U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN

MIKIE SHERRILL

REPRESENTING THE 11TH DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

Community Project Funding Resource Guide

UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Updated: March 2021

Dear Friend,

I am pleased to share this following resource guide regarding how to request Community Project Funding through the annual appropriations process. This guide is an effort to streamline the process and provide you with the best information available in a clear and concise format. My team and I are committed to creating a fair and equitable process that will be beneficial to New Jersey's 11th Congressional District.

In this guide, you will find an overview of the appropriations process, the Community Project Funding process, answers to many frequently asked questions, contact information, and a brief overview of alternate federal funding sources, including language and programmatic.

My team and I are looking for your recommendations on Community Project Funding requests that will benefit those who live and work in New Jersey's Eleventh District. These projects should fill a clear and present need in the community, be administered by local government or eligible nonprofit leadership, and enjoy significant support from the community.

As you prepare your requests, please keep in mind that my office will receive far more Community Project Funding requests than can be fulfilled. As a result, many deserving, appropriate, and eligible projects will not be provided federal assistance in fiscal year 2022. That is why it is extremely important that every project and requestor pursue other grant and federal/state/local funding opportunities where available. My team and I are here to help you secure this important 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 to bring needed federal resources to New Jersey's Eleventh Congressional District.

Sincerely,

Mikie Sherrill

Member of Congress

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Contact Information

Please submit all **FY 2022 Programmatic or Language Appropriations requests** through my office's form at https://sherrill.house.gov/appropriations2022

- ***The deadline to submit a programmatic or language request for FY 2022 is April 5, 2021.***

Please submit all **FY 2022 Community Project Funding requests** through my office's form at https://sherrill.house.gov/appropriations2022

- ***The deadline to submit a Community Project Funding request is April 5, 2021.***

For specific questions, please reach out to my staff by emailing RepSherrillAppropriations@mail.house.gov

Overview of the Appropriations Process

Each year, the United States Congress considers and enacts annual appropriations bills, which provide the federal government with the funding it needs to operate. These bills fund numerous activities, including government operations, medical research, national defense, infrastructure, and education.

It is critical that the federal government invests in the policies and programs that help move our communities, state, and country forward.

You or your organization may submit a community project, programmatic or language requests. Community project requests may include funding for a community center, senior center, recreation center or park, water infrastructure, transportation infrastructure, health care services, education programs, social services, police services or equipment, and other local government projects and programs. Programmatic requests include funding for specific federal programs that are important to you or your organization. Language requests include specific policy directives to federal agencies.

Requests for community projects, programs, and language are due by April 5. You and your organization should begin developing your request well in advance to ensure that your request is submitted properly and tailored to the needs of your project. As you develop your request, please feel free to contact my staff and use this resource guide to ensure your project request meets all requirements.

In order to submit a request, please complete the form on my website at https://sherrill.house.gov/appropriations2022. We cannot guarantee that requests submitted after the deadline noted on my form will be considered. If you have problems or questions while completing these forms, please feel free to contact my staff. My staff is unable to forward request forms to other Congressional or Senate offices.

My team will review each request. The entire appropriations process can take several months. Appropriations bills approved by the House Appropriations Committees must be agreed to by both houses of Congress and signed into law by the President before the end of the fiscal year on September 30th; however, the process often extends beyond this date.

Overview of the Community Project Funding Process

For the first time in many years, the House Appropriations Committee will be accepting Community Project Funding requests for Fiscal Year 2022. These requests will be funded through the numerous government funding bills.

I am looking forward to recommending important local projects for federal funding this year. However, it is important that you know how this process will work this year.

First, we expect to receive hundreds of requests for funding. Only 10 of those may be submitted to the Appropriations Committee; of those, only a few will be funded.

Second, it is important that any request you make satisfies **every** requirement laid out by the House Appropriations Committee. Most importantly, each request must include demonstrated community support. You will be required to submit evidence of community support, including (but not limited to):

- Letters of support from elected community leaders
- Press articles highlighting the need for the specific project
- Resolutions passed by local/county/state governments
- Projects listed on community development plans, state intended use plans, and other publicly available planning documents
- Support from local newspaper editorial boards, etc.

Additional requirements are listed below:

- A financial disclosure statement from myself certifying that neither my immediate family nor I have any financial interest in the proposed project.
- No funds can be used by for-profit recipients.
- Several Federal programs eligible for Community Project Funding requests require a State or local match for projects either by statute or according to longstanding policy. The Committee will not waive these matching requirements for Community Project Funding requests, so it is important that Member offices discuss with their State and local officials the ability for localities to meet matching requirements prior to requesting a project. Note: This does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but that local officials must have a plan to meet such requirements in order for such a project to be viable
- Each project is funded only for FY 2022.

