TAMMY DUCKWORTH
U.S. SENATOR FOR ILLINOIS

Federal & State Grant Funding Opportunities
Available Through
June 2026

DHS Makes $648 Million Available to Help Firefighters and First Responders Nationwide

FEMA announced $648 million in three funding opportunities to help firefighters and other first responders stay safe while protecting lives and communities nationwide. Through these three funding opportunities, FEMA is empowering fire stations and other first responder organizations to get the equipment, staff, and support they need.

The funding opportunities span three separate grant programs:

1. FEMA will award $291.6 million though Assistance to Firefighters Grants to fire departments and other emergency medical services agencies. Recipients can use the money to acquire personal protective equipment and emergency response vehicles. They can also use it to fund health, wellness and resiliency initiatives to prepare responders for incidents.
2. FEMA will award $324 million in Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) funding to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations. Recipients can use this money to pay salaries for firefighters, enabling them to stay well-staffed. They can also use the money to train and recruit more people into the fire service.
3. FEMA will award $32.4 million through the Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) grant program to fire departments and non-profit organizations, academic and other research-oriented institutions. Recipients can use this money to fund research and clinical studies focused on community fire prevention and firefighter safety, health and well-being.

Eligible applicants can review the full funding opportunities for all three programs on Grants.gov. Before applying, FEMA encourages applicants to review the various resources published on FEMA.gov which will help them develop strong applications.

FY 2025 Fire Grants Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs) NOW AVAILABLE!

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Assistance to Firefighters Grants, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) and Fire Prevention & Safety (FP&S) Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) contain detailed information regarding eligibility, funding opportunities, allowable costs, cost share requirements, and application instructions.

Research and Economic Development

Manufacturing in America E2G Grant Initiative

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement is to invite proposals for funding from established organizations interested in providing innovative hands-on, in-person manufacturing training and technical assistance to eligible small manufacturing business concerns, under the U.S. Small Business Administration's Empower to Grow Program (formerly known as 7(j) Management and Technical Assistance Program).

Deadline: June 15, 2026

Precision Measurement Grant Program

The Precision Measurement Grant Program (PMGP) is seeking applications from eligible applicants for activities to conduct research work in the field of fundamental measurement, testing the basic laws of physics, and/or the determination of fundamental constants, with emphasis on pressing problems or emerging opportunities.

Deadline: June 22, 2026

TechAccess: AI-Ready America

TechAccess: AI-Ready America is a national-scale initiative to accelerate Artificial Intelligence (AI) readiness and adoption across the U.S. by strengthening coordination, leveraging partnerships and resources, filling gaps, and scaling what works—so local and state priorities can lead in shaping an AI-driven economy that benefits all Americans. Unlike initiatives centered around K–16 education, AI-Ready America additionally reaches businesses, public-serving organizations, and individuals, among others, expanding access to AI knowledge, tools, and resources.

Deadline: July 16, 2026

Education

Career Pathways Exploration Grant Program

The Career Pathways Exploration (CPE) program supports efforts to provide elementary and secondary school students with increased career exploration opportunities that allow them to develop, expand, and prioritize the skills and knowledge needed to excel in high-demand fields. To support this goal, the CPE program provides competitive grants to States to build their capacity to integrate career exploration into statewide career pathways and workforce readiness programs. The CPE program will help ensure access to opportunities that expose students to real-life workforce realities through a variety of career pathways programs that are aligned with State workforce priorities.

Deadline: June 9,2026.

Agriculture, Water, Environment & Energy

Micro-Grants for Food Security Program

MGFSP assists agricultural agencies or departments in eligible states and territories to increase the quantity and quality of locally grown food in food insecure communities through small-scale gardening, herding, and livestock operations by competitively distributing subawards to eligible entities. USDA promotes climate-resilient landscapes and rural economic systems, including tools to support agriculture, forests, grazing lands, and rural communities. AMS encourages applicants to consider including goals and activities related to reducing and stabilizing the levels of heat-trapping greenhouse gases in the atmosphere or adapting to the already occurring climate change in their project's design and implementation**.**

Deadline: June 22, 2026

Equipment Grants Program

The Equipment Grants Program (EGP) serves to increase access to shared-use special purpose equipment/instruments for fundamental and applied research for use in the food and agricultural sciences programs at institutions of higher education, including State Cooperative Extension Systems. The program seeks to strengthen the quality and expand the scope of fundamental and applied research at eligible institutions by providing them with opportunities to acquire one shared-use piece of equipment/instrument that supports their research, research training, and extension goals that may be too costly and/or not appropriate for support through other NIFA grant programs.

