



Rural Grant Guide

Grants to Support Projects in Rural Areas

This guide identifies potential funding opportunities to support community development, healthcare, broadband and energy, and water and wastewater projects in rural areas. These opportunities prioritize evidence-based, cost-effective programs for many of the most pressing issues that face rural communities. The grants included in this guide are opportunities that are typically reoccurring. Relevant funding opportunities that will not likely be funded were not included in the guide.

For questions about these or other relevant grant opportunities, please contact NATaT Federal Director Jennifer Imo at jimo@tfgnet.com.

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Introduction

The following guide provides federal opportunities for rural communities including programs related to community development, healthcare, broadband and energy, and water and wastewater. The guide is organized by each of these topic areas. The table below describes the topic(s) for which the programs provide funding.

Program	Department/Agency	Program provides funding for				
		Community Development	Healthcare	Broadband	Energy	
Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture	✓		✓		
Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture	✓	✓	✓		
Economic Impact Initiative Grants	U.S. Department of Agriculture	✓	✓	✓		
Farm Labor Housing Loans and Grants for Off-Farm Housing	U.S. Department of Agriculture	✓				
Recreation Economy for Rural Communities	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	✓				
Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture	✓				
Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grant	U.S. Department of Agriculture	✓	✓	✓		
Rural Business Development	U.S. Department of Agriculture	✓				
Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs	U.S. Small Business Administration	✓				
Rural Community Development Initiative	U.S. Department of Agriculture	✓	✓	✓		
Rural Economic Development Innovation Initiative	U.S. Department of Agriculture	✓				

Program	Department/Agency	Program provides funding for				
		Community Development	Healthcare	Broadband	Energy	
TIFIA: Rural Project Initiative	U.S. Department of Transportation	✓				
Rural Communities Opioid Response Program	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		✓			
COAP: Locally Driven Responses to the Opioid Epidemic	U.S. Department of Justice		✓			
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture		✓			
Rural Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Stalking Program	U.S. Department of Justice		✓			
High Energy Cost Rural Communities Grant Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture				✓	
Rural eConnectivity Pilot Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture				✓	
Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture				✓	
Rural Energy Savings Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture				✓	
Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants	U.S. Department of Agriculture					
Solid Waste Management Grant Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture	✓				
Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture					

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Business-Cooperative Service

FY 2020 Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) Program

Grant Overview

The REDLG program supports projects that promote rural economic development and job creation. Eligible applicants are eligible borrowers identified under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 including corporations; states and territories; subdivisions and agencies of states and territories; municipalities; people's utility districts; and, cooperative, nonprofit, or limited-dividend associations.

Program History

	Loan Funding	Grant Funding
2018	\$52,767,141	\$9,700,000
2017	\$42,355,367	\$9,271,500

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Up to \$2 million (loans); Up to \$300,000 (grants)

Match: 20 percent

Solicitation date: July 18, 2019

Proposal due: June 30, 2020

- Applicants may request technical assistance and other application guidance from the funding agency
- There is no limit on the number of applications an applicant may submit

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-economic-development-loan-grant-program>



Awardee Profile

Energy United
Davie County, NC

POPULATION: 42,456

AMOUNT: \$300,000

YEAR: 2019

Energy United was awarded a \$300,000 RED Grant which was provided to Davie County as a no interest loan to help build a 324,000 square foot industrial space. The build will attract larger manufacturing companies to the County and enhance its ability to grow its industrial base.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Business-Cooperative Service

FY20 Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support projects that promote rural economic development and job creation. The funding agency encourages award recipients to conduct projects that support recommendations made in the Rural Prosperity Task Force report to help improve life in rural America. Applicants are also encouraged to consider projects that provide measurable results in helping rural communities build robust and sustainable communities through strategic investments in infrastructure, partnerships, and innovation. Key strategies include:

- Achieving e-connectivity for rural America
- Developing the rural economy
- Harnessing technological innovation
- Supporting a rural workforce
- Improving quality of life

Awards will be provided in the form of loans or grants, and eligible costs include:

- Business start-up costs
- Business expansion
- Business incubators
- Technical assistance feasibility studies
- Advanced telecommunications services and computer networks for medical, educational, and job-training services
- Communities facilities projects for economic development

Priority and additional discretionary points during the evaluation process will be provided to projects that:

- Are located in Rural Empowerment Zones, Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones, Rural Enterprise Communities, or Champion Communities
- Are located in counties that have experienced the loss, removal, or closing of a major source or sources of employment in the last three years, which has caused an increase of two percentage points or more in the counties' most recent unemployment rates
- Are located in counties that have experienced chronic or long-term economic deterioration
- Are located in counties that were designated disaster areas within the past three years
- Are consistent with the funding agency's approved strategic plan and mission area objectives, and are identified as priority areas for assistance in states' plans

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are borrowers described in the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended including corporations; states and territories; subdivisions and agencies of states and territories; municipalities; people's

utility districts; and, cooperative, nonprofit, or limited-dividend associations. Applicants must meet one of the following criteria:

- Area a former Rural Utilities Service borrower who borrowed, repaid, or pre-paid an insured, direct, or guaranteed loan
- Are nonprofit utilities that are eligible to receive assistance from the Rural Development Electric or Telecommunications programs
- Are current Rural Development Electric or Telecommunication program borrowers

Projects must serve rural areas or towns with a population of fewer than 50,000 residents.

Funding

An unspecified amount of funding is available to support loans of up to an anticipated \$2 million for the first cycle/\$1 million for the second, third and fourth cycles; and grants of up to an anticipated \$300,000 through this program. Loans will be made at a zero percent interest rate. Project periods will begin on October 1, 2020, and end on September 30, 2021.

Applicants seeking grants must establish a revolving loan fund and provide an amount equal to at least 20 percent of the grant amount. For loans, either the Ultimate Recipient or the Intermediary must provide supplemental funds for the project equal to at least 20 percent of the loan to the Intermediary. The provision of supplemental funds beyond 50 percent of the award amount will result in additional points being added during the evaluation.

Awards will be made on the following dates:

- November 30, 2019, for applications submitted by September 30, 2019
- February 28, 2020, for applications submitted by December 31, 2019
- May 31, 2020, for applications submitted by March 31, 2020
- August 31, 2020, for applications submitted by June 30, 2020

Contact Information

Questions should be directed to the appropriate local USDA office listed online at:

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices>

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-economic-development-loan-grant-program>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Office of Rural Development

FY 2020 Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to provide affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. Projects supported through this program must demonstrate substantial community support, and facilities must serve the rural area where they are or will be located. Eligible applicants are public bodies, community-based nonprofit corporations, and federally recognized tribes.

Program History

Total Funding	
2018	\$17 million

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Match: Not required

Application Due: Rolling

- Grant awards will be contingent upon the availability of grant funding
- Funds may be combined with commercial financing to finance projects if all eligibility and feasibility requirements are met

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program>



Awardee Profile

Louisiana's St. Helena
Parish School Board

Greensburg, LA

AMOUNT: \$2.9 million

YEAR: 2018

The loan was used to renovate and expand the St. Helena Arts and Technology Academy, which is the only elementary school in the parish.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Office of Rural Development

FY20 Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide affordable funding to develop community facilities in rural areas. Projects supported through this program must demonstrate substantial community support, and facilities must serve the rural area where they are or will be located.

For the purposes of this program, 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. Examples of essential community facilities include:

- Health care facilities such as hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics, nursing homes or assisted living facilities
- Public facilities such as town halls, courthouses, airport hangers, or street improvements
- Community support services such as child care centers, community centers, fairgrounds or transitional housing
- Public safety services such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles, or equipment
- Educational services such as museums, libraries, or private schools
- Utility services such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment
- Local food systems such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs, or greenhouses

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Serve communities with populations of 5,500 or fewer
- Serve low-income communities having a median household income below 80 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income.

Funds may be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment, and pay related project expenses.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are public bodies, community-based nonprofit corporations, and federally recognized tribes.

Facilities supported through this program must serve the rural area where they are or will be located. Rural areas include cities, villages, townships, and towns, including federally recognized tribal lands, with no more than 20,000 residents.

In order to be eligible, applicants must:

- Have the legal authority to borrow money, obtain security, repay loans; and to construct, operate, and maintain proposed facilities
- Be unable to finance projects from their own resources and/or through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms

Funding

In FY20, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support grants and low-interest direct loans through this program. Awards may be provided as combinations of grants and loans. Grant assistance is provided on a graduated scale, with smaller communities with the lowest median household income being eligible for projects with a higher proportion of grant funds. Grant assistance is limited to the following percentages of eligible project costs:

Maximum of 75 percent if:

- The project is located in a rural community having a population of 5,000 or fewer
- The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 60 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income

Maximum of 55 percent if:

- The project is located in a rural community having a population of 12,000 or fewer
- The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 70 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income

Maximum of 35 percent if:

- The project is located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer
- The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 80 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income

Maximum of 15 percent if:

- The project is located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer
- The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 90 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income

Loan repayment terms may not be longer than the useful life of the facility, state statutes, the applicant's authority, or a maximum of 40 years, whichever is less. There will be no prepayment penalties. Interest rates will be set by the funding agency and are determined by the median household income of the service area. Once the loan is approved, the interest rate is fixed for the entire term of the loan. Current interest rates can be found online at www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services.

There are no stated matching requirements for this program.

Contact Information

California Office

Kim Dolbow Vann, State Director

430 G Street, # 4169

Davis, CA 95616-4169

Voice: (530) 792-5800

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Development

FY 2019 Economic Impact Initiative Grants

Grant Overview

This program provides funding to assist in the development of essential community facilities in rural communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression. An essential community facility is one that provides an essential service to the local community, is needed for the orderly development of the community, serves a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings. Eligible applicants are public bodies, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized Indian tribes.

Program History

Award history is not available for this program.

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Unspecified

Match: 25 percent

Proposal due: Rolling

- Priority will be given to projects related to public health and safety, energy efficiency, and education
- All projects must have environmental reviews completed, and these reviews must be determined to be acceptable

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/economic-impact-initiative-grants>



Awardee Profile

Schuylkill County, PA

POPULATION: 142,569

AMOUNT: \$118,400

YEAR: 2017

The Economic Impact Initiative Grant provided funding to Schuylkill County to improve essential public services and facilities in the community including the Shenandoah Valley School District, Coaldale Borough, St. Joseph Center for Special Learning, Mahanoy Township, and West Mahanoy Township.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Development

FY19 Economic Impact Initiative Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support the development of essential community facilities in rural communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression. Awards through this program will be based on a graduated scale determined by population, median household income, total project costs, and financial need.

Funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and public services. Awards may be made in combination with other financial assistance, such as a community facility direct or guaranteed loan.