Additional information for each specific account is detailed below.

As more information becomes available, this guide will be updated.

Appropriations Bill: Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration

Department of Agriculture

Account: Community Facilities Grants

Grants to purchase, construct, or improve essential community facilities, to purchase equipment, and pay other related project expenses. Essential community facilities include, but are not limited to, healthcare facilities, public facilities, public safety measures, educational services, or other community support services. Examples of eligible projects include; medical or dental clinics, towns halls, courthouses, childcare centers, police or fire departments, public works vehicles, or distance learning equipment. Any project must serve a rural area as specified in 7 CFR 3570.53, and the Member's request must demonstrate community support. Such requests are also subject to the maximum grant assistance limitations specified in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). Community Facilities grants generally 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.

Account: ReConnect Program

ReConnect broadband pilot grants facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. Grant funding 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, which is defined as 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream. The area must be rural and lack sufficient access to broadband service. A rural area is any area which is not located within: (1) A city, town, or incorporated area that has a population of greater than 20,000 inhabitants; or (2) an urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 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 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream. Mobile and satellite services will not be considered in making the determination of sufficient access to broadband. 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. It is strongly recommended that Community Project Funding requests include specific information, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served in the area, what the performance of the service to be offered would be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities would be served.

Account: 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. Facility requests must be for ARS-owned facilities or for facilities that will enhance ongoing ARS work.

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. It is strongly encouraged that Community Project Funding requests include details on the research to be conducted, why the research is a high priority, as well as details on the modernization and why it is critical in carrying out the research. Below is a link to the Department's guidance on the ARS.

https://www.ars.usda.gov/about-ars/

Supplemental Required Questions for the Agriculture Subcommittee:

- Does the project sponsor plan to make grants to other entities from the funds provided and if so, to which entities?
- For ARS B&F only, what is the estimated start date of the project? How soon could the feasibility/engineering design phase commence? [mm/yy]
- For ARS B&F only, does the project have distinct and separable phases?
- For ARS B&F only, what is the estimated completion date of the project? When does completion of construction occur? [mm/yy]
- For ReConnect requests, please provide the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served, what the performance of the service to be offered will be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities will be served.

Appropriations Bill: Commerce, Justice, and Science

Department of Justice

Account: State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance - Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

Byrne JAG Grants assist state, local, and tribal law enforcement efforts to prevent crime, improve the criminal justice system, provide victims' services, and other related activities. Community projects funded under this category must comply with the requirements cited in JAG statutes and be consistent with U.S. Department of Justice guidance for the program. Below are the links to the Department's guidance and frequently asked questions regarding Byrne-JAG:

https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/overview

https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/jag-faqs.pdf

The House Appropriations Committee encourages community project funding designed to help improve police-community relations. Historically, the House Appropriations Committee has not funded vehicles or building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account.

Supplemental Required Questions for Byrne JAG Grant Projects

- Can the project obligate all the requested funds by no later than 12 months after the enactment of the Appropriations Act? [yes/no]
- If the Appropriations Committee is not able to provide the full amount of funding requested, can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the Appropriations Act? [yes/no]
- Is this request consistent with all current statutory and regulatory requirements of Byrne Justice Assistance Grant recipients and subrecipients? [yes/no]
- Is this project intended to serve primarily youth under age 18? [yes/no]
- Is this request to fund primarily the purchase of a vehicle(s)? [yes/no]
- Is this request to fund the acquisition of property or the construction or renovation of a building? [yes/no]
- Has the intended recipient received any COPS or Byrne-JAG funds at any time in the past ten years? [yes/no] If yes, in what fiscal years and for what purposes?

Account: Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) - Technology and Equipment

Funding will be provided for community project grants for State, local, and tribal law enforcement to develop and acquire effective technologies and interoperable communications that assist in investigating, responding to, and preventing crime, provided that such equipment meets the applicable requirements of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Office of Law Enforcement Standards (OLES).

This funding will allow recipients the opportunity to establish and enhance any of a variety of technical equipment and/or programs to encourage the continuation and enhancement of community policing efforts within their jurisdictions. These projects should help improve police effectiveness and the flow of information among law enforcement agencies, local government service providers, and the communities they serve.

Historically, the Committee has not funded vehicles or building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account. Recipients of community project funding under this account may *not* subgrant to other organizations or agencies.

