct benefit of resorts, golf courses, athletic fields, park amenities, gardens, or similar projects.

Projects solely for flood control, including construction or rehabilitation of dams, are not eligible. It is possible for an eligible project to have a flood control benefit, but the project must achieve a water quality benefit. For example, a stormwater pump to direct water to a stormwater treatment plant is eligible, but a stormwater pump to move water to another location without treatment is not eligible.

Projects for the sole purpose of irrigation are only eligible if the project uses reclaimed water from wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water.

Projects for the sole purpose of fire protection or suppression are not eligible. It is possible for an eligible project to have a fire suppression benefit, as water systems are typically designed to accommodate fire flow demands, but the primary purpose of the project must be for the provision of safe drinking water.

The cost of road repairs is eligible in limited circumstances to the extent that such repairs are required to undertake the CPF water quality improvement project. Road construction for transportation improvements or flood mitigation (such as redirecting drainage or channeling flows) is not eligible.

In FY 2024, most EPA STAG infrastructure projects funded in the House bill ranged from \$100,000 - \$5,000,000.

### **Application Questions:**

- Is this a Clean Water SRF project or a Drinking Water SRF project?
- Is the project on your State's most recently finalized Clean Water/Drinking Water SRF Intended Use Plan (IUP)?
- Has the project received Federal funds previously? If so, please describe.
- Does the project have (or expects to have within 12 months) its 20% cost share requirement?
- Given the Federal nexus requirement, does the project help meet or maintain Clean Water Act/Safe Drinking Water Act standards? If so, please describe.

#### **More info on eligibility below:**

The following list provides some examples of the types of projects that are eligible for STAG grant funding, and which are most frequently funded:

<b>Projects that <span style="color: green;">ARE generally eligible</span> for STAG Grants</b>			
	<b>Clean Water / Wastewater</b>		<b>Drinking Water</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities:</b> Upgraded (increase in treatment level) or expanded (increase in treatment capacity) facilities, including biological facilities, mechanical, a lagoon system, a land treatment system, or individual on-site systems.	<b>1.</b>	Facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e., PFAS).
<b>2.</b>	<b>Collector Sewers:</b> Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites to larger interceptor sewers.	<b>2.</b>	Rehabilitate or develop water sources (excluding reservoirs, dams, dam rehabilitation and water rights) to replace contaminated sources.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Interceptor Sewers:</b> Large sewers that convey wastewater from collector sewers directly to a wastewater treatment facility.	<b>3.</b>	Install or upgrade treatment facilities.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Sewer Pipes:</b> Rehabilitation is eligible only if pipes are publicly owned.	<b>4.</b>	Install or upgrade storage facilities, including finished water reservoirs, to prevent microbiological contaminants from entering the water system.
<b>5.</b>	<b>Outfall Sewer:</b> A sewer that conveys treated wastewater from a wastewater treatment facility to the receiving waters (i.e., a river, stream, lake, ocean, etc.).	<b>5.</b>	Install or replace transmission and distribution pipes to prevent contamination caused by leaks or breaks in the pipe or improve water pressure to safe levels.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Storm Water Management:</b> Measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water (i.e., storm sewers, green infrastructure, etc.).	<b>6.</b>	Projects to consolidate water supplies – for example, when individual homes or other public water supplies have a water supply that is contaminated, or the system is unable to maintain compliance for financial or managerial reasons – are eligible for DWSRF assistance.

7.	<b>Combined sewer overflow (CSO) control and sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) control:</b> Combined sewers are sewers that convey both wastewater and storm water and may overflow during periods of heavy rain. The costs to correct CSO and SSO overflow problems are eligible.	7.	Land is eligible only if it is integral to a project that is needed to meet or maintain compliance and further public health protection.
8.	<b>Infiltration/Inflow Correction:</b> Construction activities that prevent surface water or groundwater from entering the sewer system.	8.	Project planning, design, and other related costs.
9.	<b>Water Security:</b> These projects include installation or upgrade of physical security infrastructure such as lighting, fencing, monitoring and access control. Also, cybersecurity measures, installation of safer treatment technologies, and more secure storage of on-site treatment.		
10.	<b>Septic Tanks:</b> Remediation, rehabilitation, removal and replacement of failing tanks are eligible, as well as installation of new tanks where none had previously existed.		
11.	<b>Land:</b> The leasing and fee-simple purchase of land, including surface and subsurface easements, needed to locate eligible municipal or tribal projects, and land integral to the treatment process (e.g., land for effluent application or recharge basins), and a place to store equipment and material during POTW construction. Municipal purchase of land and/or conservation easements for source water protection are also eligible.		
12.	<b>Water Reuse:</b> Projects involving the municipal reuse or recycling of wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water. This includes but is not limited to the purchase and installation of treatment equipment sufficient to meet reuse standards, distribution systems to support effluent reuse, recharge transmission lines, injection wells, and equipment to reuse effluent (e.g., gray water, condensate, and wastewater effluent reuse systems).		
13.	<b>Capital Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Projects:</b> E.g., river or streambank restoration, agricultural best management practices (i.e., buffer strips, manure containment structures), wetlands restoration, etc.		



