

Community Project Funding Resource Guide

Oregon's 4th Congressional District

The deadline to submit a request for FY2026 is **Wednesday**, **April 16**, **2025**, **at 11:59 PM ET**.

Submit a request for Community Project funding through our application portal.



Dear Friend,

I want to let you know that my office is now accepting Community Project Funding requests for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. This process lets Members of Congress direct federal dollars to projects that matter most to our communities – those identified by you.

I've put together a resource guide to make it as easy as possible for you to submit a request for Community Project Funding. It's designed to explain the process clearly and simply so you can focus on putting forward the best ideas for our district. I welcome your thoughts on where this funding can do the most good.

Please know that any project should be located in and serve Oregon's Fourth Congressional District, address a clear and present need in the community, be administered by an eligible nonprofit organization, state government, local government, county government or Tribal government, and enjoy significant support from the community.

It's important to be clear-eyed about the limitations of Community Project Funding. While it remains the most direct way for me to bring home federal dollars, the process is slow, complicated and tightly controlled by the House Appropriations Committee. The Committee limits each Member to just **15** Community Project Funding requests and ultimately decides which projects receive funding. Unfortunately, as we saw in recent months, many deserving and eligible projects will not receive Community Project Funding.

Thank you again for your interest in this year's Community Project Funding process. My team is available to answer your questions as needed. I look forward to working with you wherever possible to secure federal funding to help meet our needs.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress

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Staff Contact List

Please contact our Community Project Funding Team below:

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Overview

Each year, Congress considers annual appropriations bills that provide funding for our national defense, infrastructure, education, medical research and federal government operations. The House Appropriations Committee, which drafts these bills, allows Members of Congress to direct limited funds from existing federal programs and accounts to worthy projects overseen by state, local, or Tribal governments and nonprofit organizations. This process, known as Community Project Funding, lets Members request targeted support for projects that directly serve their communities.

Process

The decision to provide Community Project Funding for a specific project lies entirely with the House Appropriations Committee. It can take approximately a year for a successful Community Project Funding application to receive authorization, and project sponsors may not receive funding from an agency for months or even years. If Congress passes a full-year Continuing Resolution – as it did for FY2025 – projects become ineligible for funding. Please keep these facts in mind when applying for Community Project Funding.

Congress

The Majority Party controlling the House Appropriations Committee determines which types of projects are eligible for Community Project Funding. After receiving guidance from the House Appropriations Committee detailing eligibility, Members accept requests for Community Project Funding through specific accounts. Applicants must apply through the Congresswoman's Community Project Funding application portal. Rep. Hoyle reviews each request she receives and may submit a finite number of projects to the relevant subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. The Committee reviews each request and determines whether to include funding for the project in the relevant FY2026 appropriations bill. Community Project Funding can only become law if Congress passes an appropriations bill with the project attached.

Federal Agencies

If an appropriations bill with Community Project Funding included becomes law, project sponsors must then work with federal agencies to implement projects consistent with federal law. Once you are contacted by the relevant agency, you will have to complete and submit a grant application outlining the project's goals, cost estimates and other information to ensure it meets federal requirements.

Requirements

The House Appropriations Committee and its respective subcommittees have specific requirements that must be met for a project to be eligible to receive Community Project funding.

Eligible Entities

For-profit entities are **ineligible** for Community Project Funding. State, local, or Tribal governments and certain nonprofit organizations can apply for Community Project Funding, but eligibility differs based on each specific account. Please review the accounts below to determine if your project is appropriate for Community Project Funding. Projects must be located in Oregon's Fourth Congressional District (confirm here).

Eligible Costs

Applicants can only request support through specific accounts (programs) made available by the House Appropriations Committee. Each account comes with its own rules and restrictions. This guide includes a list of eligible accounts and descriptions to help applicants determine if their project may qualify.

Generally, capital expenses are eligible across accounts, while operational and programmatic expenses are not. Capital expenses are major, permanent, mostly one-time expenses, whereas operational and programmatic costs are smaller, recurring and more variable expenses.

Limited Number of Member Requests

Members may submit a maximum of $\underline{\mathbf{15}}$ requests for Community Project Funding.