Essential community facilities are those that provide essential services to local communities; are needed for the orderly development of communities; serve primarily rural areas; and exclude private, commercial, or business undertakings. Examples of essential community facilities include:

- Health care: hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics, nursing homes, and assisted-living facilities
- Public facilities: city/town/village halls, courthouses, airport hangers, and street improvements
- Community support services: child care centers, community centers, fairgrounds, and transitional housing
- Public safety: fire halls, police stations, prisons, jails, police vehicles, fire trucks, and public works vehicles and equipment
- Educational: museums, libraries, and private schools
- Utility: telemedicine and distance learning
- Local food systems: community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs, greenhouses, and kitchen appliances

Priority will be given to projects related to public health and safety, energy efficiency, and education.

All projects must have environmental reviews completed, and these reviews must be determined to be acceptable.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are public bodies, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized Indian tribes.

In order to be eligible, projects must be located in rural areas, which include cities, villages, townships, towns, and federally recognized tribal lands, with no more than 20,000 residents, and a "not employed" rate of greater than 19.5 percent. The median household income of communities being served must be below 90 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income.

Additionally, in order to be eligible, applicants must be unable to finance projects with their own resources and/or must be unable to obtain funding through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms.

Funding

An unspecified amount of funding is available to support grants through this program. Awards may be made in combination with other financial assistance, such as community facilities direct or guaranteed loans, as well as funding from applicants and other sources.

Award amounts will be based on a graduated scale determined by population, median household income, total project costs, and financial need.

Applicants must provide at least 25 percent of eligible costs via unspecified matching contributions; however, in order to be eligible to receive awards, applicants must be unable to finance projects from their own resources and/or through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms.

Contact Information

Questions should be directed to the appropriate local office listed online at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices>.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/economic-impact-initiative-grants>

FEDERAL
GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Development

FY 2019 Section 514 Farm Labor Housing Loans and Section 516 Farm Labor Housing Grants for Off-Farm Housing

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to support grants and loans for the construction of new off-farm farm labor housing (FLH) units and related facilities for domestic farm laborers and for the purchase and substantial rehabilitation of existing non-FLH properties. The intended aim of the program is to increase the number of available housing units for domestic farm laborers. Eligible applicants are nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and subdivisions of local government. Loan applicants must be unable to provide the necessary housing for their own resources.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2016	\$26 million	9

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Up to \$3 million

Match: 10 percent

Solicitation Date: July 8, 2019

Proposal due: August 30, 2019

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/farm-labor-housing-direct-loans-grants>



Awardee Profile

San Luis Valley, CA

AMOUNT: \$1.5 million loan and \$1.5 million grant

YEAR: 2014

Funds will be used to develop 30 units of farm labor housing.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Development

FY19 Section 514 Farm Labor Housing Loans and Section 516 Farm Labor Housing Grants for Off-Farm Housing

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support grants and loans for the construction of new off-farm labor housing (FLH) units and related facilities for domestic farm laborers and for the purchase and substantial rehabilitation of existing non-FLH properties. The intended aim of the program is to increase the number of available housing units of domestic farm laborers.

The funding agency encourages applications that will improve life in rural America. Applicants are encouraged to consider projects that provide measurable results in helping rural communities build robust and sustainable communities through strategic investments in infrastructure, partnerships, and innovation. Key strategies include:

- Achieving e-connectivity for rural America
- Developing the rural economy
- Harnessing technological innovation
- Supporting a rural workforce
- Improving the quality of life

Projects must serve the following tenants:

- Domestic farm laborers, including those working on fish and oyster farms and on-farm processing
- Retire and/or disabled farm laborers
- U.S. citizens or permanent residents
- Very low- to moderate-income households

A percentage of funding is set aside for projects based in or serving persistent poverty census tract with poverty rates greater than or equal to 20 percent over the last 30 years. Additionally, applicants proposing projects in Opportunity Zones will receive additional points in the evaluation process.

Funds may be used for construction, improvement, repair, and purchase of housing for domestic farm laborers. Funding may also be available for buying and improving land, purchasing household furnishings, paying construction loan interest, and other related costs.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are broad-based nonprofit organizations, nonprofit organizations for farm workers, federally recognized Indian tribes, agencies or political subdivisions of state or local government, and public agencies, such as housing authorities.

In addition, limited partnerships in which a nonprofit organization is the general partner are eligible to apply for loans. Loan applicants must:

- Be unable to provide the necessary housing from their own resources
- Except for state or local public agencies and Indian tribes, be unable to obtain similar credit elsewhere at rates that would allow for rents within the payment ability of eligible residents

Broad-based nonprofit organizations applying for loans must have memberships that reflect a variety of interests in the area where the housing will be located.

Funding

An unspecified amount of funding is available to support loans and grants through this program. The maximum award per selected project is limited to \$3 million. No more than 30 percent of funding will be awarded to applicants in any single state, unless too few applications are received nationally to exhaust the available funding.

The funding agency will set aside 10 percent of available funding for applicants that will serve persistent poverty counties. Loans will have a 33-year payback period, and a 1 percent fixed interest rate.

Contact Information

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<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/farm-labor-housing-direct-loans-grants>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

FY 2019 Recreation Economy for Rural Communities

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to help communities develop strategies and an action plan to revitalize their Main Streets through outdoor recreation. Through this program, award recipients will receive planning assistance from a funding agency planning team that will help bring together local residents and other stakeholders to decide on strategies and an action plan to grow the local outdoor recreation economy. Eligible applicants include local governments, Indian tribes, and nonprofit organizations and institutions representing any U.S. community, including U.S. territories, as well as local colleges, public universities, or extension agencies.

Program History

	# of Awards
2019	10

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Provides planning assistance

Match: Not required

Application Due: May 31, 2019

<https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/recreation-economy-rural-communities>



Awardee Profile

Forest County, PA

YEAR: 2019

Following the community workshop and planning process, the community secured grants to renovate a historic train depot in the heart of downtown Marienville and to connect several trails that will position the town as an outdoor recreation hub for the region.

Department: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

FY19 Recreation Economy for Rural Communities

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to help communities develop strategies and an action plan to revitalize their Main Streets through outdoor recreation. Through this program, award recipients will receive planning assistance from a funding agency planning team that will help bring together local residents and other stakeholders to decide on strategies and an action plan to grow the local outdoor recreation economy. Partner communities are encouraged to pursue activities that foster environmentally friendly community development and Main Street revitalization through the conservation and sustainable use of public or private forests or other natural resources. Examples of such activities include:

- Ensuring local residents, including young people, have connections and opportunities related to nearby outdoor assets to foster community pride, good stewardship, and local economic benefits
- Developing or expanding trail networks to attract overnight visitors and new businesses and foster use by local residents
- Developing in-town amenities, such as broadband service; housing; or shops, restaurants, or breweries, to serve residents and attract new visitors and residents with an interest in nearby outdoor assets
- Marketing Main Street as a gateway to nearby natural lands to capture and amplify outdoor recreation dollars
- Developing a community consensus on the management of outdoor assets to reduce potential conflicts and ensure sustainable use of resources

Planning assistance will involve several calls and a two-day community workshop. Community partners should be involved in the creation and future implementation of action plans developed through this program, including public agencies and institutions, local development districts/regional development organizations, community colleges/universities, non-governmental organizations, foundations, and businesses.

Special consideration will be given to communities that are small towns; economically disadvantaged, such as those in opportunity zones; or are located in the Northern Border region of Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont.

Ultimately, by conserving forests and other natural lands and making them available for outdoor recreation, communities can boost air and water quality and focus development downtown. In addition, the promotion of outdoor recreation can create jobs and offer new opportunities for people to connect with the natural world.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include local governments, Indian tribes, and nonprofit organizations and institutions representing any U.S. community, including U.S. territories, as well as local colleges, public universities, or extension agencies.

Regional organizations may apply; however, the application should request assistance for a single neighborhood, town, or community, and should identify a strong local partner. Special consideration will be given to communities that are small towns, economically disadvantaged, opportunity zones, and those located in the northern border region of Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont.

Funding

Rather than monetary awards, this program will provide planning assistance to an estimated eight communities, which will consist of a total of six planning calls and a two-day, facilitated community workshop.

Matching funds are not required for this program; however, applicants may incur minimal costs, such as staff and volunteer time devoted to planning and participating in the required planning assistance workshop, and will be responsible for any costs associated with securing a venue and/or providing refreshments.

Contact Information

Program Staff

receconomy@epa.gov

<https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/recreation-economy-rural-communities>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Development

FY 2019 Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP)

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to provide loans and grants to microenterprise development organizations (MDOs), which will allow them to provide microloans to help microenterprises with start-up or growth. Recipients of loans from MDOs are businesses with up to ten full-time employees located in an eligible area, defined as a rural area outside a city or town with a population of less than 50,000 (urbanized areas near a city of 50,000 or more may not be eligible). Eligible applicants are microenterprise development organizations which include nonprofit organizations, federally recognized Indian tribes, and public institutions of higher education.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2016	\$3.8 million	7

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Up to \$205,000 per year (grants)/ \$50,000 - \$500,000 (loans)

Match: 15 percent

Proposal due: Rolling

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-microentrepreneur-assistance-program>



Tips

- Microenterprise development organizations must have a demonstrated record of delivering, or an effective plan to develop a program to deliver, training and technical assistance and/or microloans or access to capital or related services for the benefit of rural microentrepreneurs and microenterprises

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Development

FY19 Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide loans and grants to microenterprise development organizations (MDOs), which will allow them to provide microloans to help microenterprises with start-up or growth. MDOs will also provide training and technical assistance to microloan borrowers and microentrepreneurs. Microloans will support qualified business activities and expenses, including working capital, debt refinancing, purchases of equipment and supplies, and improvements of real estate.

Recipients of loans from MDOs are businesses with up to ten full-time employees located in an eligible area, defined as a rural area outside a city or town with a population of less than 50,000 (urbanized areas near a city of 50,000 or more may not be eligible). The borrower's headquarters may be based within a larger city if the project service area is located in an eligible rural area; however, the MDO may be located anywhere.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are microenterprise development organizations (MDOs), which include nonprofit organizations, federally recognized Indian tribes, and public institutions of higher education.

MDOs must have a demonstrated record of delivering, or an effective plan to develop a program to deliver, training and technical assistance and/or microloans or access to capital or related services for the benefit of rural microentrepreneurs and microenterprises.

In addition, an MDO must demonstrate experience in managing a revolving loan fund, certify that it or its employees have received education and training from a qualified microenterprise development training entity, or demonstrate that it is actively and successfully participating as an intermediary lender in good standing.

Funding

An unspecified amount of funding is available to support grants and loans through this program, as follows:

- Grants: up to \$205,000 per year
- Loans: ranging from \$50,000 to \$500,000, with a total aggregate debt cap of \$2.5 million

Loans will have a maximum term of 20 years, with a 2-year payment deferral. Recipients must establish a loan loss reserve fund. When loans are made to ultimate recipients, they may be for up to \$50,000, up to 75 percent of project costs, and must have fixed interest rates.

