

Navigating the Federal Funding Landscape: A Guide for Communities

*20+ Ways to Pay for Local Environmental Priorities
Including Climate Resilience, Water Resource Management,
Renewable Energy & Sustainable Agriculture*



December 2021

About This Guide

Across federal agencies, there are numerous grants and loans to help communities fund local environmental and climate-related priorities. Yet at the community level, navigating these programs and identifying the appropriate opportunities for a particular jurisdiction is a big challenge and a barrier to taking action toward funding priority projects.

This guide was developed with **small- and mid-sized villages, towns, cities, and tribes** in mind to help these communities **align priorities with available funding** and serve as a **jumping-off point for additional research**, before investing time and energy into the application process.

This guide provides a **snapshot of more than 20 major federal funds** that support local environmental and climate-related priorities. To relate this guide to ongoing technical assistance provided by the New England Environmental Finance Center and its partners in communities around the country, we have focused on federal grants and loans that support activities related to **four key themes**:



Climate Resilience



Water Resource Management



Renewable Energy



Sustainable Agriculture

How to Use This Guide

Community leaders should **review this guide with the goal of narrowing their focus to a subset of federal funding opportunities** best aligned with local needs. Each profile is meant to be short and digestible so a town administrator, planner, tribal government representative, or volunteer committee member can get an initial sense of whether a particular grant or loan aligns with a specific local funding need or priority. This guide is not exhaustive and is meant to **serve as a jumping-off point for additional research into specific funds of interest**, once you've narrowed your list.

This guide offers **multiple starting points** for determining funds of interest. Review the [Summary](#) (pg. 4-6) to start your **search by a particular funding theme** (*climate resilience, water resource management, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture*), **use type** (*feasibility studies, planning, design, implementation, construction*), or **fund type** (*grant, loan*). Alternately, consult the [Table of Contents](#) (pg. 7-8) to see opportunities by **federal agency**.

Applying for a federal grant or loan can be time intensive. Before starting an application, **use this guide to confirm that your entity and proposed project(s) are eligible**, that you're **aware of any cost-sharing or "match" requirements**, and that you know **the amount of money on the table**. Consult the links provided for additional information or to answer any questions.

The New England Environmental Finance Center




The New England Environmental Finance Center (EFC) is one of 10 regional Environmental Finance Centers supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to deliver targeted technical assistance to, and partner with, states, tribes, local governments, and the private sector to provide innovative solutions to fund and finance critical environmental programs. The New England EFC works to build the capacity of public and private clients to pay for the growing cost of infrastructure and improvements necessary to protect critical environmental resources and foster resilient communities, and to be better prepared to manage the acute and long-term challenges of environmental protection, funding, and finance.

Federal Agency Acronyms

ACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
EDA	U.S. Economic Development Administration
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
NFWF	National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
NOAA	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

Summary

Federal Funding Opportunities by Theme, Use Type, and Fund Type

 Climate Resilience		
	 <i>Supports Feasibility Studies, Planning & Design</i>	 <i>Supports Implementation & Construction</i>
Grants	Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities* (FEMA) Coastal Zone Enhancement Grants (NOAA) Community Development Block Grant Program* (HUD) Flood Damage Reduction Projects* (ACE) Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant* (FEMA) Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Projects (Section 103)* (ACE) National Coastal Resilience Fund* (NFWF) Rural Utilities Service - Water and Environmental Programs* (USDA)	Grants Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (USDA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities* (FEMA) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (EPA) Community-Based Restoration Program (NOAA) Community Development Block Grant Program* (HUD) Conservation Innovation Grant (USDA) Disaster Supplemental Funding (EDA) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (EPA) Flood Damage Reduction Projects* (ACE) Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant* (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (FEMA) Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Projects (Section 103)* (ACE) National Coastal Resilience Fund* (NFWF) Property-Assessed Clean Energy Programs (DOE) Rural Utilities Service - Water and Environmental Programs* (USDA) Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program (EPA)
		Loans Clean Water State Revolving Fund (EPA) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (EPA) Community Development Block Grant Program* (HUD) Rural Utilities Service - Water and Environmental Programs* (USDA)

*Supports both Feasibility Studies, Planning & Design and Implementation & Construction.



Water Resource Management



Supports Feasibility Studies, Planning & Design



Supports Implementation & Construction

Grants	<p>Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities* (FEMA) Community Development Block Grant Program* (HUD) Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grants* (NFWF) Flood Damage Reduction Projects* (ACE) Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant* (FEMA) National Coastal Resilience Fund* (NFWF) Rural Utilities Service - Water and Environmental Programs* (USDA)</p>	Grants	<p>Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities* (FEMA) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (EPA) Community-Based Restoration Program (NOAA) Community Development Block Grant Program* (HUD) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (EPA) Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grants* (NFWF) Flood Damage Reduction Projects* (ACE) Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant* (FEMA) National Coastal Resilience Fund* (NFWF) Rural Utilities Service - Water and Environmental Programs* (USDA) Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Grants (EPA) Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program (EPA)</p>
			Loans

*Supports both Feasibility Studies, Planning & Design and Implementation & Construction.



Renewable Energy



Supports Feasibility Studies, Planning & Design



Supports Implementation & Construction

Grants	Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (USDA) Community Development Block Grant Program* (HUD) Rural Energy for America Program* (USDA) Rural Utilities Service - Electric Program* (USDA)	Grants	Community Development Block Grant Program* (HUD) Rural Energy for America Program* (USDA) Rural Utilities Service - Electric Program* (USDA)
		Loans	Community Development Block Grant Program* (HUD) Rural Energy for America Program* (USDA) Rural Utilities Service - Electric Program* (USDA)
		Other	Property-Assessed Clean Energy Programs (DOE)



Sustainable Agriculture



Supports Feasibility Studies, Planning & Design



Supports Implementation & Construction

Grants	Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (USDA) Conservation Innovation Grants (USDA) Rural Energy for America Program* (USDA)	Grants	Rural Energy for America Program* (USDA)
		Loans	Rural Energy for America Program* (USDA)

*Supports both Feasibility Studies, Planning & Design and Implementation & Construction.

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Flood Damage Reduction Projects



Keywords: Flood Control, Flood Mitigation

Grant

Loan

Other

Description:

Section 205 of the 1948 Flood Control Act authorizes the Corps of Engineers to study, design, and construct small flood control projects in partnership with non-federal government agencies, such as cities, counties, special authorities, or units of state government. The program team convenes and facilitates dialogue at all levels of government and with other key interests, e.g., national organizations and private sector, to develop a national vision for flood risk management. Flood control projects are not limited to any particular type of improvement, but may include levees, floodwalls, channel modifications, pumping stations, or non-structural measures. Projects are conducted in two phases: a feasibility phase and a design and implementation phase. Each project must be economically justified, environmentally sound, and technically feasible. ACE conducts an initial appraisal during the feasibility study to determine whether the project meets program criteria and to present possible alternatives before beginning construction.

ACE Flood Damage Reduction Projects have prevented an estimated \$138 billion in average annual damages between 2010 and 2019. For every dollar invested in these projects, approximately \$12.26 in potential damages have been saved. Usually these projects are turned over to states, local communities, or the private sector, where they typically produce economic benefits through job and revenue creation.

Administered by the State?

Yes

No, apply directly to ACE

Eligible Applicants: Cities, counties, special authorities, units of state government.

Match Requirement: Feasibility study costs up to \$100,000 are 100% federally funded. Amounts over that are shared 50% federal/50% non-federal. Up to 50% of the non-federal share may be in-kind services. Costs for preparation of plans, specifications, and construction are shared 65% federal/35% non-federal. The non-federal share of construction consists of lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal areas plus a cash contribution of 5% of the total project costs that must total to at least 35% of the total project cost. If the amount is less than 35%, additional cash is necessary. If more, the sponsor is responsible for up to 50% of the total project costs.

Eligible Uses: This grant can be used to assess the feasibility, design, and/or construct flood control projects both structural in nature (e.g. channel enlargement, realignment, or paving; obstruction removal; levee and wall construction; or bank stabilization) or non-structural alternatives (e.g. installation of flood warning systems; raising and/or floodproofing structures; or relocation of

structures/flood-prone facilities). Flood damage reduction projects are conducted in two phases: a feasibility phase and a design and implementation phase.

Funded Project Example:

Awarded in 2019, ACE will use an estimated \$281.5 million to construct two flood and storm damage reduction projects in North Carolina – Surf City and North Topsail Beach and Carteret County (Bogue Banks).