Below are links for background and contact information for COPS:

https://cops.usdoj.gov/aboutcops

https://cops.usdoj.gov/contactcops

Supplemental Required Questions for COPS Projects

- Can the project obligate all the requested funds by no later than 12 months after the enactment of the Appropriations Act? [yes/no]
- If the Appropriations Committee is not able to provide the full amount of funding requested, can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the Appropriations Act? [yes/no]
- Is this request to fund primarily the purchase of a vehicle(s)? [yes/no]
- Is this request to fund the acquisition of property or the construction or renovation of a building? [yes/no]
- Has the intended recipient received any COPS or Byrne-JAG funds at any time in the past ten years? [yes/no] If yes, in what fiscal years and for what purposes?

Department of Commerce

Account: **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Operations, Research, and Facilities**

Community project funding for NOAA will only be considered within the Operations, Research, and Facilities account. This account does not fund construction projects, and as such, any such requests will not be considered. Requests for funding will be considered for research, demonstration, or education projects performed by external partners or for prioritizing NOAA internal funds for geographically specific projects. Any such project must be aligned with NOAA's mission and within their existing authorities.

Neither the National Weather Service nor the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations are eligible for Community Project Funding requests.

Coastal Zone Management funds are distributed to states on a formula basis and will not be considered for community project funding.

Historically, the Committee has not funded vehicles or building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account. Below are links to the Department's guidance on NOAA:

https://research.noaa.gov/About-Us

https://research.noaa.gov/External-Affairs/Budget

Supplemental Required Questions for NOAA ORF Projects

- Has the intended recipient received any competitive grant funding or other funding from NOAA at any time in the past ten years? [yes/no]
- If yes, in what fiscal years and for what purposes?
- For any science research project request, please provide the name of the individual who is anticipated to be the Principal Investigator for the research project, as well as a link to such person's curriculum vitae, and a list of this person's peer-reviewed publications related to the topic of the requested research project.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

Account: NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services

Funding must be for activities consistent with and supportive of the work of NASA's mission directorates and within the agency's authorities, such as STEM education activities and scientific research. Funding for building construction or renovation projects will *not* be considered for community project funding. Below are links to the Department's guidance on NASA:

https://www.nasa.gov/about/contact/index.html

https://www.nasa.gov/about/index.html

Supplemental Required Questions for NASA Projects

- Is the project intended to serve primarily youth under age 18? [yes/no]
- Has the intended recipient received any competitive grant funding or other funding from NASA at any time in the past ten years? [yes/no] If yes, in what fiscal years and for what purposes?
- For any science research project request, please provide the name of the individual who is anticipated to be the Principal Investigator for the research project, as well as a link to such person's curriculum vitae, and a list of this person's peer-reviewed publications related to the topic of the requested research project.

Appropriations Bill: Defense

The Defense Subcommittee will accept project requests for a state or local government or eligible non-profit recipient in the following **Accounts**::

- **Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Army**
- **Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Navy**
- **Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Air Force**
- **Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Space Force**
- **Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Defense-Wide**

Supplemental Required Questions for Defense Projects

- Provide a description of the desired outcome of the project and how it would benefit the Department of Defense.
- List the Line Number and Program Element number proposed to fund the project.
- List the required funding in future years and the source of that funding.

Appropriations Bill: Energy and Water Development

The subcommittee will only be considering requests in the following **Accounts**:

- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Investigations**
- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction**
- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mississippi River and Tributaries**
- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Operation and Maintenance**
- **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Water and Related Resources**

All requests for the Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) accounts listed above should reflect a funding amount that can be realistically utilized in Fiscal Year 2022. It is possible that approved Community Project Funding requests will be funded at a level lower than the requested level. Requestors are encouraged to keep in mind that only a very limited number of new start projects will be considered, if any, in the Investigations, Construction, and Mississippi River and Tributaries accounts. Similarly, requestors are encouraged to keep in mind that only a very limited number of Environmental Infrastructure projects, if any, will be considered in the Construction account. A very limited number of Continuing Authorities Program projects will be considered in the Construction account. Projects authorized under sections 4007, 4009(a), and 4009(c) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements Act for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-322) will not be accepted.

https://www.usace.army.mil/About/FAQ/

https://www.usbr.gov/main/about/

https://www.usbr.gov/main/water/

Supplemental Required Questions for Energy & Water Projects

- What is the official project name and authorization (assistance at the link above)?
- What was the FY21 enacted funding level for the project?
- What is the FY22 President's Budget Request funding level for the project?
- Please provide contact information for the relevant Corps District Project Manager and Corps District Name or the relevant Reclamation staff name and Region name. Please include the cell phone number and email address for the contact.
- Is this a Corps request for an authorized Environmental Infrastructure project? [yes/no] If yes, please provide specific Public Law and section number.
- Is this a Corps request for a Continuing Authorities Program project? [yes/no] If yes, please provide specific section of that authority (i.e. 204, 206, 1125, etc.).
- If making a Corps request, please provide the name of the Corps Division and Corps District where the project is located.
- If making a Reclamation request, please provide the name of the Reclamation Region where the project is located.
- Please include detailed information about the non-federal sponsor of the project or the non-federal project partner, if applicable.