Applicants for grant awards must provide at least 15 percent of the total project cost via cash, indirect costs, or in-kind goods and services. There are not stated matching requirements for loans offered through this program.

Contact Information

Questions should be directed to the appropriate local office listed online at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices>.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-microentrepreneur-assistance-program>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Development

FY 2020 Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training (TAT) Grant

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to support eligible entities in providing technical assistance and/or training with respect to essential community facilities programs. Provided technical assistance and/or training will assist eligible ultimate recipients to identify and plan for community facility needs that exist in their area. Eligible applicants are states, units of local government, private nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized tribes on federal and state reservations.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$1.5 million	15

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Up to \$150,000 for technical assistance providers

Match: Not required

Solicitation Date: February 20, 2020

Proposal Due: April 30, 2020

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-technical-assistance-and-training-grant>



Tips

- Applicants applying as technical assistance providers must be legally established and located within a state, and must have the proven ability, background, experience, legal authority, and actual capacity to provide technical assistance to recipients
- Applicants applying as recipients must be public bodies, Indian tribes, or nonprofit corporations

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Development

FY20 Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training (TAT) Grant

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support eligible entities in providing technical assistance and/or training with respect to essential community facilities programs. Provided technical assistance and/or training will assist eligible ultimate recipients to identify and plan for community facility needs that exist in their area. Once those needs have been identified, award recipients may assist in identifying public and private resources to finance identified community facility needs. This program intends to assist entities in rural areas in accessing funding under the USDA's Rural Housing Service's Community Facilities programs. Eligible activities include:

- Assisting communities in identifying and planning for community facility needs
- Identifying resources to finance community facility needs from public and private sources
- Preparing reports and surveys necessary to request financial assistance to develop community facilities
- Preparing applications for financial assistance from the Rural Housing Service
- Improving the management, including financial management, related to the operation of community facilities
- Assisting with other areas of need identified by the Secretary of Agriculture

The funding agency encourages projects that provide measurable results in helping rural communities build robust and sustainable economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, partnerships, and innovation, as recommended in the Interagency Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity's report.

In addition, the funding agency encourages projects that will reduce the morbidity and the mortality associated with substance use disorder, including opioid misuse, in high-risk rural communities by strengthening the capacity to address prevention, treatment, and/or recovery at the community, county, state, and/or regional levels. Key strategies include:

- Prevention: reducing the occurrence of substance use disorder and fatal substance-related overdoses through community and provider education and harm reduction measures, such as the strategic placement of overdose-reversing devices
- Treatment: implementing or expanding access to evidence-based treatment practices for substance use disorder, such as medication-assisted treatment (MAT)
- Recovery: expanding peer recovery and treatment options that help people start and stay in recovery

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants applying as technical assistance providers are public bodies, including states, counties, cities, townships, towns and villages, boroughs, authorities, districts; private nonprofit corporations; and federally recognized tribes on federal and state reservations.

Applicants applying as technical assistance providers must be legally established and located within a state or the District of Columbia, and must have the proven ability, background, experience, legal authority, and actual capacity to provide technical assistance and/or training to ultimate recipients. To meet the requirement of actual capacity, an applicant must meet one of the following criteria:

- Have the necessary resources to provide technical assistance and/or training to associations in rural areas through its staff
- Be assisted by an affiliate or member organization that has such background and experience and that agrees, in writing, that it will provide the technical assistance
- May contract with a non-affiliated organization for not more than 49 percent of the awarded funds to provide the proposed technical service

For applicants applying as technical service providers, priority will be given to private, nonprofit, and public organizations that have experience in providing technical assistance and training to rural entities.

Applicants applying as ultimate recipients must be public bodies, Indian tribes, and nonprofit corporations that demonstrate community ties to a rural area by meeting one of the following criteria:

- Obtaining substantial public funding through taxes, revenue bonds, other local government sources, and/or substantial voluntary community funding
- Having a broadly based ownership and control by members of the community
- Demonstrating that members of the organization are primarily from the local rural community, membership is open to all adults in the local rural community, members of the organization have ultimate control of the proposed community facility, and the organization receives the majority of its funding from its members of their volunteer efforts

Projects must serve cities, villages, townships, towns, and federally recognized tribal lands outside the boundaries of a city of 20,000 or more.

Funding

An unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards through this program. Awards made to technical assistance providers assisting ultimate recipients within one state may not exceed \$150,000. Up to 10 percent of total funding available through this program may be awarded to the highest-scoring ultimate recipients; however, awards made to ultimate recipients may not exceed \$50,000.

Matching funds are not required for this program; however, preference will be given to applicants that provide at least 10 percent of the total project cost via cash contributions.

Contact Information

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Development Office

FY 2020 Rural Business Development Grants (RBDG)

Grant Overview

The Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) program is designed to provide technical assistance and training for small rural businesses. Eligible businesses are those that will employ fewer than 50 new workers and that have less than \$1 million in gross revenue. Eligible applicants are local governments, states, non-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, Indian tribes, and rural cooperatives.

Program History

Total Funding	
2015	\$19.5 million

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: Not required

Match: Not required

Proposal due: Rolling

- Funds must benefit rural areas or towns outside the urbanized periphery of any city with a population of 50,000 or more
- To initiate the application process, applicants must contact the appropriate state office

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants>



Awardee Profile

East Arkansas Enterprise
Community Inc.
Forrest City, AK

AMOUNT: \$98,000

YEAR: 2015

East Arkansas Enterprise Community Inc. received \$98,000 through the RBDG program for a technical assistance project in their community.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Development Office

FY20 Rural Business Development Grants (RBDG)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide technical assistance and training for small rural businesses. Eligible businesses are those that will employ fewer than 50 new workers and that have less than \$1 million in gross revenue. Funds must benefit rural areas or towns outside the urbanized periphery of any city with a population of 50,000 or more.

This program supports the following types of awards:

Enterprise: eligible activities include:

- Training and technical assistance
- Acquisition or development of land, easements, or rights-of-way; construction, conversion, or renovation of buildings; plants, machinery, equipment, access for streets and roads; and parking areas and utilities
- Pollution control and abatement
- Capitalization of revolving loan funds, including funds that will make loans for start-up costs and working capital
- Distance adult learning for job training and advancement
- Rural transportation improvement
- Community economic development
- Technology-based economic development
- Feasibility studies and business plans
- Leadership and entrepreneur training
- Rural business incubators
- Long-term business strategic planning

Opportunity: eligible activities include:

- Community economic development
- Technology-based economic development
- Feasibility studies and business plans
- Leadership and entrepreneur training
- Rural business incubators
- Long-term business strategic planning

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are rural public entities including towns, communities, state agencies, authorities, non-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, Indian tribes, and rural cooperatives, if organized as a private non-profit corporation.

Funds must benefit rural areas or towns outside the urbanized periphery of any city with a population of 50,000 or more. Information about eligible areas is available online at eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov.

Funding

In FY 2020 there is an unspecified amount of funding available to support awards through this program. There is no maximum award amount; however, smaller requests are given higher priority. Funding for opportunity awards is limited to 10 percent of the total annual funding for this program. Projects are expected to be completed within one year.

Matching funds are not required for this program; however, the percentage of nonfederal funding committed to the project will be taken into consideration when evaluating applications. The highest scores will be awarded to applicants proposing to provide more than 80 percent of project costs.

Contact Information

Questions should be directed to the appropriate state office of the funding agency. Contact information for state offices can be found online at www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Small Business Administration
Agency: Office of Economic Opportunity

FY 2019 Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs (PRIME)

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to provide training and technical assistance to disadvantaged entrepreneurs, provide training and capacity-building assistance to microenterprise development organizations (MDOs), and aid in research and development of best practices for microenterprise and technical assistance programs for disadvantaged entrepreneurs. Eligible applicants are private, nonprofit microenterprise development organizations (MDOs); microenterprise development programs run by state, local, and tribal governments; or Indian tribes interested in providing assistance and guidance to disadvantaged microentrepreneurs and/or MDOs.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2019	\$5 million	30

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Up to \$5 million

Award Range: \$75,000 - \$250,000

Match: 50 percent

Solicitation Date: November 21, 2019

Proposal due: December 20, 2019

<https://www.sba.gov/offices/headquarters/oca/resources/11416>



Awardee Profile

Kentucky Highlands
Investment Corporation, KY

AMOUNT: \$150,000

YEAR: 2018

Funding will offer a pilot program comprised of a curriculum of discreet business management tools that build the capacity of startup and existing businesses.

More information on FY 2018 awards for this program can be found [here](#).

Department: U.S. Small Business Administration

Agency: Office of Economic Opportunity

FY19 Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs (PRIME)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide training and technical assistance to disadvantaged entrepreneurs, provide training and capacity-building assistance to microenterprise development organizations (MDOs), and aid in research and development of best practices for microenterprise and technical assistance programs for disadvantaged entrepreneurs. For FY 2019, special consideration will be given to applicants that propose to provide training and technical assistance to economically disadvantaged entrepreneurs in rural areas and training and technical assistance to support entrepreneurship in Hub Zones and Opportunity Zones.

Ultimately, the overarching goal of the program is to deliver training and technical assistance to small business concerns and nascent entrepreneurs to promote growth expansion, and innovation; increase productivity; and improve management. Applicants must propose projects in one of the following tracks:

- Track 1: technical assistance: projects that will provide training and technical assistance programs to disadvantaged entrepreneurs
- Track 2: capacity building: projects to provide training and capacity-building services to MDOs, microenterprise development programs, and groups of such organizations to assist them in developing microenterprise training and services

Special consideration will be given to applicants that:

- Can demonstrate a track record of serving American Indians, Alaska Natives, or Native Hawaiian populations
- Propose projects for disadvantaged entrepreneurs in rural areas or that will support entrepreneurship in Hub Zones
- Are SBA Community Advantage (CA) Lenders with 20 or more CA loan approvals

Applicants are encouraged to maximize their efforts by working in conjunction with the funding agency's mission-oriented lenders operating within the microloan, community advantage, 504, and intermediary lending pilot programs.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are private, nonprofit microenterprise development organizations (MDOs); microenterprise development programs run by state, local, and tribal governments; or Indian tribes interested in providing assistance and guidance to disadvantaged microentrepreneurs and/or MDOs. Applicants must demonstrate that they are:

- MDOs or programs (or groups or collaboratives thereof), such as nonprofit community development financial institutions or similar entities, that have a demonstrated record of delivering microenterprise services to disadvantaged entrepreneurs
- Intermediaries with experience in delivering technical assistance to disadvantaged entrepreneurs
- MDOs or programs that are accountable to a local community, working in conjunction with a state, local government, or Indian tribe
- Indian tribes acting on their own, if they can certify that no private organization or program referred to above exists within their jurisdiction

Funding

Up to \$5 million is expected to be available to support an estimated 25 grants ranging from \$75,000 to \$250,000 through this program. The total available funding will be allocated as follows:

- Track I awards: at least 75 percent of funds
- Track II awards: at least 15 percent and no more than 25 percent of funds
- The remainder, 10 percent of funds or less, will be used by the funding agency at its sole discretion for research and development or discretionary awards

In general, applicants must provide a match of at least 50 percent of the award amount via nonfederal, non-borrowed cash and/or in-kind contributions. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds may be used to match awards for this program.