Average Award Amount: Award amounts vary; however, the maximum award for planning, design, and construction of any one project is \$10,000,000 (not including non-federal match).

Website: <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Public-Services/Continuing-Authorities-Program/Section-205/>

[ACE Resource on Economic Impact of Flood Risk Management](#)

[ACE Section 205 Flood Damage Reduction](#)

[2019 ACE Project in North Carolina](#)

Hurricane and Storm Damage Reduction Projects (Section 103)



Keywords: Disaster Preparedness, Hazard Mitigation, Flood Mitigation, Flood Control

Grant	Loan	Other
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Description: This grant covers the study, design, and construction of small coastal storm damage reduction projects in partnership with state agencies. Each project must be economically justified, environmentally sound, and technically feasible. Hurricane and storm damage reduction projects are not limited to any particular type of improvement, but may include beach nourishment or floodproofing. ACE conducts an initial appraisal during the feasibility study to determine whether the project meets program criteria and to present possible alternatives before beginning construction.

Administered by the State?	Yes	No, apply directly to ACE
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Eligible Applicants: Cities, counties, special authorities, units of state government.

Match Requirement: Feasibility study costs up to \$100,000 are 100% federally funded. Amounts over that are shared 50% federal/50% non-federal. Up to 50% of the non-federal share may be in-kind services. Costs for preparation of plans, specifications, and construction are shared 65% federal/35% non-federal. The non-federal share of construction consists of lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations and disposal areas plus a cash contribution of 5% of the total project costs that must total to at least 35% of the total project cost. If the amount is less than 35%, additional cash is necessary. If more, the sponsor is responsible for up to 50% of the total project costs.

Eligible Uses: This grant covers a feasibility study and the construction of a small coastal storm damage reduction project such as beach nourishment (structural) or floodproofing (non-structural).

Funded Project Examples:

- A 2014 feasibility report and environmental assessment detailing causes of the flooding and erosion problem at Nantasket Beach and feasible solutions for reducing damages.
- A 2016 feasibility report and environmental assessment detailing the flooding and erosion problems along the shorefront in Marshfield, MA and feasible solutions to those problems.


Average Award Amount: Award amounts vary; however, the maximum award for planning, design, and construction of any one project is \$5,000,000 (not including non-federal match).

Website: <https://www.sas.usace.army.mil/Missions/CAP/Section-103-Small-Hurricane-and-Storm-Damage-Reduction-Projects-Beach-Erosion/>

[Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment for Nantasket Beach, MA](#)

[Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment for Marshfield, MA](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agriculture & Food Research Initiative <i>National Institute of Food and Agriculture</i>		
Keywords: Sustainable Agriculture, Food Systems, Rural Development, Renewable Energy, Education, Workforce Development		
Grant	Loan	Other
<p>Description: The Agriculture & Food Research Initiative (AFRI) offers multiple competitive grant programs that fund agricultural research, education, and extension activities on issues facing the food and agricultural system, including in the areas of plant and animal health, food safety, climate change, food systems, and rural communities. Funding programs include: Sustainable Agricultural Systems, Education and Workforce Development, Foundational and Applied Science, and Interagency Programs.</p> <p>Specific priority areas are tied to those identified in the Farm Bill, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plant health and production and plant products (e.g. conventional plant breeding) 2. Animal health and production and animal products (e.g. conventional animal breeding) 3. Food safety, nutrition, and health (e.g. local and regional food systems) 4. Bioenergy, natural resources, and environment 5. Agriculture systems and technology (e.g. renewable energy, ranching, urban and agroforestry, aquaculture) 6. Agriculture economics and rural communities (e.g. farm efficiency and profitability, rural communities and entrepreneurship, farm transition and farm viability) <p>USDA is required to direct 60% of AFRI funds toward grants for fundamental (or basic) research and 40% toward applied research. At least 30% of annual funding must be used for “integrated” projects that combine research and education, research and extension, education and extension, or all three.</p>		
Administered by the State?	Yes	No , apply directly to USDA
<p>Eligible Applicants: Eligibility for AFRI funding is determined by the program of interest. Generally, federally/non-federally recognized Indian tribes, land grant institutions, non-profits, for profit organizations (other than small businesses), and individuals are eligible.</p>		
<p>Eligible Uses: Use of AFRI funds is determined by the program of interest. Examples under specific AFRI funding programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Agriculture Systems Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funds long-term, ground-breaking research needed to transition the current agricultural sector into a more sustainable and resilient system. ○ Projects must focus on promoting transformational changes in the U.S. food and agriculture system, and to significantly improve the supply of affordable, safe, nutritious, and accessible agricultural products. 		

- Outcomes of the work being proposed should result in societal benefits, including promotion of rural prosperity and enhancement of quality of life.
- [Education and Workforce Development Program](#)
 - Focuses on developing the next generation of research, education, and extension professionals in the food and agricultural sciences
 - Applications in seven areas including agricultural workforce training; professional development for agricultural literacy; and training of undergraduate students in research and extension.

The maximum term of an AFRI grant varies by program, but is generally no longer than five years. The exception being up to 25-year grants under the Sustainable Agricultural Systems Program.

Funded Project Examples:

- New Mexico State University’s program to increase climate change literacy and support both adaptation and mitigation activities received AFRI funding to help assess climate change vulnerability and develop more greenhouse gas mitigation activities.
- Clemson University received AFRI funding to build the germplasm, breeding, genetics, and genomics foundations for advancing sorghum as a bioenergy and chemical feedstock with the goal of developing renewable fuel production.
- Additional funded projects listed by [state](#)

Average Award Amount: Award amounts vary by program of interest. For example, Sustainable Agriculture Systems projects range from \$1 to 10 million, whereas Education and Workforce Development projects are generally up to \$1 million.

Website: <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/agriculture-and-food-research-initiative-afri>
 Currently available AFRI requests for applications are available [here](#) or you can search for a specific AFRI opportunity [here](#) (filter by keyword “AFRI”).
 Application [Resources](#)

Conservation Innovation Grant

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)



Keywords: Conservation, Sustainable Agriculture, Habitat Restoration, Water Efficiency, Water Quality, Energy Efficiency,

Grant	Loan	Other
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Description: Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) fund innovative conservation projects that promote science-based solutions that benefit farmers and the environment. CIG projects seek to develop and improve access to innovative conservation solutions for farmers and ranchers nationwide through on-farm pilots and demonstration projects. On-the-ground projects help transfer technology to farmers and ranchers in order to address critical natural resource concerns on agricultural lands.

The CIG program has three components, each of which has a separate competition:

1. [National \(Classic\) Competition](#)
2. [State Competitions](#). Each participating state holds their own competition with smaller award amounts and priority areas specific to the needs in each state.
3. [On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials](#). Focused on technology that is proven and scalable, as compared to lesser developed technologies targeted by the National and State Competitions.

CIG funds can be used to fund single or multi-year projects (not to exceed 3 years). In the funding announcement, NRCS typically provides guidance regarding the particular resource concerns or areas of innovation to be addressed in that year’s funding pool, which can change from year to year. For example, 2018 focused on grazing lands, organic agriculture systems, and soil health; 2019 on pollinator habitat, urban agriculture, and increasing the pace of conservation adoption, and 2021 projects are expected to lead to the transfer of conservation technologies, management systems, and innovative approaches (such as market-based systems) to agricultural producers, into technical manuals and guides, or to the private sector.

Administered by the State?	Yes, for State CIG competitions	No, apply directly to USDA for National Classic and On-Farm Trials
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Eligible Applicants: State and local governments, tribal governments, non-governmental organizations, community colleges, and individuals. Each year, up to 10% of national CIG funds may be set aside for projects targeting historically-underserved applicants, such as beginning and limited-resource farmers and ranchers, tribes, or community-based organizations comprised of or representing these farmers.

Match Requirement: Grantees must match 100% percent of the funds provided by the CIG award through non-federal in-kind or cash contributions.

Eligible Uses: For the National CIG, annual funding notices will identify the particular resources to be addressed through that year’s funding pool, changing year to year. Projects can be watershed-based, regional, multi-state, or nationwide. For the State CIG, focus areas are announced through participating states, though NRCS may make this information available on the national CIG webpage. Awards typically support projects that are state-based, multi-county or small watershed in scope.