STAG projects have very specific eligibility requirements, and the Committee will not consider projects that do not meet those requirements. The following lists some of the project types that are ineligible for STAG funding:

**Projects that are **NOT** generally eligible for STAG Grants**

<b>Clean Water / Wastewater</b>		<b>Drinking Water</b>	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Land</b> , except for projects described in the subsequent table under eligibility #11.	<b>1.</b>	<b>Dams or rehabilitation of dams.</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Operations and maintenance costs.</b>	<b>2.</b>	<b>Operations and maintenance costs.</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Non-municipal point source control.</b>	<b>3.</b>	<b>Water rights</b> , except if the water rights are owned by a system that is being purchased through consolidation as part of a capacity development strategy or if the water rights purchase is covered by EPA's DWSRF Class Deviation for Water Rights 2019.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Acid rain drainage correction.</b>	<b>4.</b>	<b>Reservoirs</b> , except for finished water reservoirs and those reservoirs that are part of the treatment process and are located on the property where the treatment facility is located.
<b>5.</b>	<b>Ambient water quality monitoring.</b>	<b>5.</b>	<b>Laboratory fees for monitoring.</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Flood Control Projects</b> , unless the project is otherwise managing, reducing, treating, or recapturing stormwater.	<b>6.</b>	<b>Projects needed mainly for fire protection.</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Privately owned sewer pipes.</b>	<b>7.</b>	Projects for systems that lack adequate technical, managerial, and financial capability, unless assistance will ensure compliance.
		<b>8.</b>	Projects for systems in significant non-compliance, unless funding will ensure compliance.
		<b>9.</b>	Projects primarily intended to serve future growth.

###

## **TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES**

*Any CPFs that are funded in an appropriations bill will need to apply to the Department of Transportation for the award. The application will be reviewed for compliance prior to official award.*

### **Department of Transportation - Transit Infrastructure Projects**

Transit Infrastructure Projects are public transportation capital projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49 of the United States Code.

#### **All projects must be:**

- Transit capital projects or project-specific planning For a transit capital project;
- Supported by the state, local governmental authority, or Tribal government that would administer the project. Inclusion in a Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) would satisfy this requirement; and
- Sponsored by designated or direct recipients, States (including territories and the District of Columbia), local, or tribal governmental authorities.

Public transportation or transit is defined in section 5302(15) and (22) of title 49, United States Code, and does not include intercity passenger rail transportation, intercity bus service, charter bus service, school bus service, sightseeing service, courtesy shuttle service for patrons of one or more specific establishments, or intra-terminal or intra-facility shuttle services. The Subcommittee will not fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include but are not limited to general operating expenses, joint development projects, and planning activities authorized under sections 5303, 5304, and 5305 of title 49, United States Code.

*Additionally, projects must comply with federal requirements such as Buy America and the National Environmental Policy Act.*

#### **Application Questions:**

- Has the project completed the required review(s) under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)? If yes, what is the status and/or outcome of the NEPA review?
- Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for capital projects?
- If the project receives less than requested for the transit infrastructure grants, are there additional sources of Federal or non-federal funding available to deliver the full scope presented in the submitted application? If not, and the full scope cannot be completed with that reduced award, please describe the revised version of the project with a reduced scope, including revised costs.
- Does the project intend to apply for any DOT discretionary programs before proceeding? If yes, will the project sponsor still proceed if not selected?



- Provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include formula funds and any discretionary grants.
  - Where is the project in the construction process? (i.e. Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, RFP/IFB Issued, Contract Awarded, Capital Purchase or Lease, Construction, and Other).
  - Estimated start and completion dates.
  - Is the project currently on a state, tribal or territorial transportation improvement plan (STIP) or a transportation improvement plan (TIP) as of 12/31/2023? If yes, provide a link to the plan.
  - Provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan the ID Number comes from.
- Example below -

EXAMPLE: See below – the North Carolina STIP, ID Number R-5809 H141741.

DIVISION 1							
ROUTE/CITY	ID	LOCATION / DESCRIPTION	LENGTH	TOTAL	PRIOR		
COUNTY	NUMBER		(Miles)	PROJ	YEARS		
				COST	COST		
				(THOU)	(THOU)		
<b>RURAL PROJECTS</b>							
NC 45	R-5809	HERTFORD COUNTY LINE TO	24.8	23589	2219		
BERTIE	H141741	WASHINGTON COUNTY LINE.					
		MODERNIZE ROADWAY.					