Contact Information

Program

(202) 619-0628

PRIME@sba.gov

<https://www.sba.gov/offices/headquarters/oca/resources/11416>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Housing Services

FY 2020 Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI)

Grant Overview

The goal of the RCDI program is to develop the capacity and ability of eligible applicants to undertake projects related to housing, community facilities, or community and economic development in rural areas. The program requires that applicants (intermediaries) provide a program of financial and technical assistance to recipients. The recipients will in turn, provide programs to their communities (beneficiaries). Eligible applicants (intermediaries) are qualified private organizations; non-profit organizations, including faith-based, community, and philanthropic organizations; and public organizations, including tribal, organizations.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2016	\$7.6 million	40
2015	\$4 million	23

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: \$50,000 - \$250,000

Match: 100 percent

Solicitation date: March 4, 2020

Proposal due: May 13, 2020; May 18, 2020

- Electronic applications are due no later than May 13, 2020, hard copy applications must be post marked by May 18, 2020

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-community-development-initiative-grants>



Awardee Profile

Initiative Foundation
Little Falls, MN

AMOUNT: \$172,372

YEAR: 2015

The funding provided training, technical assistance and financial support to 20 non-profit organizations serving low-income rural communities in central Minnesota.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Housing Services

FY20 Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to develop the capacity and ability of private non-profit community-based housing and community development organizations; low-income rural communities; and federally recognized Native American tribes to undertake projects related to housing, community facilities, or community and economic development in rural areas. The structure of this program requires that applicants (intermediaries) provide a program of financial and technical assistance to recipients. The recipients will, in turn, provide programs to their communities (beneficiaries).

Eligible uses of funds include:

- Providing technical assistance to develop recipients' capacity and ability to undertake projects related to housing, community facilities, or community and economic development
- Developing the capacity of recipients to conduct community development programs
- Developing the capacity of recipients to conduct development initiatives
- Developing the capacity of recipients to increase their leveraging ability and access to alternative funding sources by providing training and staffing
- Developing the capacity of recipients to provide the technical assistance component for essential community facilities projects
- Assisting recipients in completing predevelopment requirements for housing, community facilities, or community and economic development projects by providing resources for professional services
- Improving recipients' organizational capacity by providing training and resource material on developing strategic plans, board operations, management, financial systems, and information technology
- Purchasing computers, software, and printers
- Providing funds to recipients for training-related travel costs and program-related training expenses

The funding agency encourages projects that provide measurable results in helping rural communities build robust and sustainable economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, partnerships, and innovation, as recommended in the Interagency Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity's report.

In addition, the funding agency encourages projects that will reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with substance use disorder, including opioid misuse, in high-risk rural communities by strengthening the capacity to address prevention, treatment, and/or recovery at the community, county, state, and/or regional levels. Key strategies include:

- Prevention: reducing the occurrence of substance use disorder and fatal substance-related overdoses through community and provider education and harm-reduction measures, such as the strategic placement of overdose-reversing devices

- Treatment: implementing or expanding access to evidence-based treatment practices for substance use disorder, such as medication-assisted treatment (MAT)
- Recovery: expanding peer recovery and treatment options that help people start and stay in recovery

Information regarding vulnerable counties and jurisdictions can be found online at www.cdc.gov/pwid/vulnerable-counties-data.html.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants (intermediaries) are:

- Qualified private organizations
- Non-profit organizations, including faith-based, community, and philanthropic organizations
- Public organizations, including tribal organizations

The structure of this program requires that intermediaries provide a program of financial and technical assistance to recipients. The recipients will, in turn, provide programs to their communities (beneficiaries).

Eligible recipients are:

- Non-profit community-based housing and development organizations
- Low-income rural communities
- Federally recognized tribes

The intermediary and the recipient may not be the same entity; however, the recipient can be a related entity to the intermediary, provided that the recipient meets all other eligibility requirements and that the relationship does not create a conflict of interest that cannot be resolved to funding agency's satisfaction.

The recipient and the beneficiary, but not the intermediary, must be located in an eligible rural area. For the purposes of this program, an eligible rural area is defined as any area other than:

- A city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants
- The urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to such cities or towns

Intermediaries must have been legally organized for at least three years and have at least three years of prior experience working with private nonprofit community-based housing and development organizations, low-income rural communities, or tribal organizations in the areas of housing, community facilities, or community and economic development.

Recipients that are low-income rural communities must provide evidence that the recipient entity is a public body and census data verifying that the median household income of the community where the recipient entity's office is located is at, or below, 80 percent of the state or national median household income, whichever is higher.

In addition, recipients that are federally recognized tribes must provide the page listing their name from the current Federal Register list of tribal entities recognized and eligible for funding services.

Each intermediary, whether singularly or jointly, may submit no more than one application; however, intermediaries may provide matching funds for other applications.

Recipients may benefit from more than one application, provided that the type of financial and technical assistance that the recipient will receive from each application is not duplicative.

Funding

In FY20, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards ranging from \$50,000 to \$250,000 through this program. Funding will be distributed on an advance or reimbursement basis. Funding must be utilized within three years from the date of award. The purchase of computers, software, and printers is limited to \$10,000 per award, at the recipient level.

Applicants must provide at least a one-to-one match via cash contributions or confirmed funding commitments that are committed for a period of no less than the duration of the project period. Other federal funds may be used as a match if authorized by statute and if the purpose of the funds is an eligible program purpose. Matching funds may be used for travel, transportation, and subsistence costs for meetings. Matching funds and awarded funds must be used in equal proportions; however, funds do not have to be used equally by line item.

Contact Information

Please contact your [local Rural Development Office](#) for questions regarding the program.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-community-development-initiative-grants>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Community Assistance Partnership

FY 2019 Rural Economic Development Innovation (REDI) Initiative

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to support rural communities with 50,000 or fewer people by providing the opportunity to maximize their access to planning resources. These resources will enable the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and four of its partners, known as cooperators, to identify critical needs, an actionable economic development plan, convene with potential partners, and implement project priorities that will ultimately improve economic stability and the quality of life in rural communities. Eligible applicants are rural communities with 50,000 or fewer people, plus tribes and territories.

Program History

	# of Awards
2019	47

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Provides technical assistance

Match: Not required

Solicitation Date: February 11, 2019

Proposal due: April 5, 2019

<https://www.usda.gov/topics/rural/rural-development-innovation-center>



Awardee Profile

City of Poplar, MT

AMOUNT: Technical Assistance

YEAR: 2019

The recipient received planning assistance to provide support to entrepreneurs providing essential services such as retail, entertainment, and agriculture supply.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Community Assistance Partnership

FY19 Rural Economic Development Innovation (REDI) Initiative

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support rural communities with 50,000 or fewer people by providing the opportunity to maximize their access to planning resources. These resources will enable the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and four of its partners, known as cooperators, to identify critical needs, create an actionable economic development plan, convene with potential partners, and implement project priorities that will ultimately improve economic stability and the quality of life in rural communities. Community and regional development with REDI cooperators will support technical assistance outcomes that build capacity within targeted areas of planning. This technical assistance, provided free of charge to successful applicants, will result in a strong regional economic development plan that identifies projects that may be eligible for other USDA Rural Development programs and/or be a blueprint for leveraging other federal, state, local or private-sector resources.

Participation in this program will enable rural communities to create an economic development plan that will include:

- Evidence-based assessment of community assets, challenges, and opportunities
- Goals that are focused, logical, targeted, and timely with tasks identified and the entities responsible for carrying these actions clearly delineated
- Clear planning strategies that are intended to help produce, either directly or indirectly, improvements in the local and regional economy
- Metrics to track implementation and ongoing progress of the economic plan

When applying, applicants may select any of the following five major themes that are of critical importance to their community/region:

- E-connectivity of rural America
- Improving quality of life
- Supporting a rural workforce
- Technological innovation
- Economic development

Successful applications will demonstrate a strong rural focus, the capacity to participate in planning and implementation of economic strategies, robust and inclusive partnerships, and an understanding of regional issues and assets.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are rural communities with 50,000 or fewer people, plus tribes and territories.

Funding

Rather than providing monetary awards, this program provides free technical assistance to help successful applicants to develop and implement rural economic development plans. There are not stated matching requirements for this program.

Contact Information

Rural Development Innovation Center

Christine Sorensen

Christine.sorensen@wdc.usda.gov

<https://www.usda.gov/topics/rural/rural-development-innovation-center>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Transportation
Agency: Build America Bureau

FY 2020 Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA): Rural Project Initiative (RPI)

Grant Overview

The Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA): Rural Project Initiative (RPI) is aimed at helping to improve transportation infrastructure in rural communities by providing low-cost, fixed-rate, long-term loans. Eligible applicants are states, local governments, state infrastructure banks, private firms, special authorities, and transportation improvement districts.

Program History

There is no award history available for this program.

Key Information

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: \$10 million - \$75 million

Match: 51 percent

Proposal due: Rolling

- Projects must directly benefit rural communities that have a population of fewer than 150,000 and that are located outside a census-defined urban area

<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/programs-services/tifia/tifia-rural-project-initiative-rpi>



Tips

- The application process for this program is the same as the general TIFIA program; applicants must submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) prior to submitting an application
- Application fees, often amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars may be applicable, however, while funds last, the funding agency may pay the fees on behalf of applicants

Department: U.S. Department of Transportation

Agency: Build America Bureau

FY20 Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA): Rural Project Initiative (RPI)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to improve transportation infrastructure in rural communities by providing low-cost, fixed-rate, long-term loans for critical infrastructure projects. Funding is intended to support transportation infrastructure that will improve the economy and the quality of life in rural areas. Eligible projects include:

- Roads, bridges, and tunnels
- Transit systems, including infrastructure, bus and train stations, and buses and passenger rail vehicles and facilities
- Intermodal connectors
- Pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure
- Freight transfer facilities
- Sea and inland waterway ports
- Airports, under certain circumstances

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, local governments, state infrastructure banks, private firms, special authorities such as government-sponsored corporations, and transportation improvement districts. Funds must directly benefit rural communities that have population of fewer than 150,000 and that are located outside a census-defined urbanized area.

Funding

In FY 2020, and unspecified amount of funding is available through this program to support fixed interest rate loans for projects that range from \$10 million to \$75 million. Loan terms are up to 35 years, and interest rates are equal to one-half the U.S. Treasury rate at the time of loan closing.

Applicants will be responsible for at least 51 percent of the total project costs, as loans are limited to 49 percent of project costs. Up to 80 percent of the project costs may be funded with federal funds, which may include funding from other federal programs.