Federal Nexus Requirement

In order to ensure a federal nexus exists for each funded project, the Committee will only fund projects that are tied to a federal authorization law.

No Memorials, Museums, or Commemoratives

Memorials, museums, and commemoratives (i.e., projects named for an individual or entity) are not eligible for Community Project Funding.

Demonstrations of Project Merit and Support

You must be able to demonstrate that the request has community support. Acceptable forms of evidence of community support include letters from elected community leaders, press articles highlighting the need for the specific project, newspaper editorial board pieces, a state-intended use plan or community development plan, or a city council resolution. Applicants should be prepared to submit three community support letters consolidated into a single PDF.

Funding Window

Awards must be structured as **one-year** requests, and funding must be for Fiscal Year 2026 only.

Stewardship Requirements

Most requests for Community Project Funding require a non-federal <u>cost-share</u> from the project sponsor. If the project would normally require a funding match or cost share by a non-federal entity, then the requesting entity will need to demonstrate that it can and/or has a plan to provide this match if it makes a request for Community Project Funding. The Committee will conform to statutory match and cost-sharing requirements.

Transparency

Financial Disclosures

All Community Project Funding requests must include a **signed financial disclosure** from the Member of Congress affirming that neither the Member nor any immediate family members have a financial interest in the project.

Public Disclosures

All Members are required to publicly post their final Community Project Funding requests submitted to the House Appropriations on their website. The posting must include the name of the proposed recipient, the address, the amount of the request, and an explanation of the purpose and justification for the use of taxpayer funds.

Oversight

Any selected project is subject to an audit by the federal Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Additional Information

Typical Funding Amounts

Funding amounts vary based on the account and the scope of the project. In past years, Rep. Hoyle submitted requests ranging from **\$200,000 to \$4 million**. The House Appropriations Committee often reduces the amount of funding requested for a specific project, so it is important to disclose whether a project that receives less than the requested amount can proceed. Again, the Appropriations Committee ultimately determines which projects are approved.

In FY2024, Rep. Hoyle requested approximately **\$26.9 million for 15 projects**, and the House Appropriations Committee provided **\$16.7 million**. For FY2025, she requested **\$28.9 million** for the same number of projects, and the Committee approved **\$14.2 million** for those 15 projects. In the 118th Congress, the amount provided by the House Appropriations Committee matched the requested amount submitted by **5** applicants.

Components of a Successful Application

- Projects that have demonstrated strong community support
- Projects that have a precise scope with itemizable funding
- Projects that conform squarely within the boundaries of an eligible account made available by the House Appropriations Committee

Limitations on Uses of Community Project Funding

Again, applicants can only request support through specific accounts (programs) made available by the House Appropriations Committee. If your project does not meet the criteria for any of these programs, it is ineligible for support through Community Project Funding. This guide includes a list of eligible accounts and descriptions to help applicants determine if their project may qualify.

Changes in Eligible Accounts

The list of eligible accounts may vary from year to year depending on guidance from the Majority Party controlling the House Appropriations Committee. A project eligible in previous years may no longer qualify.

Timeline to Receive Funding

Community Project Funding is tied to the federal appropriations process. If Congress fails to pass appropriations bills by the end of the fiscal year, Community Project Funding authorization and disbursements will be delayed as well. Projects also cannot be funded if Congress passes a full-year Continuing Resolution. If a project is included in an appropriations bill and signed into law, recipients will work directly with the agency that administers the program to receive funding.

Additional Resources

Please visit the Congresswoman's website, contact our Community Project Funding Team or review these resources from the House Appropriations Committee for answers to additional questions.

Deadlines and Application Portal

The deadline to submit CPF requests to our office is: **Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 11:59 PM ET.** Submissions must be complete, including all required documentation, to be considered. Your application is eligible for consideration as soon as the completed form is submitted. Staff will reach out to you directly for more information if needed. **No changes** can be made to projects once requests are submitted to the Appropriations Committee. Please submit applications here/beta/40/.

FY26 Community Project Funding Accounts

All Community Project Funding (CPF) requests must meet applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made, including applicable underlying statutory and regulatory requirements (e.g., cost share).

