



GRANT SERVICES CATALOG

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY (DCEO)

The Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), provides funding for a variety of community-based projects. Communities with populations of 50,000 or less can apply for grants under the CDBG program. Projects must include a 25% match of non-CDBG funds (Except for Housing Rehabilitation) and benefit at least 51 percent low-to-moderate income (LMI) persons.

CDBG – Economic Development (Non-Competitive)

Grant funds of up to \$1,000,000 may be available for use by local governments to provide financial assistance to businesses locating or expanding in the community. These grant funds can be used for land acquisition, construction, reconstruction or rehabilitation of commercial or industrial buildings, structures and other real property, equipment and improvements, working capital expenses and public infrastructure improvements necessary for the specific economic development project. These grants have an open application process and can be submitted at any time.

CDBG – Public Infrastructure

Grants funds of up to \$550,000 may be available for use by local governments to improve public infrastructure and elimination conditions detrimental to public health, safety and welfare. The funding priority for this component is for water, sanitary systems and storm sewer projects. Acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, demolition or installation of public infrastructure and improvements are eligible activities. Project areas must be primarily residential in character. Funds may also be used to finance costs associated with the connection of residential structures to public facility improvements.

CDBG – Housing Rehabilitation

Grant funds of up to \$550,000 may be available for local governments to upgrade their existing housing stock and to provide safe and sanitary living conditions for low-to-moderate income, single-family, owner occupied residents of their communities.

CDBG– Disaster Response (Non-Competitive)

Grant funds of up to \$250,000 may be available for communities experiencing an imminent and urgent threat to public health and safety as indicated by a disaster declaration by the Governor of the State of Illinois. Applications for this program must be submitted within six months from the date of the Gubernatorial Disaster Declaration. 3

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (IDNR)

Open Space Land Acquisition & Development (OSLAD)

Grant funds of up to \$750,000 for land acquisition and \$400,000 for development projects may be available to local governments for the acquisition and/or development of land for public parks and open space. The program can provide up to 50% (90% for distressed communities) funding assistance toward the total project. Projects vary from small neighborhood parks to large community and county parks and nature areas. Examples of projects include combo soccer/football fields, combo baseball/softball fields, park pavilions, picnic tables, basketball and tennis courts, extensions of trail loops, parking lot expansions, etc. Applications are normally submitted late summer to early fall of each calendar year.

Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

LWCF grant funds coincide with the OSLAD funding discussed above and operate under the same program.

Park and Recreational Facility Construction Grant (PARC)

Grant funds may be available to local governments for park and recreation unit construction projects through the PARC grant program. PARC operates on a reimbursement basis and can provide up to 75% state funding assistance on total approved project costs. Local governments defined as “disadvantaged” in the administrative rule shall be eligible for up to 90% funding assistance. The minimum and maximum grant amount available per project are \$25,000 to 2.5 million. Application dates also vary, but are generally accepted in the first quarter of each fiscal year.

Boat Access Area Development Grant (BAAD)

Grant funds may be available to local governments to acquire and or construct/renovate boat access areas in Illinois. The BAAD can provide up to 100% reimbursement funding assistance on project development and 90% reimbursement funding assistance on land acquisition costs. The maximum grant assistance for any one project or project element in a fiscal year is \$200,000 for boat access facilities and \$80,000 for non-motorized, canoe and other car top boat launch facilities. Application submittal dates can vary from year to year. 4

Greenways and Trails Planning Assistance

This IDNR program is designed to assist communities and/or counties with greenway and trail planning. The goal of the program is to encourage and facilitate comprehensive, cooperative and coordinated planning to protect high priority greenways and, where appropriate, provide public access to them by developing trails. After project approval, the financial assistance will be in the form of a contract between IDNR and the applicant, not to exceed \$20,000, to complete the greenways and trails plan. SCIRPDC has served as the applicant and successfully completed the Clay County Greenways and Trails plan using this particular funding source previously. 5

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA)

EDA's programs provide economically distressed communities and regions with comprehensive and flexible resources to address a wide variety of economic needs, and are designed to lead to the creation and retention of jobs and increased private investment. A pre-application is to be submitted to EDA as the first phase. Within 30 days EDA will respond with either an invitation for a full application to be submitted or a reasoning why the application should not move forward. After submittal of a full grant application, EDA will review and respond within 60 days to the grant request. There are no deadlines for pre-application or full application. Applications are accepted year-round.

Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA)

The EAA program provides investments that support a wide range of construction and non-construction activities (including infrastructure, design and engineering, technical assistance, economic recovery strategies, and capitalization or re-capitalization of Revolving Loan Funds (RLF).

Public Works

The Public Works program provides funding to communities build, design, or engineer critical infrastructure and facilities that will help implement regional development strategies and advance bottom-up economic development goals to promote regional prosperity. Previous projects funded include the support of water and sewer system improvements, industrial parks, high-tech shipping and logistics facilities, workforce training facilities, business incubators, etc.

EAA and Public Works Cost Sharing or Matching

With both the EAA and Public Works programs, EDA will generally provide a 50 percent match to the total cost of the project. Projects may receive an additional amount that may not exceed up to 30 percent of the total project cost, based on the relative needs of the Region in which the project will be located. This is determined through recent unemployment rate data and/or per capita income data. 6

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

USDA generally has about 35 grant programs in total available. Two commonly used grants by SCIRPDC, the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) and the Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG), have recently been combined in to the Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG). USDA's Fiscal year begins in October of each year; budget approvals could slow review of applications and it is best to submit applications before the end of May. Depending on the year, budget approval can take as long as six months.

Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG)

RBDG grants are designed to support targeted technical assistance, training and other activities leading to the development or expansion of small and emerging private businesses in rural areas that have fewer than 50 employees and less than \$1 million in gross revenues. This grant is further separated into either enterprise or opportunity type grant activities and is open to rural public entities including communities, nonprofit corporations, rural cooperatives, etc. Although there is no maximum grant amount for the RBDG program, smaller requests are given higher priority and grants generally range from \$10,000 up to \$500,000. There is no cost sharing requirement, but some matching/leverage funds should be considered.

Community Facilities Grant (CFG)

This program provides funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings. Funds are generally used to purchase, construct and or improve essential community facilities such as the purchasing of essential equipment and/or related project expenses. Although there is no maximum grant amount for the CFG program, smaller requests are given higher priority and successful grants generally range up to \$25,000.

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (IDOT)

Economic Development Program (EDP)

EDP's purpose is to provide assistance in improving highway access to new or expanding industrial, distribution, or tourism developments. The focus of the program is on the retention and creation of permanent full-time jobs. The assistance will provide up to 50 percent state funding for eligible locally-owned roadways, and 100 percent state funding for roadway improvements on state-owned routes. The remaining 50 percent match will be provided by local government entities or private sources. IDOT funding allows the department to contribute up to \$2 million maximum to local economic development projects. The local sponsor for the project should apply for funding as soon as possible after the project site and an appropriate range of access needs are identified.

Truck Access Route Program (TARP)

The purpose of TARP is to help local governments upgrade roads to accommodate 80,000-pound truck loads. Every fall IDOT solicits local projects that can be constructed during the upcoming fiscal year. This program will provide \$45,000 per lane mile and \$22,000 per eligible intersection for selected projects. IDOT costs will not exceed 50 percent of the total construction costs or \$900,000, whichever is less.

IL Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP)

The ITEP provides funding for community-based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving the cultural, historic, aesthetic and environmental aspects of transportation infrastructure, such as street beautification, as well as bike and pedestrian travel. Funds will provide reimbursement up to 50 percent for right-of-way and easement acquisition costs, and up to 80 percent for preliminary engineering, utility relocations, construction engineering and construction costs. This program is funded biannually with the application submission deadline occurring on or around August 20th of each calendar year.

Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS)

SRTS provides funding to both infrastructure improvements to the physical environment as well as non-infrastructure projects. The goals of the program include, (1) enabling and encouraging children to walk and bicycle to school, (2) to make walking and biking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, and (3) to facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects that will improve safety. Infrastructure projects have a \$200,000 funding limit including a 20% local match required. Non-infrastructure projects have a \$30,000 funding limit and a 20% local match required. The application submittal date can vary year to year, please contact us for more information.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant (SAFER)

SAFER was created to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations to help them increase or maintain the number of trained, “front line” firefighters available in their communities. There are currently no annual salary limits on the firefighters, and no cost-sharing requirements for grant awards. Applications are due to be submitted on or around March 25th of each calendar year.

Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

The primary goal of the AFG is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments, EMS, etc. for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operations efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support resilience. Generally, the population of the jurisdiction served by the recipient will determine the maximum amount of AFG funding a recipient is eligible to receive. Populations of 100,000 or fewer people can receive no more than \$1 million dollars. Not less than 15% of the project cost must come from non-federal funds. Applications are due to be submitted on or around March 25th of each calendar year.