Contact Information

Program Staff

buildamerica@dot.gov

(202) 366-2300

<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/programs-services/tifia/tifia-rural-project-initiative-rpi>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Agency: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

FY 2020 Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP): Implementation

Grant Overview

The RCORP Implementation Program is intended to strengthen and expand substance use disorder (SUD) and opioid use disorder (OUD) prevention, treatment, and recovery service delivery in high-risk rural communities. Eligible applicants are public and private entities, non-profit and for-profit organizations, faith- and community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2019	\$80 million	80

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$89 million

Award Range: Up to \$1 million

Match: Not required

Solicitation date: February 4, 2020

Proposal due: May 26, 2020

- Applicants must be part of a broad, multisectoral consortium comprised of at least four or more separately owned entities, including the applicant organization

<https://www.hrsa.gov/grants/find-funding/hrsa-19-082>



Awardee Profile

Ukiah Adventist Hospital
Ukiah, CA

AMOUNT: \$1 million

YEAR: 2019

Ukiah Adventist Hospital and its partners received funding through the RCORP Implementation program to prevent and treat SUD/OUD.

Department: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Agency: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

FY20 Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP): Implementation

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to strengthen and expand substance use disorder (SUD)/opioid use disorder (OUD) prevention, treatment, and recovery service to enhance rural residents' ability to access treatment and move towards recovery. The primary focus of the program is OUD. However, award recipients may address other SUD-related needs of target populations. The program's target population includes individuals who are at risk for, have been diagnosed with, and/or are in treatment and/or recovery for OUD, their families and caregivers, and other community members residing in designated rural areas.

Award recipients must implement the following core prevention activities:

- Provide culturally and linguistically appropriate education to improve understanding of evidence-based prevention, treatment, and recovery strategies for SUD/OUD; and to reduce stigma associated with the disease
- Increase access to naloxone within the rural service area and provide training on overdose prevention and naloxone administration
- Implement year-round drug take-back programs
- Increase and support the use of school- and community-based prevention programs
- Identify and screen individuals at risk for SUD/OUD and provide or make referrals to prevention, harm reduction, early intervention, treatment, and other support services

Award recipients must implement the following core treatment activities:

- Screen and provide, or refer to, treatment patients with SUD/OUD who have infectious complications
- Recruit, train, and mentor interdisciplinary teams of SUD/OUD clinical and social service providers who are trained, certified, and willing to provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT)
- Increase the number of providers and other health and social service professionals who are able to identify and treat SUD/OUD by providing professional development opportunities and recruitment incentives
- Reduce barriers to treatment
- Strengthen collaboration with law enforcement and first responders
- Train providers, administrative staff, and other relevant stakeholders to optimize reimbursement for treatment encounters through proper coding and billing
- Enable individuals, families, and caregivers to find, access, and navigate evidence-based, affordable treatments for SUD/OUD, as well as home- and community-based services and social supports

Award recipients must implement the following core recovery activities:

- Enhance discharge coordination for people leaving inpatient treatment facilities and/or the criminal justice system who require linkages to home and community-based services and social supports

- Expand peer workforce and programming as interventionists in various settings
- Support the development of recovery communities, recovery coaches, and recovery community organizations

If capacity exists, award recipients may use funding to implement additional activities that strengthen the consortium's ability to deliver preventive, treatment, and/or recovery services for SUD/OD in their service area.

Award recipients will be expected to work closely with a technical assistance (TA) provider funded by the funding agency. Targeted TA is provided to each award recipient at no additional cost and is intended to help recipients achieve desired project outcomes, sustain services, and overcome challenges to project implementation.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are public and private entities, non-profit and for-profit organizations, faith- and community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations.

All activities supported through this program must exclusively target populations residing in Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)-designated rural counties or rural census tracts in urban counties, as defined by the Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer, which can be found online at www.data.hrsa.gov/tools/rural-health.

The applicant organization may be located in an urban or rural area, and should have the staffing and infrastructure necessary to oversee program activities, serve as the fiscal agent for the award, and ensure that local control for the award is vested in the targeted rural communities.

The applicant organization must be part of a broad, multisectoral consortium comprised of at least four or more separately owned entities, including the applicant organization. The consortium should include members from multiple sectors and/or disciplines and have a history of collaborating to address substance use disorder (SUD)/opioid use disorder (OUD) in a rural area. While consortium members may be located in urban or rural areas, at least two consortium members involved in the proposed project must be located in HRSA-designated rural counties or rural census tracts in urban counties.

Funding

In FY 2020, approximately \$89 million is available to support 89 awards of up to \$1 million each through this program. Project periods may span up to three years, beginning on September 1, 2020, and ending on August 31, 2023. Award recipients will receive the full amount of the award in the first year of the project period. Match funds are not required for this program.

Contact Information

Allison Hutchings, MPH

Public Health Analyst

(301) 945-9819

ruralopioidresponse@hrsa.gov

<https://www.hrsa.gov/grants/find-funding/hrsa-19-082>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Justice

Agency: Office of Justice Programs

FY 2019 Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-Based Program (COAP): Locally Driven Responses to the Opioid Epidemic

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to reduce opioid misuse and the number of overdose fatalities, as well as to mitigate the impacts on crime victims, by supporting the implementation, enhancement, and proactive use of prescription drug monitoring programs to support clinical decision-making and prevent the abuse and diversion of controlled substances. The program also encourages and supports the development of comprehensive, locally driven responses to the opioid epidemic that expand access to supervision, treatment, and recovery support services across the criminal justice system. Eligible applicants are units of local government and federally recognized Indian tribal governments.

Program History

	# of Awards
2019	64

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Match: Not required

Solicitation Date: April 5, 2019

Proposal Due: June 5, 2019

<https://www.bja.gov/funding/COAP19.pdf>



Tips

- Priority consideration will be given to applicants that propose projects that directly benefit federally designated Qualified Opportunity Zones
- All projects are expected to involve multiple agencies and partners

Department: U.S. Department of Justice

Agency: Office of Justice Programs

FY19 Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-Based Program (COAP): Locally Driven Responses to the Opioid Epidemic

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to reduce opioid misuse and the number of overdose fatalities, as well as to mitigate the impacts on crime victims, by supporting the implementation, enhancement, and proactive use of prescription drug monitoring programs to support clinical decision-making and prevent the abuse and diversion of controlled substances. The Locally Driven Responses component of this program aims to encourage and support the development of comprehensive, locally driven responses to the opioid epidemic that expand access to supervision, treatment, and recovery support services across the criminal justice system. The program also seeks to support law enforcement and other first responder diversion programs for non-violent drug offenders, promote education and prevention activities, and address the needs of children impacted by the opioid epidemic. The objectives of the program are to:

- Expand law enforcement and victim service partnerships
- Encourage and support comprehensive cross-system planning and collaboration among officials who work in law enforcement, pretrial services, the courts, probation and parole, child welfare, reentry, prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs), and emergency medical services, as well as health care providers, public health partners, and agencies that provide substance misuse treatment and recovery support services
- Develop and implement strategies to identify and provide treatment and recovery support services to high-frequency utilizers of multiple systems who have a history of opioid misuse
- Expand law enforcement diversion programs
- Expand the availability of treatment and recovery support services in rural or tribal communities by expanding the use of technology-assisted treatment and recovery support services
- Implement and enhance prescription drug monitoring program
- Develop and enhance public safety, behavioral health, and public health information-sharing partnerships that leverage key public health and public safety data sets and develop interventions based on this information

All projects are expected to involve multiple agencies and partners. Applicants must outline a comprehensive, collaborative approach to addressing the opioid epidemic, and awards may be used to support one or more of the following activities:

- Establish pre-arrest or post-arrest law enforcement or other first responder diversion programs for individuals who commit low-level, non-violent, drug-related offenses to community-based substance abuse and behavioral health services

- Support law enforcement agencies in identifying individuals in need of substance abuse treatment services and connecting these individuals to treatment services
- Develop programs that embed social services with law enforcement in order to rapidly respond to opioid overdoses where children are impacted
- Connect individuals at risk for overdose and/or survivors of a non-fatal overdose and their families with substance abuse and behavioral health treatment providers or peer recovery support providers trained in addition support and recovery
- Provide transitional or recovery housing as part of a comprehensive response strategy

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are units of local government and federally recognized Indian tribal governments. Applicants must apply under the appropriate subcategory based on the population of the proposed project area, as follows:

- Subcategory 1a: urban areas or large counties with a population greater than 500,000
- Subcategory 1b: suburban areas or medium-size counties with a population between 100,000 and 500,000
- Subcategory 1c: rural areas or small counties with a population of fewer than 100,000 or a federally recognized Indian tribe

Priority consideration will be given to applicants that propose projects that directly benefit federally designated Qualified Opportunity Zones.

Funding

An unspecified amount of funding is available to support up to 80 awards and cooperative agreements. The maximum award amount is based on the population of the proposed community to be served, as follows:

- Subcategory 1a: cooperative agreements of up to \$1.2 million for projects serving an urban area or large county with a population greater than 500,000
- Subcategory 1b: cooperative agreements of up to \$900,000 for projects serving a suburban area or medium-sized county with a population between 100,000 and 500,000
- Subcategory 1c: cooperative agreements of up to \$600,000 for projects serving a rural area or small county with a population of fewer than 100,000 or a federally recognized Indian tribe

Matching funds are not required for this program; however, leveraging multiple funding sources in a complementary manner to implement comprehensive project is encouraged.

Contact Information

Program Staff

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<https://www.bja.gov/funding/COAP19.pdf>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Utilities Service (RUS)

FY 2020 Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to enable and improve distance learning and telemedicine services in rural areas. Funding is intended to support the use of telecommunications-enabled information, audio and video equipment, and related advanced technologies by students, teachers, medical professionals, and rural residents. Eligible applicants are states or local units of government, incorporated organizations, Indian tribes or tribal organizations, and other legal entities, including private nonprofit and for-profit organizations.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2019	\$42,453,095	133

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$71.7 million

Award Range: \$50,000 - \$1 million

Match: 15 percent

Solicitation date: February 10, 2020

Proposal due: July 13, 2020

- This program aims to benefit rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less, and while some projects may include end-users in more urbanized areas, the funding agency will evaluate projects based on their benefit to rural areas.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/distance-learning-telemedicine-grants>



Awardee Profile

Georgia Department of Labor

AMOUNT: \$352,135

YEAR: 2019

Funding will enable the Georgia Department of Labor to implement a Distance Learning program to provide training to customers and staff. The project will serve 51,525 residents in eight rural counties.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Utilities Service (RUS)

FY20 Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to enable and improve distance learning and telemedicine services in rural areas. Funding is intended to support the use of telecommunications-enabled information, audio and video equipment, and related advanced technologies by students, teachers, medical professionals, and rural residents. Projects will increase rural access to education, training, and health care resources that are otherwise unavailable or limited in scope. Eligible uses of funds include:

- Acquiring, by lease or purchase, eligible equipment, including:
 - Computer hardware and software
 - Site licenses and maintenance contracts
 - Extended warranties of up to three years
 - Audio and video equipment
 - Computer network components
 - Telecommunications terminal equipment
 - Data terminal equipment
 - Interactive audio/video equipment
 - Inside wiring
 - Broadband facilities, if owned by the applicant
- Acquiring instructional programming that is a capital asset, including the purchase or lease of instructional programming already on the market
- Providing technical assistance and instruction for using eligible equipment, including any related software; developing instructional programming that is a capital asset; and providing engineering or environmental studies relating to the establishment or expansion of the phase of the project to be funded through this program

Special consideration points will be given to the following types of projects:

- Projects that have science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education or opioid or other substance use disorder treatment as their primary purpose
- Projects that have at least one end-user site physically located in an Opportunity Zone

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are incorporated organizations, Indian tribes or tribal organizations, state or local units of government, consortia, and other legal entities, including private nonprofit or for-profit organizations. Electric or telecommunications borrowers financed through the funding agency are eligible to apply.