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Accounts

To ensure projects meet eligibility requirements for the Rural Development and Natural Resources Conservation Service accounts, you <u>must</u> consult with your respective State Rural Development or State Conservation office, which can be found here:

Rural Development

Natural Resources Conservation Services

Please review this guidance should you have any additional questions.

Department of Agriculture – Farm Production and Conservation Programs

Natural Resources Conservation Service (Conservation Operations)

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

Only state, local, and Tribal organizations, or public conservation districts are eligible to receive funding under this account. Non-profit recipients <u>will not</u> be considered. Submissions should include details on: the work to be done, including if the project will conduct surveys, investigations, or research, and if there is a plan to publish the results of any such work; and any preventative measures to be taken, including engineering operations, methods of cultivation, or changes in use of land.

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

Department of Agriculture - Research, Education, and Economics

Agricultural Research Service (Buildings and Facilities)

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

Facility requests <u>must</u> be for ARS-owned facilities or for facilities that are already partnering with ARS. Universities seeking new agricultural and/or veterinary facilities or labs are not eligible.

Submissions should include details on the research to be conducted, why the research is a high priority, what modernization is planned and why it is critical to carrying out the research.

Requested funding for new facilities that do not have an existing ARS tie <u>will not</u> be considered.

Department of Agriculture - Rural Development

Rural Housing Service (Community Facilities)

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

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

All projects must serve a rural area as specified in <u>7 CFR 3570.53</u> (rural areas including cities, villages, townships and Federally Recognized Tribal lands with no more than 20,000 residents).

The Member's request must demonstrate community support. Members should ensure that their request provides the most complete description of the project as possible. Submissions should include details on all proposed use of funds, activities that will occur, timeline, and detailed information on the complete service territory.

Such requests are also subject to non-federal cost share requirements specified in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). Please review program regulations carefully. In-kind contributions and other federal formula or grant resources <u>cannot</u> be counted towards match requirements. Community Facilities grants cannot be used to pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring expenses, refinance existing debt, pay interest, build or repair facilities in non-rural areas, or pay for construction costs of facilities that will be used for commercial rental space.

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

Department of Agriculture – Rural Development

Rural Utilities Service (ReConnect Program)

ReConnect broadband pilot grants facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. Grant funds can be used for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service to rural areas without sufficient broadband access, defined as 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream. Stand-alone middle-mile projects are not eligible under the ReConnect Program. However, middle-mile facilities are eligible if they are needed to bring sufficient broadband service to all premises in the area

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

Submissions should include details on: the number of households, businesses, or farms that will be served in the area; the performance of the service to be offered; and whether healthcare or educational facilities will be served. All policies and procedures (found here) will apply to requests, including environmental and related reviews as well as a 25 percent cost share requirement.

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

Department of Agriculture – Rural Development

Rural Utilities Service (Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants)

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

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

The program is intended to serve rural areas with no more than 20,000 residents and requests are subject to all regulations governing the program (7 CFR 1734), including a 15 percent match that cannot come from another federal source. Submissions should include details on how the award will be utilized, what equipment of service will be acquired, and any information on population(s) served.

The State Rural Development Office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility. For fiscal year 2024, the average DLT CPF award was \$600.000.

Department of Agriculture – Rural Development

Rural Utilities Service (Rural Water and Waste Disposal Grants)

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

Eligible entities include rural areas and towns with no more than 10,000 residents and Tribal lands in rural areas. The funding is <u>subject to a 25 percent cost share requirement</u>. Submissions should include details on the exact work to be completed and the number of households and businesses served.

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

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies.

Department of Commerce

NIST - Scientific and Technical Research

Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NIST's mission and aligned with one or more of the functions and activities described in 15 U.S.C. 272. These funds cannot be used for building construction or renovation projects.

Projects with non-profit recipients, such as universities, are eligible recipients.

Please review this <u>quidance</u> should you have any additional questions.

Department of Commerce

NOAA – Coastal Zone Management

Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NOAA's mission and aligned with one or more of the purposes described in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.) and is subject to any applicable cost share requirement under the same Act.

Please review this guidance should you have any additional questions.