*The STIP or TIP also can be used for the location/description of a project, the total project cost, and information about where funding comes from.*

###

## Department of Housing and Urban Development - Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

*Any CPFs that are funded in an appropriations bill will need to apply to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the award. The application will be reviewed for compliance prior to official award.*

**PLEASE NOTE:** *The only eligible recipients for Community Project Funding in the Economic Development Initiatives account are the following types of governmental entities and public institutions of higher education:*

- States and the District of Columbia
- Territories
- Tribal governments
- Counties
- Cities, towns, parishes, or other local government entities
- Public colleges and universities, including community colleges

Community Project Funding within the Community Development Fund account of the HUD title is intended for economic and community development activities, consistent with statutory and additional Committee requirements.

Project requests for the FY26 Economic Development Initiative program must be consistent with the goals of one or more of the following eligible uses of the Community Development Fund (CDF): 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4), and 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(5). These statutory eligibilities focus on land or site acquisition, demolition, or rehabilitation; blight removal; and construction and capital improvements of public facilities, except for “buildings used for the general conduct of government.” ***Programmatic and operational expenses are not eligible.***

- **5305(a)(1)** – the acquisition of real property (including air rights, water rights, and other interests therein) which is (A) blighted, deteriorated, deteriorating, undeveloped, or inappropriately developed from the standpoint of sound community development and growth; (B) appropriate for rehabilitation or conservation activities; (C) appropriate for the preservation or restoration of historic sites, the beautification of urban land, the conservation of open spaces, natural resources, and scenic areas, the provision of recreational opportunities, or the guidance of urban development; (D) to be used for the provision of public works, facilities, and improvements eligible for assistance under this chapter; or (E) to be used for other public purposes;
- **5305(a)(2)** – the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or installation (including design features and improvements with respect to such construction, reconstruction, or installation that promote energy efficiency) of public works, facilities (except for buildings for the general conduct of government), and site or other improvements;
- **5305(a)(4)** – clearance, demolition, removal, reconstruction, and rehabilitation (including rehabilitation which promotes energy efficiency) of buildings and improvements (including interim assistance, and financing public or private acquisition for reconstruction or rehabilitation, and reconstruction or rehabilitation, of privately owned properties, and including the renovation of closed school buildings); 5305(a)(5) – special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers which restrict the mobility and accessibility of elderly and handicapped persons;
- **5305(a)(5)** – special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers which restrict the mobility and accessibility of elderly and handicapped persons.

Given that projects must be consistent with authorized purposes, the Committee expects to prioritize funding for the following types of projects:

- Water or sewer infrastructure projects, which are not otherwise eligible to be funded as CPFs in EPA STAG (Interior bill) or Rural Water and Waste Disposal (Agriculture bill);
- Local road infrastructure, which is not otherwise eligible as a CPF in Highways (in this bill);
- Streetscape improvements;
- Housing rehabilitation or construction, residential conversions, and neighborhood revitalization projects, which would increase housing supply and/or improve housing affordability in the local community;
- Projects with a clear economic development benefit for a community or region, such as workforce training centers; and

- Projects that meet a compelling local need consistent with statutory purposes. For example, food banks in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, youth and senior centers, and multipurpose community centers would be strong submissions.

**The following types of projects are not eligible for CPF funding:**

- Museums, commemoratives, and memorials;
- Swimming pools, water parks, ski slopes, and golf courses;
- Healthcare facilities;
- Venues strictly for entertainment purposes – e.g., theaters, amphitheaters, fairgrounds, and performing arts centers;
- Strictly research or planning activities;
- Buildings for the general conduct of government (courthouses, post office, city halls), which are not allowed under the statute.

**Reminder on Environmental Review Requirements:** EDI projects, like all projects funded by HUD, are subject to requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), HUD’s NEPA-implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 50 or 24 CFR Part 58, and all applicable federal environmental and historic preservation laws, regulations, and Executive Orders. An environmental review must be completed before HUD funds and new commitments of non-HUD funds can be used on a project (24 CFR 58.22). ***If the project will be under construction (or complete) at the time of enactment, the recipient will not likely be able to meet the environmental review requirements.***

**Reminder on Buy America Preference (BAP):** The “Buy America Preference” (BAP), in the Build America Buy America (BABA) Act within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58), requires that all iron and steel, construction materials, and manufactured products used in federally funded infrastructure projects are produced in the United States. ***If the project will be under construction (or complete) at the time of enactment, the recipient will not likely be able to meet the BABA requirements.***

In addition to meeting the above eligibility criteria, all projects must meet these Committee requirements:

- Projects submitted under 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1)(C) will be disfavored if the only or primary purpose of the project is “beautification” or historic preservation, without evidence of other community development or economic development benefits.
- You must provide a valid Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and/or Employer Identification Number (EIN) for each potential EDI recipient, as well as the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), which is an entity’s official identifier for conducting business with the federal government. If an entity does not presently have a UEI, they can register for one at SAM.gov.