Appropriations Bill: Financial Services and General Government

The subcommittee will only be considering requests in the following **Accounts**:

- **Small Business Initiatives account** within the U.S. Small Business Administration. This account provides funds for initiatives related to small business development and entrepreneurship, including programmatic and construction activities.

Supplemental Required Questions for Small Business Initiatives Projects

- Is this a new or ongoing project?
- Please provide a history of funding for the project, including Federal, state, or local government; non-profit; corporate.
- Are there matching funds associated with the requested funds? If yes, please list the source(s) and amount(s).
- Will the funds go to an organization that will make sub-grants of those funds to other organizations? If yes, please list the sub-grantees.
- Is the project a capital project or will the funds support operating costs?
- Provide the oversight and management structure, including accountability measures, of the project. Who will oversee and be accountable for the administration/management of the project?
- What performance standards will be used to evaluate whether the program or project supported by the funds meets its mission?

Appropriations Bill: Homeland Security

Department of Homeland Security

Account: **Pre-Disaster Mitigation Projects**

Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program will be considered for funding, including the cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements, as applicable. For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2022 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state agency responsible for administering mitigation grants in the requestor's state must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that entity will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency affirming that it believes the project is eligible. Below is a link to the Department's guidance on FEMA:

https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/pre-disaster

Supplemental Required Questions for Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants

- Is the proposed project eligible under the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant program?
- Can the requesting jurisdiction provide the required non-federal cost share, consistent with 2 CFR Sections 200.29, 200.306, and 200.434?
- Can the requesting jurisdiction provide a Cost-Benefit Analysis or other documentation that validates cost-effectiveness, which is defined by FEMA as having a Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCA) of 1.0 or greater? A non-FEMA BCA methodology may only be used if preapproved by FEMA in writing.
- Is the proposed project consistent with the goals and objectives of a FEMA-approved state, territorial, or tribal mitigation plan and the adopted mitigation plan of the local jurisdiction?
- Can the recipient describe how the project provides long-term permanent risk reduction, i.e., it is not used for emergency protective measures?
- Can the recipient describe how the project takes into account future conditions?
- Can the recipient describe how the project supports the needs of vulnerable populations?
- Does the recipient specifically encourage the adoption and enforcement of the latest disaster resistant building codes?

Account: **Nonprofit Security Grant Program Projects**

Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity and the Preparedness Grants Manual for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) will be considered for funding. For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal

year 2022 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective state administrative agency (SAA) must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the SAA will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate SAA affirming that it believes the project is eligible. Below is a link to the Department's guidance on FEMA:

https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/nonprofit-security

Supplemental Required Questions for Nonprofit Security Grants Projects

- Is the proposed project eligible under the Nonprofit Security Grant Program per the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity and the Preparedness Grants Manual?
- Is the entity for which funding is proposed able to demonstrate that it is at high risk of a terrorist attack?
- Does any derogatory information, as well as any potentially mitigating information, exist that would render the entity potentially unsuitable for receiving a grant from the Department of Homeland Security?

Account: Emergency Operations Center Grant Program

Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Emergency Operations Center Grant Program, including the cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements, as applicable, will be considered for funding. For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2022 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective state administrative agency (SAA) must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that agency will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate SSA affirming that it believes the project is eligible. Below is a link to the Department's guidance on FEMA:

https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/homeland-security

Supplemental Required Questions for Emergency Operations Center Projects

- Is the proposed project eligible under the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Emergency Operations Center Grant Program?
- Please attach a letter of support from the appropriate state administrative agency affirming project eligibility.
- Can the requesting jurisdiction provide the required 25 percent non-federal cost share?
- Is the requestor in a position to enhance their emergency management capabilities and address their Emergency Operations Center needs?

Appropriations Bill: Interior and Environment

Department of the Interior

Account: **Land Acquisition through the Land and Water Conservation Fund**

Federal acquisition of lands and water and interests therein must be for the purpose of land and habitat conservation and the encouragement of outdoor recreation, as established by the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965. Land acquisition project requests funded from the LWCF should be requested through the agency that would manage the land being acquired. The four land management agencies are: within the Department of the Interior, (1) the Bureau of Land Management, (2) the Fish and Wildlife Service, (3) the National Park Service; and within the Department of Agriculture, (4) the Forest Service.

Third party organizations (i.e. The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, etc.) frequently participate in the federal acquisition process by coordinating the negotiation and purchase of tracts. If the project you are requesting involves a third-party organization, please be mindful that funding for a land acquisition project goes to the agency that will manage the land.