Department of Justice

COPS Technology and Equipment

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

Funding must be aligned with the purposes described in 34 U.S.C. 10381(b)(8) (the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968). Grants can be used to develop and/or acquire technologies and equipment – including interoperable communications technologies, modernized criminal record technology, and forensic technology – to assist state, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies, including by reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime and training law enforcement officers to use such technologies. These funds cannot be used for building construction or renovation projects.

Only state, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies are eligible to receive funding under this account.

JAG Overview & JAG FAQs

Please review this <u>quidance</u> should you have any additional questions.

Department of Justice

Byrne Justice

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

Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, the Office of Justice Programs' mission and aligned with one or more of the purposes described in the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) program (34 U.S.C. 10152).

This funding <u>cannot</u> be used for: any security enhances or equipment to any nongovernmental entity not engaged in criminal justice or public safety; and vehicles, vessels, aircraft (excluding police cruisers, boats, and helicopters), luxury items, real estate, construction projects (other than penal or correctional institutions), unless the Attorney General certifies that it is essential to the maintenance of public safety and good order.

The Committee will also <u>not</u> support initiatives that involve the distribution of drug paraphernalia; initiatives that undermine the 2nd Amendment or infringe upon rights guaranteed by the Constitution without due process of law; initiatives that appear to be anti-law enforcement or unrelated to criminal justice; and larger projects for the construction or renovation of penal or correctional institutions that will exceed the capability of single-year funding.

Priority will be given to projects focused on improving the effectiveness of law enforcement, increasing officer safety, curbing the opioid crisis, and other strategic priorities.

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

Other Requirements:

 Awarded projects will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the DOJ Grants Financial Guide. Allowable costs are those costs consistent with the principles set out in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, and those permitted by the grant program's authorizing legislation.

Please review this guidance should you have any additional questions.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Safety, Security, and Mission Services

Funding must be for activities advancing the purposes described in <u>51 U.S.C.</u> <u>20102</u> and projects should focus on science, education, research, and technology development related to NASA's mission. These funds <u>cannot</u> be used for medical research, building construction, or renovation projects.

Please review this <u>guidance</u> should you have any additional questions.

Energy and Water Development

Not all programs within these accounts will be open for CPF requests. Please note that a CPF request is only necessary to request an increment of funding or scope above or beyond the President's budget request (PBR) – to support what is included in the PBR, submit a program request. If a project is <u>not</u> an individually authorized project or a project under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program, <u>the submitting office must contact the Subcommittee for further information prior to submitting the request</u>.

Within the Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation, the Committee will accept program requests for additional funding above the budget request for categories of projects (e.g., navigation maintenance, flood control studies, etc.), but Members should be aware that this funding may be extremely limited in Fiscal Year 2026. For specific projects of particular interest, Members are strongly encouraged to submit Community Project Funding requests for amounts above the budget request.

Please reference the eligibility checklist provided in Subcommittee guidance here.

Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works)

Investigations

Construction

Mississippi River and Tributaries

Operation and Maintenance

Department of the Interior / Bureau of Reclamation

Water and Related Resources

Homeland Security

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Federal Assistance – Emergency Operations Centers

FEMA's EOC grants improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, strategically located, and fully interoperable ECOs with a focus on addressing identified deficiencies and needs. According to the National Fire Protection Association, an EOC is defined as a "facility or capability from which direction and control is exercised in an emergency. This type of center or capability is designated to ensure that the capacity exists for leadership to direct and control operations from a centralized facility or capability in the event of an emergency.

Projects <u>must</u> meet requirements detailed in FEMA's most recent <u>Notice of Funding Opportunity</u> (NOFO). Submissions should include a detailed project description, budget describing how the funding will be used, and confirm <u>ability to meet the cost share requirement (generally 25 percent of eligible activity costs).</u>

Once projects are approved, the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government <u>must</u> submit an application to FEMA and serve as the administrative agent for the grant on behalf of the receiving entity (grant subrecipients). Each project request must be accompanied by a letter from the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, in order to be considered for funding.

CPF funding in FY 2024 ranged between \$89,000 and \$3,000,000 for individual EOC grants. Please review this <u>guidance</u> should you have any additional guestions.