Project examples may include improving irrigation efficiency, restoring pasture, or nutrient and pest management. CIG projects may employ one or more of these practices: vegetative and structural conservation practices (e.g. terraces, manure waste lagoons, irrigation equipment, grassed waterways, filter strips, and wildlife habitat enhancement); management practices (e.g. conservation crop rotation, nutrient management, drainage management, and integrated pest management).

To be a successful application, the proposed conservation approach or technology must involve EQIP-eligible farmers or ranchers (more details on EQIP eligibility [here](#)).

Funded Project Examples:

- Winneshiek Energy District in northeast Iowa received a CIG in 2014 aimed at helping farmers reduce their on-farm energy use by transitioning to solar or improving the energy efficiency on their farms.
- More CIG [success stories](#)

Average Award Amount: Award amounts vary by competition. For the National CIG, the average award amount (based on the [2019 National CIG Awards](#)) was just under \$700,000. Projects are not limited to \$100,000 (the state CIG limit). For the State CIG, applicants may request funds up to 50% of the total project cost, not to exceed \$100,000. The state Conservationist may dedicate up to 5% of the state's EQIP funding for CIGs; NRCS offers more or less funding at the discretion of the state Conservationist.

Website: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/>

All applications (both state and USDA-managed competitions) are submitted through [NRCS portal](#) FY2021 [National Notice of Funding](#) CIG

Rural Energy for America Program



Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Keywords: Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Development, Technical Assistance

Grant	Loan	Other
<p>Description: In order to help producers save money and utilize renewable energy, the Rural Energy for America program (REAP) provides grants and loans to farmers and rural businesses interested in making energy efficiency or renewable energy improvements, as well as to tribal and local governments that work to support these members of the community. The program also supports the purchase of wind, solar or other renewable energy systems, and provides grants to help farmers with energy audits and renewable energy development.</p> <p>The program offers two types of assistance:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grants and loan guarantees <i>to farmers and rural businesses</i> for energy efficiency improvements and purchase of renewable energy systems. Note that grants cannot provide more than 25% of the total cost of the activity and loan guarantees cannot exceed \$25 million. Projects may receive both a grant and a loan guarantee but the combined amount of a grant and loan guarantee cannot exceed 75% of the total cost of funded activity. 2. Grants <i>to service providers</i> who work with farmers and rural small businesses for energy audits and renewable energy planning and development. 		
Administered by the State?	Yes, though state renewable energy coordinators	No
<p>Eligible Applicants: Agricultural producers and rural small businesses can apply for grants and loan guarantees. Units of state, tribal, or local government, institutions of higher education, and rural electric cooperatives or public power entities can apply as service providers.</p>		
<p>Eligible Uses: Grants/loans <i>to farmers and rural businesses</i> must improve the efficiency of existing energy-using operations (e.g. upgrade irrigation motors and grain dryers to more efficient replacements) or install</p>		

new renewable energy systems (e.g. purchase and install wind, solar, renewable biomass, anaerobic digesters, small-hydroelectric, and geothermal).

Grants *to service providers* can be used to establish programs that assist agriculture producers and rural small businesses with evaluating their energy usage (i.e. energy audits) and potential for incorporating efficiency improvements/renewable energy production systems. Grantees that conduct energy audits must require the agricultural producer or small business to pay at least 25% of the cost of the audit. The grantee may not use more than 5% of a grant for administrative expenses.

Funded Project Example:

Western Iowa Power Cooperative began a community solar program where members can subscribe to panels of large solar array projects built by the cooperative and receive a monthly production credit on their electric bill. Financing came from a \$205,679 USDA REAP grant and a \$270,000 USDA Rural Utilities Service Electric Program loan. This made renewable energy more accessible to rural Iowa farmers and businesses.

Average Award Amount: Grants must be ≤ 25% of the total cost of the activity carried out using grant funds. Loan guarantees can be ≤ \$25 million.

Website: <https://sustainableagriculture.net/publications/grassrootsguide/renewable-energy/renewable-energy-energy-efficiency/>

Rural Utilities Service - Electric Programs



Rural Development

Keywords: Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Electric Infrastructure, Rural Development

Grant	Loan	Other
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Description: Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Electric Programs provide loans and loan guarantees to finance the construction or improvement of electric distribution, transmission, and generation facilities in rural areas. Electric Programs also offer grant and loan funding to support demand-side management, energy efficiency and conservation programs, and on-and off-grid renewable energy systems. There are multiple, distinct grant and loan opportunities under the umbrella of the RUS Electric Programs including:

- [Distributed Generation Energy Project Financing](#): Loans to energy project developers for distributed energy projects including renewables that provide wholesale or retail electricity to existing Electric Program borrowers or to rural communities served by other utilities.
- [Electric Infrastructure Loan & Loan Guarantee Program](#): Loans primarily finance the construction of electric distribution facilities in rural areas.
- [Energy Efficiency & Conservation Loans](#): Loans to finance energy efficiency and conservation projects for commercial, industrial, and residential consumers.
- [Energy Resource Conservation](#): Enables current RUS borrowers to make funds available to their consumers for energy conservation and renewable energy projects by deferring payment of principal and interest.

- [High Energy Cost Grants](#): Assists energy providers and other eligible entities in lowering energy costs for families and individuals in areas with extremely high per-household energy costs (275% of the national average or higher).
- [Rural Energy Savings Program](#): Provides loans to rural utilities and other companies who provide energy efficiency loans to qualified consumers to implement durable cost-effective energy efficiency measures.
- Additional RUS Electric Programs can be found [here](#) (set “Program Area” to “Electric Programs”).

Administered by the State?	Yes	No , apply directly to USDA
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Eligible Applicants: Eligibility is determined by the specific funding opportunity within RUS Electric Programs. In general, local governments, federally recognized tribes, non-profits, entities providing wholesale electric supply to distribution entities, and existing RUS borrowers are eligible. However, eligibility does vary; for example, the Electric Infrastructure Loan & Loan Guarantee Program requires project areas to qualify as rural to be eligible.

Eligible Uses: Eligible uses vary by funding opportunity within RUS Electric Programs. Some example uses of funds include: energy audits; demand side management (including smart grids); consumer education and outreach; residential/commercial energy efficiency; renewable energy systems (e.g. wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, and hydro); and fuel switching.

Funded Project Example:

Western Iowa Power Cooperative began a community solar program where members can subscribe to panels of large solar array projects built by the cooperative and receive a monthly production credit on their electric bill. Financing came from a \$270,000 USDA RUS Electric Program loan and a \$205,679 USDA REAP grant. This made renewable energy more accessible to rural Iowa farmers and businesses.

Average Award Amount: Award amounts vary by the specific funding opportunity within the Electric Program. At the time of writing, the loan portfolio across Electric Programs was approximately \$46 billion across 700 borrowers in 46 states.

Website: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/electric-programs>

Rural Utilities Service - Water and Environmental Programs

Rural Development



Keywords: Drinking Water Infrastructure, Wastewater Infrastructure, Stormwater Management, Capacity Building, Technical Assistance

Grant	Loan	Other
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Description: Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Water and Environmental Programs (WEP) provide financing and technical assistance to develop drinking water and waste disposal systems in rural communities with populations of 10,000 or less. WEP provides grant and loan funding for the construction of water and waste facilities, as well as funding to organizations that provide technical assistance and training to

rural communities in relation to their water and waste activities. WEP is administered by the USDA National Office and a network of field staff in each state. There are multiple, distinct grant and loan opportunities under the RUS WEP umbrella including:

- [Circuit Rider Program](#): Provides technical assistance to rural water systems experiencing day-to-day operational, financial or managerial issues.
- [Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households \(SEARCH\)](#): Funds help very small, financially distressed rural communities with pre-development feasibility studies, design and technical assistance on proposed water and waste disposal projects.
- [Water & Waste Disposal Loans & Grants](#): 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.
- Additional WEP funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

Administered by the State?	Yes, through local Rural Development offices	No
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Eligible Applicants: Eligibility is determined by the specific WEP funding opportunity. In general, most state and local government entities, federally recognized tribes, and non-profits are eligible. Specific WEP funding opportunities may have additional eligibility requirements. For example, SEARCH applicants must be rural and financially distressed (i.e. a population of ≤ 2,500 and median household income below the poverty line or ≤ 80% of the statewide non-metropolitan median household income based on the latest Census data). Note that match requirements exist for several WEP funding opportunities as well.