Deadline: June 25, 2026

Assistive Technology Program for Farmers with Disabilities

The AgrAbility program works to increase the likelihood that individuals with disabilities, including veterans, and their families engaged in the agricultural enterprise (AgrAbility customers) will become more successful. The program supports cooperative demonstration projects at state and regional levels and one technical assistance and training national project. The AgrAbility supports American rural communities by: i. Funding cooperative, demonstration State and Regional AgrAbility Projects (SRAPs) between State Cooperative Extension Services based at either 1862 or 1890 Land-grant Institutions and private, nonprofit community-based disability serving organizations to provide on-the-farm agricultural education and assistance to accommodate farmers with disabilities and their families.

Revolving Fund Program

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS or the Agency), a Rural Development (RD) mission area of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), invites applications for grants under the Revolving Funds for Financing Water and Wastewater Projects (Revolving Fund Program or RFP) Grant Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026.

Deadline: July 3, 2026

Transportation & Rural Development

Community Connect Grant Program

The Community Connect Grant Program provides financial assistance to eligible applicants that will provide service at or above the Broadband Grant Speed (100 Mbps down and 20 Mbps up) to all premises in rural, economically challenged communities where broadband service (10 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up) does not exist.

Deadline: June 29, 2026

Rural Business Development Grant Program - Rural Transportation Systems

The purpose of this program is to improve the economic conditions of rural areas by providing technical assistance that will enhance the operation of rural transportation systems.

Deadline: June 30, 2026

FY 2026 Bridge Investment Program, Planning and Bridge Project Grants

The purpose of this notice is to solicit applications for two funding categories: (1) Planning and (2) Bridge Project grants (a project with total eligible costs not greater than $100 million) for awards under the Bridge Investment Program (BIP). This notice establishes a “rolling application” process for Planning and Bridge Project applications by providing the schedule, requirements, and selection process for such projects for the remaining available amounts of the BIP funding provided by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

Deadline: June 29, 2026

FY 2025 Rural Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing Grants (RCB)

The Rural Capacity Building program enhances the capacity and ability of rural housing development organizations, Community Development Corporations (CDCs), Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), rural local governments, and Indian tribes (eligible beneficiaries) to carry out affordable housing and community development activities in rural areas for the benefit of low- and moderate-income families and persons. The Rural Capacity Building program achieves this by funding National Organizations with expertise in rural housing and rural community development who work directly...

to build the capacity of eligible beneficiaries. **Deadline July 6, 2026.**

Military & Veterans

Staff Sergeant Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program Funding Opportunity

The SSG Fox SPGP directs efforts to reduce Veteran suicide by awarding grants to community-based organizations to directly provide or coordinate the provision of primarily non-clinical suicide prevention services to eligible individuals and their families.

Deadline: June 12, 2026

Department of Justice

FY 2026 Technology to Support Services for Victims of Crime

This is a notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for the OVC FY 2026 Technology to Support Services for Victims of Crime. This opportunity supports projects that create, expand, or enhance the use of technology by victim service organizations to improve interaction with crime victims, elevate service quality, and ensure accessibility and responsiveness.

Deadline: June 23,2026.

Health & Human Services

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

The DLT Program provides financial assistance to enable and improve distance learning and telemedicine services in rural areas. DLT grant funds support the use of telecommunications-enabled information, audio and video equipment, and related advanced technologies by students, teachers, medical professionals, and rural residents.

Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant – 2026

The PHHS Block Grant Program allows recipients to address their own unique public health needs and challenges with evidence-based, innovative and community-driven methods. Recipients set their own goals and program objectives to address local priorities.