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Federal Assistance – Pre-Disaster Mitigation

FEMA's PDM grants assist state, local, Tribal, and territorial governments with planning and implementing sustainable, cost-effective measures to provide long-term, permanent risk reduction to individuals and property from future natural hazards, such as floods and wildfires, while reducing reliance on federal funding for future disasters. For PDM grant requests, the database includes specific eligibility questions to ensure the proposed project meets FEMA's requirements as detailed in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). Applicants must consult with their State Hazard Mitigation Officers to assist in answering the questions in the application portal.

Submissions should include a detailed project description, budget describing how the funding will be used, and confirm <u>ability to meet the cost share requirement</u> (generally 25 percent of eligible activity costs and as low as 10 percent for small, <u>impoverished communities defined in 42 U.S.C. 5133)</u>. Once projects are approved, the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government <u>must</u> submit an application to FEMA and serve as the administrative agent for the grant on behalf of the receiving entity (grant subrecipients). **Each project request must be accompanied by a letter from the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, to be considered for funding.**

CPF funding in the FY24 House bill ranged between \$75,000 and \$10,000,000 for individual PDM grants. Please review this <u>guidance</u> should you have any additional questions.

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

Environmental Protection Agency

STAG - Clean Water State Revolving Fund

STAG – Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Any portion of the project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant is <u>subject to a minimum 20 percent cost share requirement.</u> Federal funds outside of assistance provided by a SRF generally cannot be used to meet this cost share, with some exceptions (for reference, the exceptions for FY 2024 CPFs included federal funds from the following programs: HUD Community Development Block Grant Program, USDA Rural Development Program, Appalachian Regional Commission grants, and Delta Regional Authority grants). Additionally, non-federal

assistance provided by a SRF can be used as part of the project's matching requirement.

Projects <u>must</u> be publicly owned or owned by a non-profit entity (to be considered on a limited basis) that are otherwise eligible for the funding from the respective state's Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan programs. States have Intended Use Plans (IUPs) with drinking water and wastewater projects that have already been vetted by governmental officials.

Below are EPA brochures on eligibility guidelines for the CWSRF and DWSRF program:

- EPA's Overview of Clean Water State Revolving Fund Eligibilities
- EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Eligibility Handbook

What types of projects are ineligible?

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

Are flood control projects eligible?

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

Are irrigation projects eligible?

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

Are fire suppression projects eligible?

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

Can a CPF project include road repairs?

The cost of road repairs is eligible in limited circumstances to the extent that such repairs are required to undertake the CPF water quality improvement project.

Road construction for transportation improvements or flood mitigation (such as redirecting drainage or channeling flows) is not eligible.

What about projects for the purpose of attracting future economic growth?

Drinking water infrastructure projects must serve the public health needs of the existing population. A project may be sized for a reasonable amount of population growth over the useful life of the project. However, a drinking water project may not be for the purpose of anticipating or attracting future growth or development. Clean water infrastructure projects do not have this restriction.

Is ongoing operation and maintenance an eligible expense for a CPF?

No, ongoing operations and maintenance is not an eligible CPF expense and should not be included in the requested project amount.

Can a CPF be used to reimburse an entity that has already incurred project costs?

Yes, but the costs 1.) Must be for an otherwise eligible clean or drinking water project 2.) Must be in conformance with applicable federal and EPA statutes and regulations (ex: Build America Buy America Act, Davis Bacon Act, environmental reviews) and 3.) Are only eligible for FY 2026 CPF funding if the costs are incurred on or after October 1, 2025. All costs incurred are at the risk of the entity and EPA will review each reimbursement CPF project on a case-by-case basis to determine whether the incurred project costs are CPF eligible.

Does a project have to be on a state IUP list in order to be eligible for a CPF?

A project is not required to be on a State Intended Use Plan (IUP), but projects already listed on an IUP are usually eligible to receive CPF funding and can be an easy positive identifier of eligibility. Projects that are already on an IUP are typically aware of the applicable SRF requirements.

What is a reasonable amount to request for each STAG CPF project?