The Great American Outdoors Act of (Public Law 116-152) and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260) mandates that the President submit, along with the upcoming fiscal year's budget request, proposed and supplemental project lists. The Committee will look favorably upon requests for projects that appear in either of these lists. When submitting your request, please indicate whether the project is on these lists. Below are links to the Department's guidance on the LWCF:

https://www.doi.gov/lwcf/about

https://www.doi.gov/lwcf/about/overview

Supplemental Required Questions for LWCF Project

- Is the requested project on either the president's proposed or supplemental LWCF project list submitted by the agency?

Environmental Protection Agency

Account: **State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)**

The vast majority of requests made to the Interior Subcommittee are for STAG infrastructure grants. These grants fund local wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects. This includes construction of and modifications to municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. Similar to past practice, the Committee will be limiting STAG infrastructure grants only to projects that are publicly-owned or owned by a non-profit entity and that are otherwise eligible for the funding from that state's Clean Water or Drinking

Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan programs. Privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for infrastructure grants, even if they are otherwise eligible for assistance under a SRF program. The Committee will look favorably upon requests for projects that are listed on a state's most recent Intended Use Plan.

There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant. For example, a $1 million project could receive a maximum of $800,000 from the Federal government, with the remaining $200,000 the responsibility of the grantee. In almost all cases, other federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share. Ability to fund the 20% cost share is required before EPA can award a STAG grant. Please note that only the non-federal portion of assistance provided by a SRF can be applied towards a project's matching requirement.

STAG projects have very specific eligibility requirements, and the Committee will not consider projects that do not meet those requirements.

Projects that generally **ARE NOT** eligible for STAG Grants include:

Clean Water/Wastewater

1. Land: except for projects described in the subsequent table under eligibility #11
2. Operations and Maintenance Costs.
3. Non-Municipal point source Control.
4. Acid Rain Drainage Correction.
5. Ambient Water quality monitoring.
6. Flood Control Projects, unless the project is otherwise managing, reducing, treating, or recapturing stormwater.
7. Privately Owned Sewer Pipes.

Drinking Water

1. Dams or rehabilitation of dams.
2. Operations and Maintenance Costs.
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. 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. Laboratory Fees for Monitoring.
6. Projects needed mainly for fire protection.
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 generally **ARE** eligible for STAG Grants:

Clean Water/Wastewater

1. Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities - new, 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 on-site systems.

2. Collector Sewers - Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites to larger interceptor sewers.
3. Interceptor Sewers - Large sewers that convey wastewater from collector sewers directly to a wastewater treatment facility.
4. Sewer Pipes - Rehabilitation is eligible only if pipes are publicly owned.
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.).
6. Stormwater Management - Measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water (i.e. storm sewers, green infrastructure, etc.).
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.
8. Infiltration/Inflow Correction - Construction activities that prevent surface water or 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.

Drinking Water

1. Facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e. PFAS).
2. Rehabilitate or develop water sources (excluding reservoirs, dams, dam rehabilitation and water rights) to replace contaminated sources.
3. Install or upgrade treatment facilities.
4. Install or upgrade storage facilities, including finished water reservoirs, to prevent microbiological contaminants from entering the water system.
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. 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. 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. Project planning, design and other related costs.

Below is a link to EPA guidance:

https://www.epa.gov/grants/multipurpose-grants-states-and-tribes

Supplemental Required Questions for STAG Projects

- Please indicate whether this is a Clean Water SRF project or a Drinking Water SRF project.
- Does the project have (or expects to have within 12 months) its 20 percent matching fund requirement?
- Is the project on your state's most recently finalized Clean Water/Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan?

U.S. Forest Service

Account: **State and Private Forestry**

The Forest Service is an agency within the Department of Agriculture. Requests that do not fit into the described categories below are unlikely to be eligible for funding under the Forest Service.

The State and Private Forestry account provides technical and financial assistance, usually through the network of State Foresters, to improve the management, protection, and utilization of the Nation's forests. Community projects are usually limited and include various specific urban and community forestry projects and specific forest disease or pest treatment areas. Community Project Funding requests may also include specific State fire assistance projects or specific forestry assistance projects in this account. Inclusion of projects listed on any federal or state ordinal list, or that are clearly demonstrated to meet the goals of a State Forest Act Plan, are encouraged.

Supplemental Required Questions for State and Private Forestry Projects

- Is the project ranked in a priority setting system/list? If so, please provide list name and rank.
- (If landscape scale restoration) Does this project meet the eligibility requirements of the Landscape Scale Restoration program as listed in the instructions on the Forest Service website?
- (If landscape scale restoration) How does this project meet the goals of the State Forest Action Plan(s)?
- (If Forest Health Management) Is this project treating a specific insect, disease, or invasive plant infestation listed in the FY21 Forest Service Budget Justification?