The program aims to benefit rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less, and while some projects may include end-users in more urbanized areas, the funding agency will evaluate projects based on their benefit to rural areas. In addition, special consideration will be given to applicants that have at least one end-user site physically located in an Opportunity Zone.

Eligible applicants must either operate a rural community facility, or deliver distance learning or telemedicine services to entities that operate a rural community facility or to residents in rural areas, at rates calculated to ensure that the benefit of the financial assistance is passed through to such entities or to residents of rural areas.

Funding

In FY 2020, \$71.7 million is available to support awards ranging from \$50,000 to \$1 million through this program. Of the total available funding, \$12 million is reserved for telemedicine and distance learning projects to help address the opioid epidemic in rural areas, and \$9.4 million is intended for telemedicine projects that provide substance use disorder treatment services in rural areas. The remaining \$50.3 million is available for all eligible projects. A minimum 15 percent cash match is required.

Contact Information

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<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/distance-learning-telemedicine-grants>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Justice
Agency: Office on Violence Against Women

FY 2020 Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Program

Grant Overview

The Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Program aims to enhance the safety of rural victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Funding will support projects that implement a collaborative response, support victim services, and/or create a direct response to the crimes in rural communities. Eligible applicants are states, Indian tribes, local governments, and public or private nonprofit entities.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2019	\$29,520,582	55

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$35 million

Award Range: Up to \$500,000 (new applications) / \$750,000 (continuation applications)

Match: Not required

Solicitation date: November 26, 2019

Proposal due: January 27, 2020

- Priority will be given to projects that meet the needs of underserved populations

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>



Awardee Profile

Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Augusta, ME

AMOUNT: \$624,545

YEAR: 2019

The Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault received funding through this program to increase accessibility, awareness, and effective responses and referrals to sexual assault services in northern and eastern Maine.

Department: U.S. Department of Justice

Agency: Office on Violence Against Women

FY20 Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to enhance the safety of rural victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Funding will support projects that implement a collaborative response, support victim services, and/or create a direct response to the aforementioned crimes in rural communities.

Funding must be used for one or more of the following purpose areas:

- Purpose area 1: to identify, assess, and appropriately respond to child, youth, and adult victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking in rural communities, by encouraging collaboration among domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking victim service providers; law enforcement agencies; prosecutors; courts; other criminal justice service providers; human and community service providers; educational institutions; and health care providers, including sexual assault forensic examiners
- Purpose area 2: to establish and expand nonprofit, non-governmental, state, tribal, territorial, and local government victim services in rural communities to child, youth, and adult victims
- Purpose area 3: to increase the safety and well-being of women and children in rural communities by:
 - Purpose area 3A: dealing directly and immediately with domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking occurring in rural communities
 - Purpose area 3B: creating and implementing strategies to increase awareness and prevent domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking

Proposed projects must devote at least 70 percent of their project activities and budget to purpose areas 1, 2, and/or 3(A). Applicants may apply to address purpose area 3(B), but no more than 30 percent of the project budget and activities may be dedicated to prevention and awareness activities.

In addition to the purpose areas, projects will be required to implement at least one of the following strategies:

- Implementing, expanding, and establishing cooperative efforts and projects among law enforcement officers, prosecutors, victim service providers, and other related parties to investigate and prosecute incidents of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, including developing multidisciplinary teams focusing on high-risk cases with the goal of preventing domestic and dating violence homicides
- Providing treatment, counseling, advocacy, legal assistance, and other long-term and short-term victim- and population-specific services to adult and minor victims of domestic violence, dating

- violence, sexual assault, and stalking in rural communities, including assistance in immigration matters
- Working in cooperation with the community to develop education and prevention strategies directed toward such issues
 - Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing sexual assault, including sexual assault forensic examiner programs, sexual assault response teams, law enforcement training, and programs addressing rape kit backlogs
 - Developing programs and strategies that focus on the specific needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who reside in remote rural and geographically isolated areas, including addressing the challenges posed by the lack of access to shelters and victims services, limited law enforcement resources and training, and providing training and resources to community health aides involved in the delivery of Indian Health Service programs

For FY 2020, special consideration will be given to projects that address the following areas:

- Reduce violent crime against women and promote victim safety through investing in law enforcement, increasing prosecution, and promoting effective prevention
- Empower victims to become survivors by growing them past their vulnerabilities to a place of self-sufficiency
- Increase efforts to combat stalking

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are states, territories, Indian tribes, local governments, and non-profit organizations including tribal non-profit organizations, faith-based organizations, and community organizations.

Applicants must target services in a rural area or community. For the purposes of this program, rural states are defined as states that have a population density of 57 or fewer persons per square mile or states in which the largest county has fewer than 250,000 people, based on the most recent decennial census.

Applications must include a victim service provider as a formal project partner and/or the lead applicant. Eligible applications, including those submitted by victim service providers, must include at least one project partner, and must include agencies and organizations necessary to implement the proposed project.

Applicants may apply for new or continuation funding; however, applicants that received an award through the FY 2018 or FY 2019 solicitations of this program, including applicants that served as a partner/subrecipient on an FY 2018 or 2019 award, are not eligible to apply.

Funding

In FY 2020, an estimated \$35 million is available to support up to approximately 50 awards through this program. For FY 2020, the maximum award amounts will vary according to application type, as follows:

- New applications: \$500,000
- Continuation applications: \$750,000

Awards typically range from \$350,000 to \$750,000.

Of the total funding available through this program, 25 percent must be allocated to projects that meaningfully address sexual assault in rural communities. At least 75 percent of the funding available through this program must be allocated to eligible entities in rural states.

A total of \$10,000 for applicants located in the 48 contiguous states or \$15,000 for applicants located in the territories, Hawaii, and Alaska must be included in the budget to attend training and technical assistance sponsored by the funding agency. In addition, the budget must include funds or other resources available to the applicant to support activities that ensure access for individuals with disabilities, deaf/hard-of-hearing individuals, and persons with limited English proficiency.

Proposed projects must devote at least 70 percent of their project activities and budget to purpose areas 1, 2, and/or 3(A). Applicants may apply to address purpose area 3(B); however, no more than 30 percent of the project budget and activities may be dedicated to prevention and awareness activities.

The project period is anticipated to start on October 1, 2020 and will span 36 months.

There is no match requirement for this program.

Contact Information

Primary Contact:

Program Staff

(202) 307-6026

ovw.rural@usdoj.gov

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

Financial Contact:

Program Staff

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FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Utilities Service

FY 2020 High Energy Cost Rural Communities Grant Program

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to assist communities with extremely high energy costs. Funding will support projects to acquire, construct, extend, upgrade, or otherwise improve energy generation, transmission, or distribution facilities that serve communities in which the average residential expenditure for home energy is at least 275 percent of the national average. This program will support projects to install on-grid and off-grid renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements in eligible extremely high-energy cost communities. Eligible applicants include legally organized for-profit and nonprofit organizations, sole proprietorships, state and local governments, Indian tribes, and individuals or groups of individuals applying on behalf of unincorporated community associations.

Program History

	# of Awards
2019	8
2017	14

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$10 million

Award Range: \$100,000 - \$3 million

Match: Not required

Solicitation Date: February 27, 2020

Application Due: April 27, 2020

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/high-energy-cost-grants>



Awardee Profile

City of Teller, AK

AMOUNT: \$958,705

YEAR: 2020

Funding will be used to install a heat recovery jacket on a diesel-fired power generator. Recovered heat will be delivered to the water treatment plant, the washeteria, the city administration building and the clinic.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Utilities Service

FY20 High Energy Cost Rural Communities Grant Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to assist communities with extremely high energy costs. Funding will support projects to acquire, construct, extend, upgrade, or otherwise improve energy generation, transmission, or distribution facilities that serve communities in which the average residential expenditure for home energy is at least 275 percent of the national average. This program will also support projects to install on-grid and off-grid renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements in eligible extremely high-energy cost communities. This program intends to increase economic opportunity and the quality of life in rural communities nationwide by maintaining a seamless electric network for all Americans, regardless of where they live.

This program will support costs for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of facilities serving eligible communities, including:

- Electric generation, transmission, and distribution facilities including:
 - Equipment, materials, and activities
 - Land or right-of-way acquisition, professional expenses, engineering and permitting costs
- Natural gas distribution and storage facilities, including equipment, materials and activities
- Petroleum product storage and handling facilities, including equipment, materials, and activities
- Renewable energy facilities, including solar, wind, hydropower, or biomass technologies used for on- or off-grid:
 - Electric power generation
 - Water or space heating
 - Process heating and power
- Backup or emergency power generation or energy storage technology, including generation equipment installed on consumer premises

This program will also support the implementation of such initiatives as:

- Energy efficiency improvements and conservation measures, such as weatherization of residences and community facilities
- Programs encouraging the use of energy-saving appliances and devices
- Programs aimed at improving the quality and cost of energy service

Priority will be given to projects that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Serve U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) High-Poverty Areas
- Serve small rural communities
- Incorporate commercially proven waste heat recovery technology

- Result in no less than a 25 percent increase in energy efficiency for generation assets, including repowering aging diesel plants
- Address extraordinary circumstances affecting the eligible community, such as disaster, imminent hazards, unserved areas, and other economic hardships
- Service Substantially Underserved Trust Areas (SUTAs)

In addition, applicants are encouraged to consider projects that provide measurable results in helping rural communities build robust and sustainable economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, partnerships, and innovation, as recommended in the Interagency Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity's report, which can be found online [here](#).

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include legally organized for-profit and nonprofit organizations, such as corporations; associations; partnerships; including limited liability partnerships; cooperatives; and trusts, sole proprietorships, state or local governments, as well as any agency or instrumentality of a state or local government, including municipal utilities or public power authorities, Indian tribes, and individuals or groups of individuals applying on behalf of unincorporated community associations.