In FY 2024, most EPA STAG infrastructure projects funded in the House bill ranged from \$100,000 to \$5,000,000. The Committee may consider higher or lower project amounts for FY 2026, and any caps will be determined by the Chairman after reviewing the full universe of requests.

Please review this guidance should you have any additional questions.

Projects that are NOT generally eligible for STAG Grants		
Clean Water / Wastewater	Drinking Water	

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

	8.	Projects for systems in significant noncompliance, unless funding will ensure compliance.
	9.	Projects primarily intended to serve future growth.

Projects that ARE generally eligible for STAG Grants					
Clean	Water / Wastewater	Drink	Drinking Water		
1.	Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities: Upgraded (increase in treatment level) or expanded (increase in treatment capacity) facilities, including biological facilities, mechanical, a lagoon system, a land treatment system, or individual onsite systems.	1.	Facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e., PFAS).		
2.	Collector Sewers: Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites to larger interceptor sewers.	2.	Rehabilitate or develop water sources (excluding reservoirs, dams, dam rehabilitation and water rights) to replace contaminated sources.		
3.	Interceptor Sewers: Large sewers that convey wastewater from collector sewers directly to a	3.	Install or upgrade treatment facilities.		

	wastewater treatment facility		
4.	Sewer Pipes: Rehabilitation is eligible only if pipes are publicly owned	4.	Install or upgrade storage facilities, including finished water reservoirs, to prevent microbiological contaminants from entering the water system.
5.	Outfall Sewer: A sewer that conveys treated wastewater from a wastewater treatment facility to the receiving waters (i.e., a river, stream, lake, ocean, etc.).	5.	Install or replace transmission and distribution pipes to prevent contamination caused by leaks or breaks in the pipe or improve water pressure to safe levels.
6.	Storm Water Management: Measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water (i.e., storm sewers, green infrastructure, etc.).	6.	Projects to consolidate water supplies – for example, when individual homes or other public water supplies have a water supply that is contaminated, or the system is unable to maintain compliance for financial or managerial reasons – are eligible for DWSRF assistance.
7.	Combined sewer overflow (CSO) control and sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) control: Combined sewers are sewers that convey both wastewater and storm water and may overflow during periods of heavy rain. The costs to correct CSO and SSO overflow problems are eligible.	7.	Land is eligible only if it is integral to a project that is needed to meet or maintain compliance and further public health protection.
8.	Infiltration/Inflow Correction: Construction activities that prevent surface water or	8.	Project planning, design, and other related costs.

	groundwater from entering the sewer system.	
9.	Water Security: These projects include installation or upgrade of physical security infrastructure such as lighting, fencing, monitoring and access control. Also, cybersecurity measures, installation of safer treatment technologies, and more secure storage of on-site treatment.	
10.	Septic Tanks: Remediation, rehabilitation, removal and replacement of failing tanks are eligible, as well as installation of new tanks where none had previously existed.	
11.	Land: The leasing and fee- simple purchase of land, including surface and subsurface easements, needed to locate eligible municipal or tribal projects, and land integral to the treatment process (e.g., land for effluent application or recharge basins), and a place to store equipment and material during POTW construction. Municipal purchase of land and/or conservation easements for source water protection are also eligible.	

12.	Water Reuse: Projects involving the municipal reuse or recycling of wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water. This includes but is not limited to the purchase and installation of treatment equipment sufficient to meet reuse standards, distribution systems to support effluent reuse, recharge transmission lines, injection wells, and equipment to reuse effluent (e.g., gray water, condensate, and wastewater effluent reuse systems).	
13.	Capital Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Projects: E.g., river or streambank restoration, agricultural best management practices (i.e., buffer strips, manure containment structures), wetlands restoration, etc.	

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies.

Army

Army National Guard

Army Reserve

Navy & Marine Corps

Navy Reserve

Air Force and Space Force

Air National Guard

Air Force Reserve

DoD, Defense-Wide

Please review this <u>quidance</u> for answers to specific eligibility criteria.