- (If Cooperative Fire Assistance) If a State project, how does this project meet the goals of the State Forest Action Plan? If a local project, how does this project support community mitigation efforts?
- (If Forest Stewardship) How does this project meet the goals of the State Forest Action Plan?
- (If Urban and Community Forestry) How does the project meet the goals outlined in the 2016-2026 Urban Forestry Action plan?
- (If Urban and Community Forestry) Further, how does this project “Conserve working forest landscapes, protect forests from harm, and enhance benefits associated with trees and forests”?
- (If Urban and Community Forestry) Does the project meet at least the 50-50 match requirement?

Appropriations Bill: Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education

The Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee previously received requests for community project funding to construct or renovate buildings. Health facilities are the ***only*** types of construction projects normally eligible for community project funding in the Labor-HHS-Education bill.

Department of Labor

Account: **Employment and Training Administration**

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Demonstration Program

Community project funding is designated under Training and Employment Services.

These projects must meet all statutorily mandated requirements, except that they are exempt from the requirement to compete. In addition, all projects must:

1. Include direct services to individuals to enhance employment opportunities;
2. Demonstrate evidence of a linkage with the State or local workforce investment system; and
3. Include an evaluation component.

Equipment purchases may be included within community project funding only as an incidental part of the entire project. A similar standard applies to curriculum development, which should be incidental to the project's emphasis on direct services to individuals.

Community project funding **cannot** be used for construction or renovation of facilities.

Below are links to the Department's guidance on WIOA:

https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/wioa

https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/wioa/about

Department of Health and Human Services

Account: **Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)**

Requests that fit into one of the below categories are eligible for Community Project Funding under HRSA.

- Health Facilities Construction and Equipment
    - Grants to help with the cost of construction, renovation, or capital equipment for facilities for provision of health, mental health, or substance abuse services, training of health professionals, or medical research. Examples of eligible facilities include hospitals; health centers and clinics; skilled nursing facilities; mental health centers; facilities for schools of medicine, nursing or other health professions; and medical research laboratories.
    - In addition to construction and renovation, grants can be used to acquire capital equipment, such as lab equipment or x-ray machines. Equipment-only grants—that is, grants not involving construction—are permissible (and commonly done). Generally, any equipment having a useful life of more than one year and a unit cost of at least $5,000 will be eligible as capital equipment. In addition, equipment with lower costs may also be eligible, provided that it is treated as an item of capital expense under the recipient institution's pre-existing, written accounting policies. Equipment expenses for health information systems and electronic medical records systems are permitted expenditures. The costs of expendable supplies such as pharmaceuticals, lab chemicals, or office paper are not eligible.
    - HRSA Health Facilities grants cannot be used to acquire land or purchase existing buildings, or to pay salaries or other operating costs. They cannot be used to pay for work previously completed. Grants can be used for architectural and engineering costs associated with an eligible construction project, but cannot be used for general feasibility studies.
- Health Professions Education and Workforce Development
    - Grants for projects to improve education and training of healthcare professionals, or to analyze health workforce trends and needs.
- Rural Health Outreach
    - Grants for projects to improve health care in rural areas. Examples of eligible activities include medical, dental, or mental health care services, health promotion and education, chronic disease management, and improvements to emergency medical services. Grant funds can be used for services only in areas that meet HRSA's definition of rural.
    - For lists of eligible areas and further information regarding that definition, see :https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/about-us/definition/index.html
- Rural Health Research
    - Grants to support research on rural health problems and ways of improving health care in rural areas.
- Telehealth and Health Information Technology
    - Funding for telemedicine, distance learning, or use of information technology to improve health care.

Account: **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**

Community project funding within SAMHSA should be submitted through the **Health Surveillance and Program Support account.** Community project funding must fall under one of the following categories:

- Mental Health
    - Grants to support programs that promote the prevention or treatment of mental health disorders, including rehabilitation, outreach, and other support services.
- Substance Abuse Treatment
    - Grants to support programs that improve access, reduce barriers, and promote high quality, effective treatment and recovery services.
- Substance Abuse Prevention
    - Grants to support programs to prevent the onset of illegal drug use, prescription drug misuse and abuse, alcohol misuse and abuse, and underage alcohol and tobacco use.

Below is a link to the Department's guidance on HRSA:

https://www.hrsa.gov/grants/index.html

Department of Education

Elementary and Secondary Education

Account: Innovation and Improvement

Community project funding for elementary and secondary education should be submitted through the Innovation and Improvement account. Elementary and secondary education community project funding includes instructional services, afterschool centers, curricula development, teacher training, acquisition of books and computers, arts education, social and emotional learning activities, full-service community schools, and early childhood education. In general, the focus of elementary and secondary education community project funding should be providing early childhood or K-12 educational services.