Deadline: July 1, 2026

Arts & Humanities

NEA Grants for Arts Projects 2, FY 2027

Grants for Arts Projects (GAP) provides project-based funding for organizations in the areas of Arts Education, Challenge America, Dance, Design & Our Town, Folk & Traditional Arts, Literary Arts, Local Arts Agencies, Museums, Music, Opera, Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works, Theater & Musical Theater, and Visual and Media Arts. Funded activities may include a wide range of arts projects described in the application guidelines. Awards require a 1:1 cost share. We welcome applications from first-time and returning applicants; from organizations serving rural, urban, suburban, and tribal communities of all sizes.

Deadline: July 9, 2026

Search Through the Federal Program Inventory!

In 2023, building upon the successful 2020 exploratory pilot effort and recommendations published in the 2021 Report to Congress, OMB launched the Federal Program Inventory, which focuses on Federal financial assistance. **Find grants and assistance opportunities that best fit your organization's needs!**

Other Helpful Resources & State Grant Opportunities

Economic Empowerment Center (EEC) Round 2

The EEC Grant Program was developed to help create an inclusive business ecosystem within communities that have historically faced systemic barriers to entry and growth through dynamic partnerships, targeted outreach, and tailored programs and initiatives. DCEO has previously awarded $2.5 million in grant funding to 10 recipients through the EEC Grant Program. **Eligible Applicants**

- Career education agencies; and
- Non-profit organizations, including but not limited to: local development corporations, chambers of commerce, community based outreach centers, and community based organizations that provide services to underserved businesses and entrepreneurs.

Award Range: $250,000-$500,000

Deadline: Rolling until funding is exhausted. DCEO hosted an Application Workshop and Technical Assistance webinar for EEC grant applicants and the webinar was recorded, and the recording will be available on the DCEO website.

How to Apply?

- Economic Empowerment Center Program Application: bit.ly/4tZqbZq
- Supporting documents below:
    - An electronic/digital photo of the project location and copy of the CDFI Map Area, if applicable
    - Mission Statement
    - Articles of Incorporation
    - Copies of Organizational Chart, and more

Illinois EPA Lead Service Line Inventory Grant

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced $6.57 million to assist communities across the state in meeting the inventory requirements of the Lead Service Line Replacement and Notification Act (LSLRNA). More information can be found at this link. Please note this grant program is for lead service line inventorying purposes only, and lead service line replacement costs are ineligible for this grant program.

Introducing the New CEJA Website

DCEO is pleased to announce the launch of its new Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) website. This updated site is the result of a year-long effort to refine content and tools to better serve the needs of communities across Illinois. It emphasizes clear program information, opportunities for engagement, and improved access to resources, including the CEJA Map.

Key features of the new website include:

- Clearer information organized by audience and stakeholder type
- Updated eligibility requirements for potential program participants
- Updated contact information for CEJA and FEJA grantees
- The CEJA Map and additional supporting resources

We invite you to visit the website to learn more about CEJA and how Illinois is advancing clean energy, workforce development, and equity in communities across the state. If you have questions about or suggestions for future website updates, please contact us at CEO.CEJA@Illinois.gov.

CEJA Capacity Grant

The Workforce Policy Lab, in collaboration with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), is excited to introduce the CEJA Capacity Grant Program—a bold new initiative to strengthen a more inclusive and resilient clean energy future for Illinois. Launching in 2026, this program will provide current and prospective DCEO CEJA grantees and sub-grantees with robust capacity-building support, along with grant awards starting at $100,000. This direct investment will empower 501(c)(3) organizations across the state to scale clean energy workforce development, expand contractor opportunities, and drive equitable economic growth in communities statewide.

Visit the program website to explore program details and stay informed about opportunities and updates. Share the interest form found on the program website with your network so they can be the first to hear about the CEJA Capacity Grant when the opportunity goes live.

Illinois DCEO Provides Help with Seeking Federal Funds!

Federal Grant Support Program – Round 2

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's (DCEO)'s Federal Grant Support Program-Round 2 is open and will make $16.9 million available to Illinois-based proposals seeking competitive federal grants. This match program will encourage more applicants to apply for federal grant opportunities, provide critical assistance to meet the minimum match eligibility requirements, increase the competitiveness of applications, and provide the State of Illinois with an opportunity to make a firm commitment and demonstration of support for projects that are well aligned with the State's economic development goals and priorities. For more information about the program, including links to the NOFO and application, visit this link.

Office Resources

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