<u>Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and</u> Related Agencies.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

CDBG – Economic and Development Initiatives

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

- States and the District of Columbia
- Territories
- Tribal governments
- Counties
- Cities, towns, parishes, or other local government entities
- Public colleges and universities, including community colleges, all
 Historically Black Colleges and Universities defined as a "part B
 institution" in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
 1061), and all Tribal Colleges and Universities as defined in section 316 of
 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c)

Project requests for the FY26 Economic Development Initiative program must be consistent with the goals of one or more of the following eligible uses of the Community Development Fund (CDF): tel:42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1),5305(a)(2),5305(a)(4),5305(a)(5). These statutory eligibilities focus on land or site acquisition, demolition, or rehabilitation; blight removal; and construction and capital improvements of public facilities, except for "buildings used for the general conduct of government."

5305(a)(1) – the acquisition of real property (including air rights, water rights, and other interests therein) which is (A) blighted, deteriorated, deteriorating, undeveloped, or inappropriately developed from the standpoint of sound community development and growth; (B) appropriate for rehabilitation or conservation activities; (C) appropriate for the preservation or restoration of historic sites, the beautification of urban land, the conservation of open spaces, natural resources, and scenic areas, the provision of recreational opportunities, or the guidance of urban development; (D) to be used for the provision of public works, facilities, and improvements eligible for assistance under this chapter; or (E) to be used for other public purposes;

5305(a)(2) – the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or installation (including design features and improvements with respect to such construction, reconstruction, or installation that promote energy efficiency) of public works, facilities (except for buildings for the general conduct of government), and site or other improvements;

5305(a)(4) – clearance, demolition, removal, reconstruction, and rehabilitation (including rehabilitation which promotes energy efficiency) of buildings and improvements (including interim assistance, and financing public or private acquisition for reconstruction or rehabilitation, and reconstruction or rehabilitation, of privately owned properties, and including the renovation of closed school buildings);

5305(a)(5) – special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers which restrict the mobility and accessibility of elderly and handicapped persons;

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

- Water or sewer infrastructure projects, which are not otherwise eligible to be funded as CPFs in EPA STAG (Interior bill) or Rural Water and Waste Disposal (Agriculture bill);
- Local road infrastructure, which is not otherwise eligible as a CPF in Highways (in this bill);
- Streetscape improvements:

- Housing rehabilitation or construction, residential conversions, and neighborhood revitalization projects, which would increase housing supply and/or improve housing affordability in the local community;
- Projects with a clear economic development benefit for a community or region, such as workforce training centers; and
- Projects that meet a compelling local need consistent with statutory purposes.
 For example, food banks in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, youth and senior centers, and multipurpose community centers would be strong submissions.

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

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

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

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

Taxpayer Identification Number/Unique Entity Identifier: Requesting offices are required to provide a valid Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and/or Employer Identification Number (EIN) for each potential EDI recipient, as well as the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), which is an entity's official identifier for conducting business with the federal government. If an entity does not presently

have a UEI, they can register for one at SAM.gov. Applicants should have this information readily available to provide to your office.

NOTE: Political subdivisions and school districts/boards may not have their own unique TIN or UEI. In this case, we recommend naming the recipient as the legal entity under which they are formed and naming the political subdivision in the project description (e.g., "City of Alexandria/For the Department of Public Works' roadway improvements").

Planning and administrative costs: These costs can be incurred after the date of enactment. However, if the recipient incurs these costs after enactment, but before the grant agreement is signed, they do so at their own risk. If the project is found to be ineligible by HUD or the grant agreement is never signed, HUD cannot reimburse those costs. Hard costs, such as construction, can **only** be incurred after the successful completion of the required environmental review.

Please review this guidance should you have any additional questions.

Department of Transportation

Airport Improvement Program

Airport Improvement Program (AIP) projects are intended to enhance airport safety, capacity, and security, and environmental concerns. All projects must be: AIP eligible in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 47100 et seq. and FAA policy and guidance; included in the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS); supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials; and administered by an airport and/or airport sponsor.

Projects will be subject to various federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and <u>a cost share requirement based on size.</u> The grant covers 75 percent of eligible costs (or 80 percent of noise program implementation) for large and medium primary hub airports and a range of 90-95 percent of eligible costs for small primary, reliever, and general aviation airports. Specific cost share requirements can and should be verified by the FAA Regional District Office.