Eligible Uses: Eligible uses vary by WEP funding opportunity. Some example uses of funds include: operations, financial, or management assistance and energy audits for rural water systems (Circuit Rider Program); predevelopment planning i.e. feasibility studies, preliminary design and engineering analyses, or funding proposal development assistance (SEARCH); and acquisition, construction or improvement of drinking water, sewer, solid waste or stormwater systems (Water & Waste Disposal Loans & Grants).

Average Award Amount: Award amounts vary by the specific WEP funding opportunity; for example, SEARCH grants average ≤ \$30,000. Grants across all WEP programs in 2016 totaled \$1.8 billion.

Website: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/water-environmental-programs>

U.S. Department of Energy

Property-Assessed Clean Energy Programs		
		
Keywords: Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, Water Conservation		
Grant	Loan	Other
<p>Description: Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Programs fund residential and commercial renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements. To unlock federal funds, states must first pass PACE-enabling legislation, after which county or municipal governments can adopt PACE-enabling ordinances and approve projects within their local jurisdiction (find states with approved legislation and active programs here). PACE Programs allow municipalities to encourage energy efficiency and renewable energy without putting general funds at risk, and taps into large sources of private capital. However, PACE programs can require dedicated local government staff time and legal and administrative setup obligations can be significant.</p> <p>The PACE model is an innovative mechanism for financing energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements on private property. PACE programs finance the up-front cost of energy or other eligible improvements on a residential or commercial property and then pay the costs back over time through a voluntary assessment attached to the property, rather than an individual. Participating property owners repay improvement costs over a set time period (typically 10-20 years) through property assessments, which are secured by the property itself and paid as an addition to the owners' property tax bills. PACE allows for secure financing of comprehensive projects over a longer term (making more projects cash flow positive), spreads repayment over many years, and can lead to low interest rates because of the high security of loan repayments attached to the property tax bill. PACE programs are not appropriate for investments below \$2,500.</p>		
Administered by the State?	Yes	No
<p>Eligible Applicants: Applicants must be located in a county or municipality that has approved PACE programs within a state that has passed PACE-enabling legislation. Under these conditions, owners of existing or new properties zoned commercial, industrial, and/or agricultural, as well as residential property owners are eligible.</p>		
<p>Eligible Uses: Projects must be located in a county or municipality that has approved PACE programs within a state that has passed PACE-enabling legislation. PACE-eligible improvement categories include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy efficiency (e.g. air sealing and ventilation, insulation, HVAC, lighting, building envelope, roofing, water heating, refrigeration, compressed air, charging stations, elevator modernization). • Renewable energy (e.g. solar, wind, fuel cell, cogeneration, geothermal heat pumps). • Water conservation (e.g. fixtures, irrigation, landscaping/reuse). • PACE cannot be used to finance portable items (e.g. screw-in light bulbs, standard refrigerators). 		

Funded Project Examples:

- Since Texas authorized Commercial PACE (C-PACE) in 2013, 10 local governments have adopted a PACE-enabling ordinance. Texas closed its first C-PACE project in 2015, which included \$1.25 million in financing for retrofits to an Austin shopping mall.
- Milwaukee authorized C-PACE in 2013 and their first deal closed in 2014 at the University Club of Milwaukee. The building underwent retrofits expected to result in \$60,000 in annual operating savings, roughly 30%.

Average Award Amount: Average project amount not available. Note, however, that PACE is not appropriate for investments under \$2,500.

Website: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/slsc/property-assessed-clean-energy-programs>

[C-PACE Fact Sheet for State and Local Governments](#)


[Best Practice Guidelines for R-PACE Financing Programs](#)

[Lessons in C-PACE Leadership from DOE](#)

[Eligible PACE Projects](#)

[FAQ about PACE in Maine](#)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Community Development Block Grant Programs		
		
<p>Keywords: Community Development, Economic Development, Infrastructure, Hazard Mitigation, Disaster Recovery</p>		
Grant	Loan	Other
<p>Description: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Programs provide annual funding opportunities for cities, counties, states, and non-profit community partners to build stronger and more resilient communities. Community development activities may include infrastructure, economic development, public facilities installation, community centers, housing rehabilitation, public services, clearance/acquisition, microenterprise assistance, code enforcement, and homeowner assistance, among others. There are multiple, distinct grant and loan opportunities under the CDBG umbrella including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDBG Mitigation (CDBG-MIT): Grants to carry out strategic and high-impact activities to mitigate disaster risks and reduce future losses in areas impacted by recent disasters. Plans must include a mitigation action from a risk-based mitigation needs assessment that identifies and analyzes significant current/future disaster risks and provides a substantive basis for the activities proposed. • CDBG Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR): Grants to help communities recover from Presidentially declared disasters. Uses of DR funds include disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure, housing, and economic revitalization. • CDBG Entitlement: Grants to entitled cities (principal cities and populations at least 50,000) and counties (populations at least 200,000) to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. • Section 108 Loan Guarantee: Low-cost, long-term financing for economic and community development projects including housing, public facilities, infrastructure, and other physical development projects, including improvements to increase resilience against natural disasters. Loans can be deployed directly by the community or its governmental/non-profit partner to carry out an eligible project, or indirectly by re-lending (or, in limited circumstances, granting) the funds to a developer or business to undertake an eligible project. • Additional CDBG funding opportunities can be found here. 		
Administered by the State?	Yes, administering agency varies by state ¹	No
<p>Eligible Applicants: Eligibility is determined by the specific CDBG funding opportunity. In general, cities, counties, and states are eligible, while non-profits, institutions of higher education, and private</p>		

¹ For example, in Maine the [Department of Economic & Community Development](#) and in New York the [Office of Homes and Community Renewal](#) administer funds.


entities may be eligible under some CDBG programs. Programs may also have additional eligibility requirements (e.g. cities/counties must meet entitlement criteria for the CDBG Entitlement program).

Eligible Uses: Eligible uses vary by CDBG program. Examples of community development activities funded through CDBG include: construction/improvement of public facilities or infrastructure (e.g. water/sewer, streets, community centers, schools), economic development and job creation/retention activities, acquisition of real property, relocation and demolition, housing rehabilitation, homeowner assistance, code enforcement, energy conservation, renewable energy, and public services, within certain limits.

Average Award Amount: Award amounts vary by the specific CDBG funding opportunity.

Website: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg/>

U.S. Economic Development Administration

<h3>Disaster Supplemental Funding</h3> 		
<p>Keywords: Hazard Mitigation, Flood Mitigation, Disaster Relief, Disaster Recovery, Infrastructure, Economic Development</p>		
Grant	Loan	Other
<p>Description: On behalf of the U.S. Department of Commerce, EDA leads the economic recovery component of federal disaster support, provided there are supplemental appropriations (i.e. funding) from Congress in the aftermath of a Presidentially declared disaster. Disaster Supplemental Funding supports locally-led disaster recovery and resiliency efforts through long-term economic recovery planning and project implementation, economic diversification, and economic resiliency. This program funds expenses related to flood mitigation, disaster relief, long-term recovery, and restoration of infrastructure. Applications are currently being accepted from communities impacted by Presidentially declared disasters that occurred in 2018 and 2019 and are awarded through Regional Offices under EDA’s Economic Adjustment Assistance Program.</p>		
Administered by the State?	Yes	No, apply directly to EDA
<p>Eligible Applicants: Communities impacted by Presidentially declared disasters, which may be states, counties, cities or other political subdivisions of a state (including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities) or a consortium of political subdivisions, tribes or a consortium of tribes, district organizations, institutions of higher education or a consortium of institutions, public or private non-profits, and associations acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a state.</p> <p>The applicant does not need to be located in the affected county; however, the applicant does need to demonstrate how the proposed project will benefit the disaster-affected community or region.</p> <p>Before applying, confirm that the project serves communities or regions impacted by eligible Presidentially declared natural disasters (e.g. 2018: hurricanes, typhoons, wildfires, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes; 2019: only disasters involving tornadoes or flooding are eligible).</p>		
<p>Eligible Uses: Eligible activities include, but are not limited to, economic recovery and resiliency projects that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the creation of new businesses and jobs in a variety of industry sectors, such as advanced manufacturing, agriculture, energy, information technology. • Implement local and regional job creation and growth and economic diversification strategies targeted towards affected workers and businesses. • Resiliency projects to increase the ability of a community or region to anticipate, withstand, and bounce back from future economic injuries and disasters (e.g. ensuring redundancy in telecommunications and broadband, promoting business continuity and preparedness). 		