Community project funding to provide and improve special education services at the elementary and secondary levels are also eligible under elementary and secondary education. Community project funding may include early intervention services for infants and toddlers, transition services, and postsecondary education services.

Eligible grantees are state education agencies, school districts, colleges and universities, and other public and private nonprofit entities. Generally, community project funding intended for individual schools is provided to the applicable school district and not directly to the individual school.

Community project funding cannot be used for construction or renovation of school buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling required as part of technology upgrades. Daycare and childcare projects that do not include educational services are also not eligible.

Account: **Postsecondary Education**

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)

Community project funding can be designated under this heading for a wide variety of higher education projects. Generally, community project funding should focus on improving access to,

or the quality of, postsecondary education. Community project funding cannot be used for construction or renovation of academic buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling required as part of technology upgrades.

Examples of the types of projects that can be funded under FIPSE include projects to hire and train faculty, establish and improve degree programs, improve teacher preparation programs, develop and improve curricula, upgrade technology and telecommunications, acquire science laboratory equipment, provide student support, implement university partnerships with school districts, and establish research and training centers.

Grantees are usually colleges and universities, but may include other public and private nonprofit organizations.

Limitations on Education-Related Community Project Funding

Except where specifically authorized, community project funding cannot be used for construction (or the acquisition of property) or renovation of buildings. In addition, grantees may not restrict participants based on race, ethnicity or gender. Finally, recipients of community project funding may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.

Below is a link to the Department's guidance:

https://www.ed.gov/oii-news/funding-opportunities

Appropriations Bill: Military Construction, Veterans Affairs

Department of Defense - Military Construction Accounts

Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction– Active Components

Eligible community project requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for active components. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than $6,000,000. The types of projects under this heading include construction, installation, equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, and facilities for the accounts listed below:

- Army
- Navy and Marine Corps
- Air Force
- Defense-Wide Agencies (SOCOM, DHA, etc.)

Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction– Reserve Components

Eligible community project requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for Reserve Components. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than $6,000,000. Some Reserve Component projects require a State funding match. It must be determined whether the proposed project requires such a match and if so, confirm that the project has current State match funding before the request can be considered. The types of projects under this heading include construction, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for training and administration for the accounts listed below:

- Army National Guard
- Air National Guard
- Army Reserve
- Air Force Reserve
- Navy Reserve

Planning and Design

The types of projects under this heading include improving facility resilience, study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services for the accounts listed below:

- Army
- Navy and Marine Corps
- Air Force
- Defense-Wide Agencies (SOCOM, DHA, etc.)
- Army National Guard
- Air National Guard
- Army Reserve
- Air Force Reserve
- Navy Reserve

Future Year Defense Program (FYDP)

FYDP is a projection of the forces, resources, and programs needed to support Department of Defense (DOD) operations over a five-year span. The FYDP is released simultaneously with the President's budget request. The updated document listing projects eligible for FY 2022 will be obtainable after the FY 2022 full budget rollout, through the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) website: https://comptroller.defense.gov/Budget-Materials/

Unfunded Requirements/Unfunded Priorities Lists (UFRs/UPLs)

UFRs/UPLs are lists that each Service provides to Congress that identify priority projects which were not included in the President's budget request. These lists must be approved by the Secretary of Defense. UFRs/UPLs become available to Congress on the date of the President's full budget request release, which is different from the release of a top-line budget request or 'skinny budget'.

Cost-to-Completes (CTCs)

CTCs are projects that have previously received an appropriation but require additional funding for completion. These lists represent the requirements identified by each Service for the additional funding necessary to complete a project. The lists are approved by each Service Secretary.

These lists include projects, ongoing and upcoming, that ensure long-term viability, better readiness, increased resiliency, improved living and working conditions for service members and their families, and significant cost savings in perpetuity.

As indicated above, some Reserve Component projects will additionally require a corresponding State funding match. Please verify said funding before submission. The Committee will not waive match requirements.

For your reference, current Milcon authorizations may be found in the FY21 NDAA DIVISION B—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATIONS, which you can access by clicking HERE. Projects that will be in the President's budget request for FY22 will be determined when the budget submission is officially presented to Congress. This includes FY22 FYDP, UFRs, and CTCs lists.

Supplemental Required Questions for Military Construction Projects

- Which Service is the project for?
- What is the Installation Name?
- Is the funding requested for planning and design costs?
- Is the project for unspecified minor construction? Please provide additional background information.
- Is the project on the FY 2022-2026 FYDP?
- Is the project on a Service unfunded requirement (UFR) or unfunded priority list (UPL)?
- Is the project a cost-to-complete from a prior year? If so, what year?
- Is this a Reserve Component project which requires a State funding match? [yes/no] If Yes, please confirm status of the State funding match.