Please review this <u>quidance</u> should you have any additional questions.

Department of Transportation

Highway Infrastructure Projects

Highway Infrastructure Projects are capital projects eligible under <u>23 U.S.C.</u> <u>133(b)</u>. All projects must be: capital projects or project-specific planning/design for

a capital project; supported by the state or Tribal government that would administer the project, such as by being included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP); and administered by public or Tribal entities.

Most projects will be subject to various federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and <u>a cost share requirement on a sliding scale based on activity, location, and other factors.</u> Funding <u>cannot</u> be used for administrative activities, even if they are eligible under the statutory citation. This includes general operating expenses and planning activities.

Please review this <u>quidance</u> should you have any additional questions.

Department of Transportation

Transit Infrastructure Projects

Transit Infrastructure Projects are public transportation capital projects eligible under 49 U.S.C. 53. Eligible capital projects are described under 49 U.S.C. 5302(4). All projects must be: transit capital projects or project-specific planning/design for a transit capital project; supported by the state, local governmental authority, or Tribal government that would administer the project, such as by being included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP); and sponsored by designated recipients, states (including territories and the District of Columbia), local governmental authorities, and/or Indian tribes.

Public transportation or transit is defined in 49 U.S.C. 5302(15) and (22), as regular, continuing shared-ride surface transportation that is open to the general public or open to a segment of the general public defined by age, disability, or low income, and does not include intercity passenger rail transportation, intercity bus, charter bus, school bus, sightseeing, courtesy shuttle, or intra-terminal /intra-facility shuttle services.

Most projects will be subject to various federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and generally a 20 percent cost share requirement. Funding cannot be used for administrative activities, even if they are eligible under the statutory citation. This includes general operating expenses, joint development projects, and planning activities. Capital Investment Grants (CIG) projects will not be considered as CPF projects.

Please review this guidance should you have any additional questions.

Department of Transportation

Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements

Rail infrastructure projects are capital projects eligible under the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) program authorized under 49 U.S.C. 22907. CRISI provides grants to assist in financing the cost of improving passenger and freight rail transportation systems. All projects must be: rail capital projects or systems planning for a rail capital project; supported by the state, local governmental authority, or Tribal government that would administer the project; and sponsored by public or Tribal entities.

Projects will be subject to various federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Funding <u>cannot</u> be used for administrative activities, even if they are eligible under the statutory citation. This includes general operating expenses, rail-related research, and workforce activities. Eligibility and viability can and should be verified by the project sponsor (i.e., public agency). <u>Please note that while planning projects are eligible, projects that are solely planning in nature will be highly scrutinized.</u>

Please look over the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) <u>Capital Project</u> <u>Guidance</u> to ensure the lifecycle stage of the project matches the requirements. Please review this <u>guidance</u> should you have any additional questions.

Department of Transportation

Port Infrastructure Development Program

Port Infrastructure Development Program projects are projects eligible under <u>46</u> U.S.C. 54301.

Projects may be subject to various federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), reviews/audits from the Department of Transportation, and <u>cost share</u> requirements with potential exceptions for small and rural area ports (46 U.S.C. <u>54301(a)(8) and (b))</u>. Eligibility and viability can and should be verified by local port authorities and the Maritime Administration's <u>Gateway Offices</u>.

Please review this <u>quidance</u> should you have any additional questions.

Other Federal Funding Resources

The Community Project Funding process represents a small fraction of the discretionary funding available through competitive grants, loans, and other opportunities. Please review the resources below to find other funding sources.

Grants.gov

Looking for other federal funding opportunities? At Grants.gov, organizations can search and apply for competitive grants from 26 different federal agencies. Grants can be searched by agency, type of applicant, intended purposes, and more.

SAM.gov

The official U.S. government website for individuals who make, receive, and manage federal awards.

GovLoans.gov

Interested in finding out which loans or benefits you may be eligible for? At GovLoans.gov, you can learn more about federal loans, determine which loans may be right for you, and more.

Benefits.gov

This tool will help you determine what government benefits you may be eligible for. It also provides information on how to apply to these programs.

USA.gov

The official guide to U.S. Government Information and Services.