- Construction activities, including the restoration of damaged infrastructure, infrastructure enhancement, and building new infrastructure with high performance and resilient components and buildings.
- Strengthening or developing existing or emerging industry clusters.
- Facilitating access to private capital investment and providing related capacity building and technical assistance.

Funded Project Examples:



- EDA awarded \$2.4 million to the Port Authority of Guam to make disaster resilient infrastructure improvements in 2021 following damage caused by Typhoon Wutip in 2019. The grant ensures that port operations will have continuous and reliable access to fuel in the event of future natural disasters.
- See the latest [EDA disaster press releases](#) for additional examples.

Average Award Amount: Awards averaged \$2 million in 2018.

Website: <https://eda.gov/disaster-recovery/>

[Brochure: Leading Economic Recovery Efforts in Disaster-Impacted Communities Information](#) on EDA's FY2019 Disaster Supplemental [NOFO](#)
How a [Presidentially declared disaster](#) gets this status

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Clean Water State Revolving Fund		
 		
<p>Keywords: Water Quality, Water Conservation, Water Efficiency, Wastewater Infrastructure, Stormwater Management, Green Infrastructure, Nature-based Solutions, Watershed Management, Technical Assistance</p>		
Grant	Loan	Other
<p>Description: Clean Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF) enable states to fund a range of water infrastructure projects in local jurisdictions (including nature-based solutions) that address water quality. EPA provides grants to all 50 states and Puerto Rico to capitalize CWSRF loan programs. States then operate CWSRFs, which function like environmental infrastructure banks, providing low interest loans, refinancing, purchasing, or guaranteeing local debt and purchasing bond insurance. As money is paid back into the revolving loan fund, the state makes new loans to other recipients for high priority activities. EPA also provides direct grant funding for the District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas.</p> <p>States have the flexibility to target financial resources to their specific community and environmental needs and may customize loan terms to meet the needs of small and disadvantaged communities, or to provide incentives for certain types of projects. As of 2009, CWSRFs can provide further financial assistance through grants, principal forgiveness, and negative interest rate loans. Through the Green Project Reserve, CWSRFs target critical green infrastructure, water and energy efficiency improvements, and other environmentally innovative activities. Since 1988, CWSRFs have provided over \$145 billion to eligible borrowers through 42,800 low-cost loans; small communities have received over \$32.8 billion through 29,000 of these loans.</p>		
Administered by the State?	<p>Yes, typically through state Department of Environmental Protection</p>	No
<p>Eligible Applicants: Municipalities, inter-municipal partnerships, state agencies, inter-state partnerships, and private and non-profit entities are eligible to apply to their state’s CWSRF.</p> <p><u>Match Requirement:</u> States provide a 20-percent match for all federal funds. Local match requirements may exist and vary by state.</p>		
<p>Eligible Uses: Funds can be used for a wide range of water quality improvement projects that may include: construction of publicly owned water treatment works, implementation of a state nonpoint source pollution management program, development/implementation of a conservation and management plan, construction/repair/replacement of decentralized wastewater systems, stormwater or subsurface drainage water management, demand reduction and public water conservation efficiency, watershed projects, reduction of energy consumption for publicly owned treatment works, and water reuse or recycling. Funds can also be used for technical assistance for publicly owned</p>		

treatment works to obtain financing for CWSRF eligible projects and assist treatment works in achieving compliance with the Clean Water Act. The specific entity eligible for the various types of assistance listed above may vary.

Funded Project Examples:

- The Long Creek Restoration Project received \$2.1 million in loan funding from Maine’s CWSRF to implement the recommendations of the Long Creek Watershed Management Plan. The project includes the installation of a variety of green stormwater components such as vegetative bioswales and soil media filters to reduce pollutant loadings in Casco Bay.
- The Camden County Municipal Utility Authority received a \$5.4 million loan from the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank, the state’s CWSRF, to fund a city-wide nature-based solutions project. The project has an estimated cost savings of \$3.1 million over the 30-year loan. It involves building nature-based solutions throughout Camden, including rain gardens and porous concrete sidewalks, as well as a green jobs component training youth in nature-based solutions maintenance.

Average Award Amount: The average capitalization grant (from EPA to states) was \$30 million in 2020. Project award amounts vary by state (see Funded Project Examples above).

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf>

[CWSRF Allotments of Federal Funds to States from FY 2013 to FY 2021](#)
[Federally Supported Projects/Programs for Wastewater, Drinking Water, Water Supply Infrastructure](#)
[CWSRF Project in Casco Bay](#)

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund



Keywords: Water Quality, Drinking Water Infrastructure, Public Health

Grant	Loan	Other
<p>Description: Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (DWSRF) provide loans and other financial assistance to public water systems for drinking water infrastructure projects that help states achieve the health protection objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). EPA provides grants to all 50 states and Puerto Rico to capitalize DWSRF loan programs, guided by the most recent Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment. States then operate DWSRFs, which function like infrastructure banks by providing low interest loans to eligible recipients for drinking water infrastructure projects. As money is paid back into the revolving loan fund, the state makes new loans to other recipients. EPA also provides direct grant funding for the District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas.</p> <p>States then rank the project applications they receive from water systems and produce a Project Priority List. States have the flexibility to tailor their ranking process while meeting the SDWA requirement to give priority to projects that address the most serious risks to human health, are necessary to ensure compliance with the SDWA, and assist systems most in need according to state affordability criteria.</p>		

Administered by the State?	Yes , typically through state Department of Environmental Protection or Health	No
<p>Eligible Applicants: Public water systems are eligible to apply to their state’s DWSRF. EPA defines a public water system as a system for the provision of water for human consumption to the public through pipes or other constructed conveyances, if such a system has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves at least 25 individuals. For DWSRF eligibility, public water systems must be either: a) existing privately- or publicly-owned community water systems or non-profit non-community water systems or b) new community water systems that represent cost-effective solutions to existing public health problems.</p> <p><u>Match Requirement:</u> States provide a 20-percent match for all federal funds. Local match requirements may exist and vary by state.</p>		
<p>Eligible Uses: DWSRFs fund a wide range of drinking water infrastructure projects across six categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment: Projects to install or upgrade facilities to improve drinking water quality to comply with SDWA regulations. • Transmission and Distribution: Rehabilitation, replacement, or installation of pipes to improve water pressure to safe levels or to prevent contamination caused by leaky or broken pipes. • Source: Rehabilitation of wells or development of eligible sources to replace contaminated sources. • Storage: Installation or upgrade of finished water storage tanks to prevent microbiological contamination from entering the distribution system. • Consolidation: Interconnecting two or more water systems. • Creation of new systems: Construct a new system to serve homes with contaminated individual wells or consolidate existing systems into a new regional water system. <p><u>Funded Project Examples:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2020, Cayuga, Indiana received \$1.1 million in DWSRF funding to connect the North Vermillion Community School Corporation, who was struggling with nitrate contamination, to the Town’s drinking water system. • In 2020, Payson, Arizona received \$50 million in DWSRF funding to construct the necessary infrastructure for treating and distributing drinking water from a new source. 		
<p>Average Award Amount: The average capitalization grant (from EPA to states) was \$20.8 million in 2019. Project award amounts vary by state (see Funded Project Examples above).</p>		
<p>Website: https://www.epa.gov/dwsrf</p> <p>DWSRF AQUARIUS Recognition Program 2020 Project Compendium DWSRF AQUARIUS Recognition Program 2019 Project Compendium Federally Supported Projects/Programs for Wastewater, Drinking Water, Water Supply Infrastructure</p>		

Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Grants



Keywords: Stormwater Management, Watershed Management, Outreach, Education, Policy Development

Grant	Loan	Other
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Description: The Section 319 Nonpoint Source (NPS) Management Program was established under amendments to the Clean Water Act (CWA) and provides states, territories, and tribes with funds to support a wide variety of nonpoint source pollution management activities including financial assistance, technical assistance, education, training, technology transfer, demonstration projects and monitoring of progress success. State agencies coordinate state-level NPS management programs and may make EPA funds available to local communities in the form of competitive grants for projects ranging from outreach and education, to policy development and implementation, to stormwater projects.

Administered by the State?	Yes, typically through state Department of Environmental Protection	No
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Eligible Applicants: Local governments, interstate agencies, and public and private non-profit organizations including academic institutions are eligible to apply for Section 319 NPS Management Grants through the relevant state-level entity.

Tribes and intertribal consortia must meet the following conditions to be eligible for section 319 funding: be federally recognized, have an approved NPS assessment report, have an approved NPS management program, and be approved for treatment in a similar manner as a state.