Projects must serve extremely high-energy cost communities. For the purpose of this program, an extremely high-energy cost community is defined as a community in which the average residential expenditure for home energy is at least 275 percent of the national average residential expenditure for home energy, as determined by the Energy Information Agency using the most recent data available. The smallest area that may be designated as a project area is a 2010 Census block, unless otherwise satisfactory delineated in the application such that data for eligibility determinations is credibly supported.

If the project proponent contemplates a structured financing such that a yet-to-be established project entity will be the grantee of record or the primary entity managing or providing grant services under contract to the award recipient, then this information must be fully disclosed and explained in the original application. The new entity must be in existence and legally competent to enter into an award agreement with the funding agency under appropriate state and federal laws before a final award can be approved.

Funding

Up to \$10 million is available to support awards ranging from \$100,000 to \$3 million through this program.

Matching funds are not required for this program; however, the funding agency will consider other financial resources available to the applicant and any voluntary pledge of matching funds or other contributions in assessing the applicant's commitment and financial capacity to complete the proposed project successfully.

Contact Information

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Finance Specialist

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<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/high-energy-cost-grants>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Utilities Service

FY 2020 Rural eConnectivity Pilot Program (ReConnect Program)

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to expand broadband service to rural areas without sufficient access to broadband, which, for the purposes of this program, is defined as 10 Mbps downstream or 1 Mbps upstream. Loans, grants, and loan/grant combinations issued through this program will fuel long-term rural economic development and opportunities in rural America. Funding is provided in three components: 100 percent loan, 50 percent loan/50 percent grant combination, or 100 percent grant. Funds may be used for the construction or improvement of facilities and acquisition. Eligible applicants are states, local governments, territories of the U.S., Indian tribes, nonprofit entities, for-profit corporations, limited liability companies, and cooperative or mutual organizations.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$600 million	N/A

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$600 million

Match: Not required

Solicitation Date: December 12, 2019

Proposal Due: September 15, 2020s

<https://www.usda.gov/reconnect>



Tips

- Service areas shall not be located in a city, town or incorporated area that has a population greater than 20,000 or an urbanized area adjacent to a city or town with a population great than 50,000 people
- At least 90% of households in the proposed project must not have sufficient access to broadband service

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Utilities Service

FY20 Rural eConnectivity Pilot Program (ReConnect Program)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to expand broadband service to rural areas without sufficient access to broadband, which, for the purposes of this program, is defined as 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream. Loans, grants, and loan/grant combinations issued through this program will fuel long-term rural economic development and opportunities in rural America.

Funding will be provided for the following program components:

- **Part A: 100 Percent Loan:** provides loans for the building of a network that is capable of providing service to every premise in the proposed funded service area (PFSA) at a speed of 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream. The PFSA must be in an area where 90 percent of the households do not have sufficient access to broadband.
- **Part B: 50 Percent Loan/50 Percent Grant Combination:** provides loan/grant combinations for the building of a network that is capable of providing service to every premise in the proposed funded service area (PFSA) at a speed of 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream.
- **Part C: 100 Percent Grant:** provide grants for the building of a network that is capable of providing service to every premise in the proposed funded service area (PFSA) at a speed of 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream.

Award funds may be used to pay for the following costs:

- Construction or improvement of facilities, including buildings and land, required to provide broadband service, including facilities required for providing other services over the same facilities, such as equipment required to comply with the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA)
- Reasonable pre-application expenses
- Acquisition of an existing system that does not currently provide sufficient access to broadband for upgrading the system to meet the requirements of this program
- Terrestrial-based facilities for satellite broadband service, provided the applicant clearly identifies the PFSA, demonstrates the ability to provide 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream simultaneously to every premise in the PFSA, and offers subscribers reasonable service plans that do not cap bandwidth usage

Applicants will receive points in the evaluation process for the number of farms, businesses, health care centers, educational facilities, and essential community facilities that are served by the project.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are:

- States, local governments, or any agency, subdivision, instrumentality, or political subdivision thereof
- Territories or possessions of the United States
- Indian tribes
- Nonprofit entities
- For-profit corporations
- Limited liability companies
- Cooperative or mutual organizations

The proposed funded service area for this component must be in an area where 90 percent of the households do not have sufficient access to broadband. The following restrictions apply to service areas:

- Service areas of borrowers that have Rural Utilities Service (RUS) broadband loans are ineligible for all other applicants
- Service areas that received grants under the RUS Community Connect Grant Program are eligible if they do not have sufficient access to broadband, except for those grants still under construction
- Service areas that received a 100 percent grant under the RUS Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP) are eligible if they do not have sufficient access to broadband; however, if the applicant is the same BIP award recipient, then the applicant may only request a 100 percent loan through this component
- Funding for service areas of Connect America Fund Phase II Auction – Auction 903 recipients can only be requested by the entity that is receiving the CAF II support, and such funding is limited to a 100 percent loan through this component
- Service areas of companies that received an award through any of this program’s component are not eligible for funding

Funding

Approximately \$600 million is available for this program overall. Funding varies by component:

- \$200 million available to support loans of up to \$50 million
- \$200 million available to support loan/grant combinations
- \$200 million available to support grants up to \$25 million

There are no stated matching contributions required for the loan and loan/grant combination components but there is a 25 percent matching contribution required for the 100 percent grant component.

On April 10, 2020, an additional \$100 million was allocated to this component via CARES Act funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic. This additional funding will remain available until September 30, 2021. These funds will be set aside for priority processing projects requesting 100 percent grant funding and for applicants who were unsuccessful in their initial submission of applications.

Contact Information

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<https://www.usda.gov/reconnect>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Utilities Service

FY 2019 Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees Program

Grant Overview

The Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program furnishes loans and loan guarantees to provide funds for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide service at the broadband lending speed in eligible rural areas. Eligible applicants include units of state and local government, corporations, Indian tribes, and nonprofit and for-profit organizations.

Program History

	Total Funding
2018	\$29 million
2017	\$27 million

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: \$100,000 - \$25 million

Match: Not required

Proposal due: Rolling bases until September 30, 2019

- No funding for Guaranteed Loans is available in FY 2019, and the agency will not be considering applications for this type of funding

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-broadband-access-loan-and-loan-guarantee>



Tips

- Applications must identify at least one section, known as the proposed funded service area, in which they propose to use program funding to offer service to all premises at the broadband lending speed
- Multiple service areas may be included in a single application; however, non-contiguous areas must be treated as separate service areas for the purpose of determining service area eligibility

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Utility Service

FY19 Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to increase economic opportunities and improve the quality of life for families and businesses in rural America by providing investment capital in the form of loans and loan guarantees for the deployment and improvement of telecommunications/broadband infrastructure in rural areas. Financial assistance will be offered to eligible applicants that propose to construct, improve, or acquire facilities and equipment needed to provide service at the broadband lending speed in eligible rural areas. To qualify as a broadband service, the minimum rate-of-data transmission must be 25 megabits downstream and 3 megabits upstream for both fixed and mobile service. The broadband lending speed rate at which applicants propose to offer broadband service must be at least 25 megabits downstream and 3 megabits upstream for both fixed and mobile service.

Funding may be requested for:

- Financing the construction, improvement, or acquisition of all facilities required to provide service at the broadband lending speed
- Financing broadband facilities leased under the terms of a capital lease, as defined in generally accepted accounting procedures (GAP)
- Financing the acquisition of facilities, portions of an existing system, and/or another company where acquisition is used in the applicant's business plan for furnishing or improving service at the broadband lending speed
- Refinancing an outstanding obligation on other telecommunications loans made under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936
- Financing pre-loan expenses, such as obtaining market surveys and accountant/consultant costs for preparing the application and support information

During FY 2019, loans will be made available for the construction, improvement, and acquisition of facilities and equipment that will provide service at the Broadband Lending Speed in eligible rural areas. No funding for Guaranteed Loans is available in FY 2019, and the agency will not be considering applications for this type of funding.

Applicant Eligibility

To be eligible for a broadband loan, an applicant may be either a non-profit or for-profit organization, and must take one of the following forms:

- Corporation
- Limited liability company (LLC)
- Cooperative or mutual organization
- State or local unit of government
- Indian tribe or tribal organization

In order for a geographic area to be eligible the area must:

- Have a proposed funding area completely contained within a rural area or composed of multiple rural areas
- Have at least 15 percent of the households in the proposed funding service unserved
- Not have three or more incumbent service providers in the proposed funded service area
- Not overlap with the service area of a current RUS borrower or the service areas of grantees that were funded by RUS

Communities where USDA RUS has previously provided funding for construction of broadband infrastructure may not be eligible.

Funding

For FY 2019, an unspecified amount of funding is available to support loans ranging from \$100,000 to \$25 million through this program. Applicants must agree to complete the build-out of the proposed broadband system within three years from the day the applicant is notified that loan funds are available.

Applicants must demonstrate an equity position equal to at least 10 percent of the requested loan amount.

Contact Information

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<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-broadband-access-loan-and-loan-guarantee>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Utilities Service

FY 2018 Rural Energy Savings Program (RESP)

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to help rural families and small businesses achieve cost savings by providing loans to qualified consumers to implement durable, cost-effective energy efficiency (EE) measures. Loans will be used to eligible applicants that will, in turn, make loans to qualified consumers for the purpose of implementing EE measures. EE measures must be for or at a property or properties served by the applicant, using commercially available technologies that would allow qualified consumers to decrease their energy use or costs through cost-effective measures, including structural improvements to the property. Eligible applicants are public power districts, public utility districts, or similar entities, and any entity primarily owned or controlled by one of more of the aforementioned entities. Projects must serve rural areas.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2017	\$14 million	2

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: \$100 million

Match: Not required

Solicitation Date: August 6, 2018

Due Date: Rolling

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-energy-savings-program>



Awardee Profile

Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council, OH

AMOUNT: \$1 million

YEAR: 2017

The council is a nonprofit regional council of governments and will provide energy improvement loans to small businesses in 206 rural communities across 13 counties in northeast Ohio.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Utilities Service

FY18 Rural Energy Savings Program (RESP)

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to help rural families and small businesses achieve cost savings by providing loans to qualified consumers to implement durable, cost-effective energy efficiency (EE) measures. Loans will be issued to eligible applicants that will, in turn, make loans to qualified consumers for the purpose of implementing EE measures. EE measures must be for or at property or properties served by the applicant, using commercially available technologies that would allow qualified consumers to decrease their energy use or costs through cost-effective measures, including structural improvements to the property.