***Soft costs (planning, administrative) for EDI projects can be incurred after the date of final enactment. However, if the recipient incurs soft costs after enactment, but before the grant agreement is executed, they do so at their own risk.*** If the project is found to be ineligible by HUD or the grant agreement is never signed, HUD cannot reimburse for those soft costs. Hard costs (construction activities) can only be incurred after the successful completion of the required environmental review.

**Application Questions:**

- Are there community partners participating in this project?
- Does the grantee have experience executing a federal grant?
- Has the request been submitted to another subcommittee or committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?
- Is this project consistent with the primary objective of the community development program? Please describe who the project is intended to benefit.
- What is the entity's TIN/EIN?
- What is the entity's UEI?
- What is the ZIP code of the project location? If the project spans multiple ZIP codes, provide the ZIP code where most of the appropriation would be spent.
- Does the grantee have a Community Project Funding (CPF)/Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) project that has not yet secured a signed grant agreement with HUD? This should include projects for which appropriations were made since FY2022. If yes, please provide:
  - The title of the project;
  - The fiscal year the CPF/CDS was enacted;
  - The awarding Member(s) and/or Senator(s);
  - The grant number as provided by HUD; and
  - The grant's status ("No Materials Submitted" or "Grant Review in Progress")

###

## **Department of Transportation (DOT) - Highway Infrastructure Projects**

Highway Infrastructure Projects are capital projects eligible under title 23 of the United States Code. Eligible projects are described under Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code, as amended by title III of division A of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Tribal and territorial capital projects authorized under chapters 1 and 2 of title 23, United States Code, are also eligible.

### **All projects must be:**

- Capital projects or project-specific design for a capital project.
- Supported by the state or Tribal government that would administer the project. Inclusion in a Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) would satisfy this requirement.
- Requested by public entities or Tribal entities.

The Subcommittee will not fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include general operating expenses, and planning activities required under sections 134 and 135 of title 23, United States Code.

Applicants should be aware that Highway Infrastructure Projects have a non-Federal cost share calculated on a sliding scale. The [cost-share requirements](#) are defined in statute and vary based on activity, location, and other factors.

Additionally, most projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act. We strongly encourage potential funding recipients to reach out to their state departments of transportation to determine the eligibility and viability of projects.

For each Highway Infrastructure Projects request, Members will need to provide specific information through the electronic submission process. The database will include the following questions to assist the Subcommittee in vetting and selecting projects.

###

### **Department of Transportation (DOT) - Airport Improvement Program (AIP)**

AIP community project funding requests are intended to enhance airport safety, capacity, and security, and address environmental issues.

#### **All projects must be:**

- AIP eligible in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 47100 et seq., and FAA policy and guidance.
- Included in the FAA's National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS).
- Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials.
- Administered by an airport and/or airport sponsor.

#### **Federal Requirements:**

Projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act. *The potential grantee should reach out to FAA Regional District Offices to ensure that projects will be in compliance with these mandates.*

#### **Cost Share:**

For large and medium primary hub airports, the grant covers **75 percent of eligible costs** (or 80 percent for noise program implementation). For small primary, reliever, and general aviation airports, the grant covers a range of **90-95 percent of eligible costs**, based on statutory requirements. Specific cost share requirements should be understood by the grantee, and verified by the FAA Regional District Office, along with other requirements to receive FAA funding.

###

### **Department of Transportation (DOT) - Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI)**

Rail infrastructure projects are capital projects eligible under the CRISI program authorized in section 22907 of title 49, United States Code. CRISI provides grants to assist in financing the cost of improving intercity passenger rail and freight rail transportation systems.

**All projects must be:**

- Rail capital projects, systems planning for a rail capital project, or project development for a rail capital project (e.g., NEPA and preliminary engineering);
- Supported by the state, local governmental authority, or Tribal government that would administer the project;
- Sponsored by public entities or Tribal entities.

*The Subcommittee will not fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include but are not limited to general operating expenses, rail-related research, and workforce activities. Please note that while planning projects are eligible, projects that are solely planning in nature will be highly scrutinized.*

Projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, non-federal share requirements, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act. For more on 49 U.S.C. 22905(c) Rail Improvement Grant Conditions, see FAQ [here](#).

Please review the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) [Capital Project Guidance](#) to confirm eligibility.

###