Match Requirement: The federal share may not exceed 60 percent of the NPS Management Program implementation cost, and the non-federal share must be provided by non-federal sources. The non-federal share for the entire grant must be at least 40 percent.

Eligible Uses: Under state-level NPS management programs, funds may be used for:

- Technical assistance to local stormwater programs;
- Monitoring needed to design and evaluate the effectiveness of implementation strategies;
- Best Management Practices (BMPs) for pollution prevention and runoff control (except for BMPs that directly implement National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System [NPDES] permits);
- Outreach and education programs outside of the general scope outlined within the NPDES permit;
- Technology transfer and training;
- Development and implementation of regulations, policies, and local ordinances to address stormwater runoff;
- Stormwater projects occurring outside of the NPDES permit requirements.

Under the tribal NPS management program, grants and technical assistance support tribal environmental programs in assessing and managing NPS pollution problems and threats. Funds may be used for NPS training for tribal staff, developing watershed-based plans, riparian planting, livestock

exclusion fencing, lake protection and restoration activities, NPS ordinance development, outreach and education, and more.

Average Award Amount: \$172.3 million was available in 2020. In Maine, for example, past award amounts for projects (completed in 2020 or to be completed in 2021) ranged from \$17,000 to \$200,000.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/nps/319-grant-program-states-and-territories>
<https://www.epa.gov/nps/tribal-nonpoint-source-program>

[Maine NPS Management Program 2020 Report](#)

[North Carolina NPS Grant Funding Information for FY 2021](#)

[Successful Applicants from FY 2014 Request for Proposals from Tribes for NPS Management Grants](#)

Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program



Keywords: Stormwater Management, Infrastructure, Green Infrastructure, Nature-based Solutions, Watershed Restoration, Water Efficiency, Energy Efficiency

Grant	Loan	Other
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Description: The Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Program is intended to address infrastructure needs for combined sewer overflows (CSO) and sanitary sewer overflows (SSO). The reauthorization of the program in 2018 expanded project eligibilities to include stormwater management. Under this program, EPA awards funding to states, who sub-award grant funds to eligible local entities for specific projects. States are required to prioritize projects in communities that are financially distressed, have a long-term municipal CSO or SSO control plan, or for projects that have requested a grant on their Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Intended Use Plan. Projects under this program will have many of the same requirements as the CWSRF (see profile [here](#)). To the extent that eligible projects are available, at least 20% of a state's allocation must be used for green infrastructure, water and energy efficiency improvements, and other environmentally innovative activities.

Administered by the State?	Yes	No
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Eligible Applicants: Municipalities or municipal entities, with priority given to communities that are financially distressed, have a long-term municipal CSO or SSO control plan, or for projects that have requested a grant on their CWSRF Intended Use Plan are eligible to apply to state-level Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants Programs. Note that states must first apply for federal funding from EPA; once awarded, states may offer competitive grants as sub-awards to municipalities and municipal entities. Prospective applicants should look for opportunities to apply for subawards if and when their state secures funding.

Match requirements may exist and vary by state.

Eligible Uses: Eligible projects exist under the following three general categories:

- Combined Sewer Overflow Correction:
 - Installation of separate sanitary and storm sewers, downspout disconnection, overflow tanks/tunnels, infiltration/inflow correction, conveyance infrastructure related to CSO correction, real-time control systems for CSO management, or planning and design related to an eligible capital project.
- Sanitary Sewer Overflow Correction:
 - Infiltration/inflow correction, enhancement of collection system/pump station/treatment facility capacity to mitigate SSOs, real-time control systems for SSO management, capital projects that mitigate/prevent stormwater impacts on wastewater collection, or planning and design related to an eligible capital project.
- Stormwater and Subsurface Drainage Water
 - Gray infrastructure (e.g. traditional pipe/storage/treatment systems).
 - Green infrastructure (e.g. green roofs, rainwater harvesting collection/storage/management/distribution systems, infiltration basins, constructed wetlands, bioretention/bioswales, permeable pavement, wetland/riparian/shoreline creation/protection/restoration, urban tree canopy, replacement of gray infrastructure with green infrastructure including purchase and demolition costs).

Average Award Amount: \$28 million was available for states in 2020, with \$40 million in 2021. However, specific state and community-level award amounts are not readily available.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/sewer-overflow-and-stormwater-reuse-municipal-grants-program>

[Grant Implementation Document from the EPA](#)

[United States Code Resource on Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants](#)

[Federally Supported Projects/Programs for Wastewater, Drinking Water, Water Supply Infrastructure](#)

Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Program



Keywords: Drinking Water Infrastructure, Wastewater Infrastructure, Water Quality, Water Efficiency, Energy Efficiency

Grant	Loan	Other
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Description: The 2014 Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) established the WIFIA Program, a federal credit program for water and wastewater infrastructure projects. WIFIA accelerates investment in water infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost supplemental loans for regionally and nationally significant projects. Loan interest rates will be equal or greater to the US Treasury rate of a similar maturity at the date of closing. The maximum final maturity date from substantial completion is 35 years; repayment may be deferred no more than 5 years after substantial completion of the project.

Administered by the State?	Yes	No , apply directly to EPA
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Eligible Applicants: Local, state, tribal, and federal government entities, non-profits, partnerships and joint ventures, corporations and trusts, and Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs.

Eligible Uses: WIFIA can fund both development and implementation activities for projects including:

- Wastewater conveyance and treatment
- Drinking water treatment and distribution
- Energy efficiency enhancements at drinking water/wastewater facilities
- Desalination, aquifer recharge, and water recycling
- Acquisition of property, if it is integral to the project or will mitigate the environmental impact of a project
- A combination of eligible projects secured by a common security pledge or submitted under one application by an SRF program
- Projects eligible for the Clean Water or Drinking Water SRF

Projects must be creditworthy and have a dedicated source of revenue. The maximum portion of eligible project costs that WIFIA can fund is 49% and total federal assistance may not exceed 80% of a project's eligible costs.

Funded Project Examples:

- The California State Water Resources Control Board secured a \$500 million WIFA loan in 2020 for Clean Water Infrastructure Projects.
- The Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority secured a \$49 million loan in 2018 for an Imperiled Water Supply Rehabilitation Project.


Average Award Amount: Loans amounts vary by project. The minimum project size for large communities is \$20 million. The minimum project size for small communities (population ≤ 25,000) is \$5 million. In 2020, WIFIA selected 55 borrowers for WIFIA loans totaling almost \$5.1 billion.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/wifia/what-wifia>

[How to apply](#) for WIFIA funding

WIFIA Selected [Projects Map](#)

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities 		
<p>Keywords: Hazard Mitigation, Disaster Preparedness, Infrastructure, Green Infrastructure, Nature-based Solutions, Capacity Building, Technical Assistance</p>		
Grant	Loan	Other
<p>Description: The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program enables state, local, tribal, and territorial governments to undertake hazard mitigation projects, reducing the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards. BRIC aims to categorically shift the federal focus away from <i>reactive</i> disaster spending and toward research-supported, <i>proactive</i> investment in community resilience. BRIC aims to support communities through capability- and capacity-building; encouraging and enabling innovation; promoting partnerships; enabling large projects; maintaining flexibility; and providing consistency. This program replaces FEMA’s previous pre-disaster hazard mitigation program.</p>		
Administered by the State?	Yes, typically through state Emergency Management Agency/state Hazard Mitigation Officer	No
<p>Eligible Applicants: Each state, territory, or federally recognized tribal government designates one agency to serve as the applicant for HMGP funding, typically the state Emergency Management Agency. Local governments, including cities, townships, counties, special district governments, state agencies, and tribal governments are considered subapplicants and must submit subapplications to their state/territory/tribal applicant agency. Tribal governments can also choose to apply as a subapplicant to an eligible state or territory.</p>		
<p>Eligible Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation projects designed to increase resilience and public safety, reduce injuries and loss of life, and reduce damage and destruction to property, critical services, facilities, and infrastructure. • Capability and Capacity-Building (C&CB) activities that enhance the knowledge, skills, expertise of the current workforce to expand or improve the administration of mitigation assistance (e.g. building code activities, partnerships, project scoping, mitigation planning). • Community-wide public infrastructure projects that demonstrate innovative approaches to partnerships, such as shared funding mechanisms (e.g. multiple funding sources or in-kind resources from a range of private and public sector stakeholders) and/or project design. • Reimbursement for management costs (e.g. eligible and reasonable indirect costs, direct administrative costs, and other administrative expenses) associated with a specific mitigation project or C&CB activity. • Non-financial direct technical assistance to build a community’s capacity and capability to improve its resiliency to natural hazards and to ensure stakeholders are capable of building and sustaining successful mitigation programs, submitting high-quality applications, and implementing new and innovative projects that reduce risk from a wide range of natural hazards. 		