Applicants may provide financing to qualified consumers to implement or invest in one or more of the following EE measures:

- Lighting
- Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning
- Building envelope improvements
- Water heaters
- Compressed air systems
- Motors
- Boilers, dryers, heaters and process-related equipment or equipment not otherwise specified, such as commercial coolers and freezers
- Energy audits
- On- or off-grid renewable energy systems, if consistent with the statutory purpose of this program
- Energy storage devices, if permanently installed to reduce the energy cost or usage of small businesses and families within a rural area
- Energy-efficient appliance upgrades, if attached to real property as fixtures
- Irrigation or water and waste disposal system efficiency improvements
- Necessary and incidental activities and investments directly related to implementation of an EE measure

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are:

- Public power districts, public utility districts, or similar entities, or any electric cooperative described in section 501(c)(12) or 1381 (a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of that 1986, that borrowed and repair, prepaid, or is paying an electric loan made or guaranteed by the funding agency
- Any entity primarily owned or controlled by one or more of the aforementioned entities
- Any other entity that is an eligible borrower of the funding agency as determined under Title 7, Section 1710.101 of the Code of Federal Regulations

Projects must serve rural areas. Applicants are encouraged to contact the funding agency, using the information provided in the Contact section, to discuss area eligibility prior to letter of intent submission.

Funding

For FY 2018, approximately \$100 million is expected to be available to support loans through this program. Applicants may request a special advance of up to 4 percent of the approved loan amount to defray the start-up costs of establishing a new EE program.

There are no stated matching requirements for this program; however, applicants must have a minimum equity position in the proposed energy efficiency (EE) program at the time of loan closing.

Contact Information

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Electric Engineer

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<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-energy-savings-program>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Development

FY 2019 Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants

Grant Overview

This purpose of this program is to help rural communities prepare for, or recover from, an emergency that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water for households and businesses. Eligible projects may take place in communities that have experienced a significant decline in quantity or quality of drinking water due to an emergency, or in which such decline is considered imminent. Projects must serve rural areas with a population of no greater than 10,000 and must be either state government entities, local government entities, nonprofit organizations, or federally recognized tribes.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2015	\$15 million	53

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Award Range: \$150,000 - \$500,000

Match: Not required

Proposal due: Rolling

- A federal disaster designation is not required to receive an award
- Eligible rural areas may be searched online [here](#)

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/emergency-community-water-assistance-grants>



Awardee Profile

County of San Luis
Obispo, CA

AMOUNT: \$500,000

YEAR: 2015

The County of San Luis Obispo received funding through this program in response to emergency drought conditions.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Development

FY19 Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to help rural communities prepare for, or recover from, an emergency that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water for households and businesses. Eligible projects may take place in communities that have experienced a significant decline in quantity or quality of drinking water due to an emergency, or in which such decline is considered imminent. Funding is intended to maintain the standards prescribed by the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Qualifying emergencies may include droughts; earthquakes; floods; tornadoes; hurricanes; disease outbreaks; and chemical spills, leakage, or seepage; however, a federal disaster designation is not required to receive an award. Funding may be provided for:

- Water transmission line projects involving the construction of waterline extensions, repairs to breaks or leaks in existing water distribution lines, and related maintenance necessary to replenish water supply
- Water source projects involving the construction of a new water source, intake, and/or treatment facility
- Projects that alleviate a significant decline in quantity or quality of water available to a rural area that occurred within two years, or attempt to avoid a significant decline expected to occur during the 12-month period following the filing of an application
- Projects involve repairs, partial replacement, or significant maintenance on an established system to remedy an acute shortage or significant decline in the quality or quantity of potable water, or an anticipated acute shortage or significant decline expected to occur during the next 12 months

Program funding may be used for activities including:

- Waterline extensions from existing systems
- Construction of new waterlines
- Repairs to an existing system
- Significant maintenance to an existing system
- Construction of new wells, reservoirs, transmission lines, treatment plants, and other sources of water
- Equipment replacement
- Connection and/or tap fees
- Other appropriate purposes
- Complying with applicable regulations
- Providing potable water

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are state government entities, local government entities, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized tribes.

Projects must serve qualifying rural areas. Such areas include cities and towns with a population no greater than 10,000, with a median household income no greater than the state's non-metropolitan median household income, as well as tribal lands in rural areas and colonias. Priority consideration will be given to smaller rural communities and communities with a lower percentage of the state's median household income.

Funding

An unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards through this program as follows:

- Awards of up to \$500,000 for:
 - Water source projects
 - Projects that alleviate a significant decline in quantity or quality of water available to a rural area that occurred within two years, or to attempt to avoid a significant decline that is expected to occur during the next 12 months
- Awards of up to \$150,000 for:
 - Water transmission line projects
 - Projects involving repairs, partial replacement, or significant maintenance on an established system to remedy an acute shortage or significant decline in the quality or quantity of potable water, or an anticipated acute shortage or significant decline

At least 70 percent of all awards will be for projects that alleviate significant decline in quantity or quality of water available to a rural area that occurred within two years, or to attempt to avoid a significant decline that is expected to occur during the next 12 months. At least 50 percent of all funds will be allocated to rural areas with populations fewer than 3,000.

Contact Information

Questions should be directed to the appropriate local office listed online at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices>.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/emergency-community-water-assistance-grants>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Development

FY 2020 Solid Waste Management Grant Program

Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to support the sound development of rural communities and the growth of economies in such areas without endangering the environment. This program will provide financial and technical assistance to help communities reduce or eliminate pollution of water sources in rural areas and improve planning and management of solid waste sites in rural areas. Eligible applicants are private nonprofit organizations, public bodies, federally acknowledged or state-recognized native American tribes, and academic institutions.

Program History

	Award Range	# of Awards
2019	\$17,905 - \$898,400	27

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Match: Not required

Solicitation Date: October 1, 2019

Proposal due: December 31, 2019

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/solid-waste-management-grants>



Awardee Profile

Missaukee Conservation District, Michigan

AMOUNT: \$102,950

YEAR: 2018

The funds will be used to reduce pollution of water resources in rural areas, lower energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions, improving planning and management of solid waste sites, encourage reduction and reuse of materials, and retain and create jobs to help the District's communities to keep an environmentally sound waste disposal facility available in rural Missaukee County.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Development

FY20 Solid Waste Management Grant Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support the sound development of rural communities and the growth of economies in such areas without endangering the environment. This program will provide financial and technical assistance to help communities reduce or eliminate pollution of water sources in rural areas, and improve planning, and management of solid waste sites in rural areas. Funds must be used to capitalize a SWM program for the purposes of:

- Evaluating current landfill conditions to determine threats to water resources
- Providing technical assistance and/or training to enhance operator skills in the operation and maintenance of active landfills
- Providing technical assistance and/or training to help communities reduce the solid waste stream
- Providing technical assistance and/or training for operators of landfills that are closed or will be closed in the near future with the development and implementation of closure plans, future land use plans, safety and maintenance planning, and closure scheduling within permit requirements

Additional points will be provided in the evaluation process to projects that serve areas with populations of under 2,500 or that have median household incomes (MHIs) of less than 80 percent of the state non-metropolitan MHI. Additional points may also be provided to projects that:

- Target the smallest communities in which at least 20 percent of the population lives in poverty
- Establish composting programs and emphasize reducing food loss and waste in order to divert food waste from landfills, improve overall food security, and secure natural resources
- Request less than \$100,000 in funds, or that direct technical assistance and/or training to problems related to landfill safety or reduction of the solid waste stream through reuse
- Establish programs to address the contamination of drinking water and surface water supplies by emerging contaminants associated with solid waste systems, including per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are private nonprofit organizations, public bodies, federally acknowledged or state-recognized Native American tribes or groups, and academic institutions. To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be legally established in one of the states, D.C., the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a U.S. territory
- Have the legal capacity and authority to carry out the award purpose
- Have a proven record of successfully providing technical assistance and/or training to rural areas
- Have capitalization acceptable to the USDA

- Have a membership or outstanding of interest of which at least 51 percent consists of individuals who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents
- Have no delinquent debt to the federal government or outstanding judgements to repay a federal debt
- Have the financial, technical, and managerial capability to comply with federal and state laws and requirements

Funding

An unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards through this program. There are no stated matching requirements for this program; however, applicants that demonstrate a commitment of in-kind support derived from nonfederal resources will receive additional points in the evaluation process. The greatest number of additional points will be given to applicants that provide contributions of more than 25 percent of the total project budget.

In addition, applicants that demonstrate the ability to sustain the project via cash on hand, projected revenues and outside-source contributions, with a steady increase to sustainability taking place within five years, will receive additional points in the evaluation process.

Contact Information

Penny Douglas

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<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/solid-waste-management-grants>

FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agency: Rural Development

FY 2020 Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program

Grant Overview

This program provides funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas. Eligible applicants include most state and local government entities, private non-profit organizations, and federally recognized Indian tribes.

Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$783 million	266

Key Information and Tips

Total Funding: Unspecified

Match: Not required

Proposal due: Rolling

- Projects must serve rural areas and towns with fewer than 10,000 people. Eligible rural areas may be searched online [here](#)
- All facilities receiving federal financing must be used for a public purpose

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program>



Awardee Profile

Millview County Water District
Mendocino County, CA

AMOUNT: \$3 million

YEAR: 2019

The Millview County Water District received a \$3 million loan to help purchase property to gain access to its water source. Millview did not own the water rights to four well sites, making it difficult to service the wells especially for issues such as contamination.

Department: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agency: Rural Development

FY20 Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program

Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to support the provision of clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and stormwater drainage for households and businesses in eligible rural areas. All facilities receiving funding must be used for a public purpose. Funding may be provided as a loan or as a combination of a loan and a grant.

Partnerships with other federal, state, local, private, and nonprofit entities that offer financial assistance are encouraged. Funding may be used to finance the acquisition, construction, or improvement of:

- Drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage, and distribution
- Sewer collection, transmission, treatment, and disposal
- Solid waste collection, disposal, and closure
- Stormwater collection, transmission, and disposal

In some cases, funding may also be available for related activities, such as:

- Legal and engineering fees
- Land acquisition, water and land rights, permits, and equipment
- Start-up operations and maintenance
- Interest incurred during construction
- Purchase of existing facilities to improve service or prevent loss of service
- Other costs determined to be necessary for completion of the project

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include most state and local government entities, private nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized Indian tribes. Applicants must have the legal authority to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed services or facilities, and must be otherwise unable to obtain commercial credit on reasonable terms.

Eligible areas include:

- Rural areas and towns with fewer than 10,000 people
- Tribal lands in rural areas
- Colonias

Eligible rural areas may be searched online at eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov.

Funding

In FY20, there is an unspecified amount of funding available to support loans through this program. If funds are available, grants may be combined with loans, if necessary, to keep applicant costs reasonable.

The loan payback period may be for up to 40 years, based on the useful life of the facilities, financed with a fixed interest rate. The interest rate is based on the need for the project and the median household income of the area to be served. Applicants should contact their local Rural Development office, using the information provided in the Contact section, for details and current interest rates applicable to their project. Information about interest rates is also available online at www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services.

There are no stated matching requirements for this program; however, partnerships with other entities that offer financial assistance are encouraged. In addition, projects must be financially sustainable.

Contact Information

Questions should be directed to the appropriate local office listed online at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices>.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program>