To be eligible for BRIC funding, projects must be:

- Cost-effective (according to FEMA’s Benefit-Cost Analysis requirements)
- Decrease risk and impacts of future potential natural hazards
- Meet the 2015 or 2018 International Building Codes
- Consistent with the applicant's FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plans
- Satisfy historic preservation and environmental compliance requirements

Funded Project Examples:

- Increasing building standards to make structures and assets more resilient to climate change and disaster events (e.g. retrofitting buildings by redoing plaster, piping, and/or the foundation).
- Implementing nature-based solutions to mitigate flood risk and produce community and ecosystem benefits.

Average Award Amount: \$500 million was available for BRIC in 2020. However, specific state and local-level award amounts are not readily available.

Website: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>

”[Before You Apply](#)” (covers eligibility, funding, resources)

Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant



Keywords: Flood Mitigation, Flood Control, Nature-based Solutions, Watershed Restoration, Stormwater Management

Grant	Loan	Other
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Description: Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grants provide funding to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments for projects and planning that reduces or eliminates long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This may include project scoping; floodwater storage and diversion; floodplain, stream, or wetland restoration; stormwater management; or the acquisition, structural elevation, or demolition of structures.

FEMA requires state, local, tribal and territorial governments to develop and adopt hazard mitigation plans as a condition for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance, including funding for hazard mitigation assistance projects. FEMA chooses recipients based on the applicant’s ranking of the project and the eligibility and cost-effectiveness of the project.

Administered by the State?	Yes, typically through state Emergency Management Agency/state Hazard Mitigation Officer	No
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Eligible Applicants: Each state, territory, or federally recognized tribal government designates one agency to serve as the applicant for HMGP funding, typically the state Emergency Management Agency. Local governments, including cities, townships, counties, special district governments, state agencies, and tribal governments are considered subapplicants and must submit subapplications to their state/territory/tribal applicant agency. Certain political subdivisions (i.e. regional flood control districts or county governments) may apply and act as subapplicants if they are part of a community that is participating in the NFIP where the political subdivision provides zoning and building code enforcement or planning and community development professional services for that community. Tribal governments can also choose to apply as a subapplicant to an eligible state or territory.

Match requirements may exist and vary by state. Repeat and severe repeat loss properties may be eligible for federal cost share up to 100%.

Eligible Uses:

- Project scoping to develop community and/or individual flood mitigation projects that will subsequently reduce flood claims against the NFIP.
- Community flood mitigation projects that address community flood risk for the purpose of reducing NFIP flood claim payments.
 - For example, localized flood control, floodwater storage and diversion, floodplain and stream restoration, stormwater management, wetland restoration/creation.
- Individual flood mitigation projects that address the risk of flooding to individual NFIP insured structures.
 - For example, buying property, moving, lifting, or destroying structures.
- Flood hazard mitigation planning for the flood hazard component of state, territory, tribal, or local Hazard Mitigation Plans and plan updates.
- Technical assistance to maintain a viable FMA program over time (note only those who previously received a FMA award of at least \$1 million federal share are eligible).

Average Award Amount: \$200 million was available under FMA in 2020. However, specific state and local-level award amounts are not readily available.

Website: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/floods>

[Flood Mitigation Assistance Program Details](#)

[Notice of Funding Opportunity FY 2020 Flood Mitigation Assistance](#)

[FMA Project Scoping Activities Fact Sheet](#)

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program



Keywords: Hazard Mitigation, Disaster Recovery, Flood Mitigation, Flood Control, Infrastructure

Grant

Loan

Other

Description: The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides funding to state, local, tribal and territorial governments to rebuild following a Presidentially declared disaster in a way that reduces, or mitigates, future disaster losses in their communities. Homeowners and businesses cannot apply for a grant; however, a local community may apply for funding on their behalf. The HMGP may be used to fund projects identified in local hazard mitigation plans that are sustained actions taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk from natural hazards.

Administered by the State?

Yes, typically through state Emergency Management Agency/state Hazard Mitigation Officer

No

Eligible Applicants: Each state, territory, or federally recognized tribal government designates one agency to serve as the applicant for HMGP funding, typically the state Emergency Management Agency. Local governments, including cities, townships, counties, special district governments, state agencies, and tribal governments are considered subapplicants and must submit subapplications to their state/territory/tribal applicant agency. Tribal governments can also choose to apply as a subapplicant to an eligible state or territory.

Applicants must have a FEMA-approved state or tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan by the application deadline and at the time of obligation of grant funds.

Match Requirement: The cost share is generally 75% federal/25% non-federal. The 25% can come from the state or local government, an individual, construction labor, Increased Cost of Compliance funds from a flood insurance policy, or Small Business Administration loans. FEMA will provide 100% federal funding for applicant and subapplicant management costs.

Eligible Uses: Hazard mitigation projects may include property acquisition, levees, floodwalls, floodproofing, elevation, elevated reconstruction, structural retrofits, utility retrofits, safe rooms, slope stabilization, drainage improvement, post-disaster code enforcement, and development and adoption of hazard mitigation plans.

Funded Project Examples:

- In 2018, the City of Berkeley received a \$1.2 million HMGP grant to create a grant program for building owners to retrofit seismically vulnerable buildings to better withstand earthquake impacts.
- In 2015, the State of New York received over \$28 million in HMGP funding for retrofits and upgrades to protect the LaGuardia Airport from the impacts of future storms.
- In 2000, the Theresa Street Wastewater Treatment Plant in Lincoln, NE received \$172,500 in HMGP funding to provide flood protection around the electrical substation and transformers required to operate the plant.


- Additional examples can be found in [FEMA's Mitigation Action Portfolio](#)

Average Award Amount: Past projects indicate that award amounts range from \$100,000 to \$28 million, with most projects fall between \$1 and \$5 million.

Website: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/hazard-mitigation>

[Funding and Eligibility Information from FEMA Before You Apply for HMGP Funds](#)

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grants		
<p>Keywords: Watershed Restoration, Habitat Restoration, Water Quality, Stormwater Management, Green Infrastructure, Outreach, Education</p>		
Grant	Loan	Other
<p>Description: The Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Program provides grants for the stewardship and restoration of coastal, wetland, and riparian ecosystems across the country. The program seeks to develop nation-wide community stewardship of local natural resources, preserving these resources for future generations and enhancing habitat for local wildlife. Grants must address water quality issues in priority watersheds, such as erosion due to unstable streambanks, pollution from stormwater runoff, and degraded shorelines caused by development.</p> <p>Note NFWF is not a federal agency, but a public-private partnership created by Congress in 1984 to direct public conservation dollars to the most pressing environmental needs and match those investments with private funds.</p>		
Administered by the State?	Yes	No , apply directly to NFWF
<p>Eligible Applicants: Municipal governments, tribes, state agencies, non-profits, and educational institutions are eligible. Grants are available nationwide but additional funding is available for geographic priorities (e.g. urban areas, bird-related projects, select southern states). For additional detail, go to this link and scroll down to “Funding Availability”</p> <p>Match Requirement: Projects are required to meet or exceed a 1:1 non-federal match.</p>		
<p>Eligible Uses: Grants can be used for stewardship, restoration, outreach, education, training, or evaluation and should increase access to the benefits of nature, reduce the impact of environmental hazards, and engage local communities, particularly underserved communities, in project planning, outreach, and implementation. Proposals must address each of the five following program priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On the Ground Restoration: Projects must restore and/or create wetlands, coastal or riparian areas (e.g. develop/implement trash and litter prevention programs to keep urban waterways and riverfronts clean; collect and analyze local waterway samples to determine the effectiveness of current restoration and green infrastructure efforts and inform future planning). 2. Environmental Outreach, Education and Training: Projects must integrate meaningful outreach, education, and/or training into the proposed on-the-ground activities that advance local watershed and conservation goals (e.g. engage the public or youth in hands-on, outdoor conservation experiences). 3. Community Partnerships: Projects must involve five or more partners (public and private entities) including the applicant (e.g. identify plans to provide training, partnership meetings and presentations to build support for the project during and beyond the grant period). 		

4. **Measurable Results:** Projects must result in specific, measurable ecological, educational and community benefits (scroll to “Project Metrics” at this [link](#) for recommended metrics).
5. **Sustainability:** Projects must include a plan for maintenance and care of the project beyond the grant period (e.g. develop restoration and stewardship approaches that contribute to pre- and post-disaster planning and link to local hazard mitigation efforts).

Average Award Amount: Awards range from \$20,000 to \$50,000 with 40-50 grants awarded per year. Approximately \$1.5 million in grants will be awarded nationwide in 2021.

Website: <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/five-star-and-urban-waters-restoration-grant-program/five-star-and-urban-waters-restoration-grant-program-2021-request-proposals>

National Coastal Resilience Fund



Keywords: Flood Mitigation, Hazard Mitigation, Habitat Restoration, Nature-based Solutions, Capacity Building

Grant	Loan	Other
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Description: National Coastal Resilience Fund (NCRF) grants seek to protect coastal communities from the impacts of storms, floods, and other natural hazards and enable them to recover more quickly, while enhancing habitat for fish and wildlife. Grants support planning, design, and implementation of coastal resilience and restoration projects using natural and nature-based solutions.

Projects must benefit coastal communities by:

- Reducing the impact of coastal flooding and associated threats to property and key assets (e.g. hospitals and emergency routes);
- Improving water quality and recreational opportunities; and/or
- Enhancing the ecological integrity and functionality of coastal and inland ecosystems, therefore benefitting fish and wildlife.

Note NFWF is not a federal agency, but a public-private partnership created by Congress in 1984 to direct public conservation dollars to the most pressing environmental needs and match those investments with private funds.

Administered by the State?	Yes	No, apply directly to NFWF
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Eligible Applicants: Municipal governments, tribes (federally and non-federally recognized), state agencies, non-profits, educational institutions, and commercial (for-profit) entities are eligible.

Geographic eligibility includes the coastal areas of U.S. coastal states, including the Great Lakes states, U.S. territories, and U.S. coastal tribal lands. Additionally, eligible project areas are defined as all coastal Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 8 watersheds that drain to the sea and any adjacent HUC 8 watersheds that are particularly low-lying or tidally influenced. The [Coastal Resilience Evaluation and Sitting Tool \(CREST\)](#) indicates the location of NFWF designated “Resilience Hubs” where coastal

resilience projects are thought to be most beneficial. However, projects do not need to be located within a Resilience Hub to be eligible.

Match Requirement: A minimum 1:1 non-federal match in cash or in-kind services is expected and strongly encouraged. Match can be any combination of in cash and/or in-kind goods and services (e.g. external/partner services, volunteers, grantee in-kind).

Eligible Uses: NCRF awards grants in four priority areas and does not accept proposals seeking funding across multiple priority areas.

1. **Community Capacity Building and Planning:** Funding to develop a plan with a prioritized set of potential strategies/projects and/or identified geographies where natural solutions may be implemented to reduce flooding risk. Projects (up to 2 years) should engage and involve key partners, community members, and stakeholders.
2. **Site Assessment and Preliminary Design:** Funding to complete site assessments and preliminary designs of best options to address restoration and community resilience goals (up to 1 year). Note projects must be previously identified and prioritized in a plan for which increased resilience and risk reduction is the goal, but for which site(s) are still under consideration to determine the best option.
3. **Final Design and Permitting:** Funding to develop conceptual or preliminary designs into final designs and engineering plans and support robust communications with permitting officials at various levels of government. By end of the 18-month grant period, projects should result in demonstrated readiness to move a designed project to the restoration phase.
4. **Restoration and Monitoring:** Funding for the implementation of restoration efforts where projects have already been prioritized in relevant plans, all design and engineering plans are complete, and readiness to secure all permits/approvals necessary for implementation is demonstrated. Restoration projects should be able to be constructed within 3 years of the start of the grant and should include at least 1 year of post-construction monitoring (4 years total). Examples include restoration of a floodplain, beach, marsh, wetland, oyster or coral reef, in-stream restoration, and fish passage improvement.


Average Award Amount: Award amounts vary by priority area, with the average for each listed below:

- Community Capacity Building and Planning: \$250,000
- Site Assessment and Preliminary Design: \$250,000
- Final Design and Permitting: \$350,000
- Restoration and Monitoring: From \$1 million to \$5 million

Website: <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/national-coastal-resilience-fund>

[Additional information/support](#), including a list of ineligible applicants and ineligible use of funds and application assistance.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Coastal Zone Enhancement Grants		
		
Keywords: Coastal Restoration, Watershed Management, Policy Development		
Grant	Loan	Other
<p>Description: The Coastal Zone Enhancement Program helps local jurisdictions enhance and improve the management of coastal resources in nine “enhancement areas”: wetlands, coastal hazards, public access, marine debris, cumulative and secondary impacts, special area management plans, ocean and Great Lakes resources, energy and government facility siting, and aquaculture. The program provides formula grants directly to states that can be used to assess their Coastal Management Programs (CMPs) and identify opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of their programs at the local level.</p> <p>Grants must be used to develop legal and policy changes and cannot be used for capital projects (e.g. acquisition or construction). Grants fund strategy development for improving state CMPs, carrying out strategies designed to lead to a CMP change, or implementing changes made to a state’s CMP in the past two years (e.g. enforcement of new policies recently adopted into a state’s CMP).</p>		
Administered by the State?	Yes, typically through state Coastal Management Program	No
<p>Eligible Applicants: Coastal states are the primary grantee, but local jurisdictions may be able to access funds via subawards through their state’s CMP. In some states, universities, non-profits, and for-profit entities are eligible for subawards.</p>		
<p>Eligible Uses: Funds can be used to identify vulnerable wetland areas, identify sites for successful restoration, identify restoration projects with adaptation benefits, develop climate change planning documents, enhance land-use policies, require climate change considerations in future siting and design decisions, enhance or develop land-acquisition/relocation/buyout programs, establish a program to reduce development densities, prohibit hard shoreline armoring, develop policies to promote green infrastructure/living shorelines, develop beach nourishment programs, adopt a managed retreat strategy, update building codes, establish a grant program for risk reduction efforts, or develop a loan program to help retrofit buildings.</p>		
<p>Average Award Amount: Grants to coastal states range from \$795,000 to \$2.3 million (average is \$2 million). Average subaward amounts from state to local jurisdictions are not readily available.</p>		
<p>Website: https://coast.noaa.gov/czm/enhancement/Adaptation Clearinghouse Resource on NOAA Coastal Zone Enhancement Grants</p>		

Community-Based Restoration Program



Keywords: Habitat Restoration, Watershed Management

Grant

Loan

Other

Description: The Community-based Restoration Program supports restoration projects that use a habitat-based approach to rebuild productive and sustainable fisheries, contribute to the recovery and conservation of protected resources, promote healthy ecosystems, and yield community and economic benefits. The program provides funding and technical assistance for restoration projects with the goal to recover and sustain fisheries—particularly those species managed by NOAA Fisheries, or those listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

Since 1996, the Community-based Restoration Program has contributed technical assistance and nearly \$217 million to more than 2,200 coastal habitat restoration projects. These projects have restored more than 93,000 acres of habitat and opened more than 4,300 stream miles for fish migration. On average, restoration projects create 15 jobs for every \$1 million invested.

Administered by the State?

Yes

No, apply directly to NOAA

Eligible Applicants: Local, state, and tribal governments, institutions of higher education, non-profits, and commercial (for-profit) entities.

Eligible Uses: Projects range from improving access to habitat by removing dams and other barriers, to restoring coral and oyster reefs, to rebuilding coastal wetlands.

Funded Project Examples:

- In 2019, the Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce was awarded \$449,608 over two years to complete restoration at two sites located in Cathlamet Bay.
- In 2017, the Wild Salmon Center was awarded \$2,702,795 over three years to implement several projects to increase off-channel rearing habitat and improve the quality of in-stream habitat for Endangered Species Act-listed salmon. Restoration will be accomplished by reconnecting floodplain habitats, adding large woody debris, and reducing water temperatures in coastal Oregon rivers.

Average Award Amount: Award amounts range from \$75,000 to \$3 million for one to three years.

Website: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/grant/coastal-and-marine-habitat-restoration-grants>
[NOAA Current and Past Community-Based Restoration Projects](#)
[NOAA Community-Based Habitat Restoration](#)
[Grants.Gov Resource on NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program](#)



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