Appropriations Bill: Transportation, Housing and Urban Development

Department of Transportation

Account: **Local Transportation Priorities**

Local Transportation Priorities are highway and transit capital projects eligible under title 23 and title 49 of the United States Code. Eligible projects are described under Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code. Tribal and territorial capital projects authorized under Chapter 2 of title 23, United States Code, are also eligible.

All projects must be:

- Capital projects or project-specific planning/design for a capital project.
- Supported by the state or local government that would administer the project. Inclusion on a Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) would satisfy this requirement.
- Administered by public entities.

Requests for activities that are administrative in nature will not be funded even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include general operating expenses, and activities required under sections 134 and 135 of title 23, United States Code.

Supplemental Required Questions for Local Transportation Priorities Projects

- Can the project obligate all appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment? If not, what would be the expected date of obligation?
- Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds?
    - NOTE: The cost-share requirements are defined in statute.
- Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and NEPA category of action (if applicable)?
- What is the type of project eligible under 23 USC 133(b): Highway, Bridge, Transit, Bike/Pedestrian, or Other (please specify)?
- Where is the project in the construction process: Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, Right of Way, Capital purchase or lease (including bus purchases), Construction, or Other (please specify)?
- Was the project on a State, tribal or territorial Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or a metropolitan transportation improvement plan (MTIP) as of 12/31/2020? If yes:
    - Please provide a link to the plan.
    - Please provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan the ID number comes from.

Account: **Airport Improvement Program (AIP)**

AIP community project requests may be used for enhancing airport safety, capacity, and security, and mitigating environmental concerns.

All projects must be:

- AIP eligible in accordance with sections 47101 to 47175 of title 49, United States Code, and FAA policy and guidance.
- Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials.
- Administered by an airport and/or airport sponsor.

Supplemental Required Questions for Airport Improvement Program Projects

- Can the project obligate all appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment? If not, what would be the expected date of obligation?
- Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds?
- Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and NEPA category of action (if applicable)?
- How will the project contribute to the airport's disadvantaged business enterprise goals?
- Has the project received previous Federal funding? If so, how much and which public law (e.g., appropriations act or authorization act) provided it?
- Is the project AIP-eligible?
- What is the airport's code (should be 3 letters)?
- Has the airport submitted a grant application for this same project to FAA? If so, when?
- Would the project increase or decrease air traffic?
- Would the project increase or decrease aviation safety?
- Would the project increase or decrease environmental risks?
- Does the airport and airport sponsor support the project?
- Are there any stakeholders - such as residents that live near the airport, state or local officials, state department of transportation officials - that oppose the project?

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Account: **Economic Development Initiative (EDI)**

EDI community project requests may be used for economic and community development activities, including land or site acquisition, demolition or rehabilitation of housing or facilities, construction and capital improvements of public facilities (including water and sewer facilities), and public services. Requests may also include planning and other activities consistent with the underlying authorization for the Community Development Block Grant program within HUD. EDI community project requests are not eligible for the reimbursement of expenses for activities already undertaken (including debt service or debt retirement).

All projects must be:

- Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials.
- Administered by governmental or non-profit entities, including public housing agencies, as well as tribes and tribally designated housing entities.

Below are links to the Department's guidance:

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/congressional_grants_economic_development_initiative_and_neighborhood

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/spm/gmomgmt/grantsinfo

Supplemental Required Questions for Economic Development Initiative Projects

- Can the project obligate all appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment? If not, what would be the expected date of obligation?
- Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds? NOTE: The match requirements are defined in statute. While EDI projects do not have a match requirement, other projects associated with a larger development effort may.
- Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and NEPA category of action (if applicable)?
- Is the project primarily a service, new construction, rehabilitation, land or site acquisition, planning, or economic development project?
- Does the project primarily benefit persons of low-income or tribal communities?
- Does the project impact beneficiaries of HUD's rental assistance programs (owners, public housing agencies, service providers, or tenants)?
- Who are the community partners participating in this project?
- If the project includes new construction or land or site acquisition activities, does it comply with local zoning requirements?
- Is the project included or supported by an identified priority area within the community's HUD Consolidated Plan? If yes, please provide a link to the plan.
- Is the project intended to address issues related to climate change or resiliency, civil unrest, or inequities?

Frequently Asked Questions

The process of requesting and submitting requests for Community Project Funding can be confusing. Here are some of the most frequently asked questions about the process. Please check this section for answers to many of your questions before following up with my staff.

What is Community Project Funding?

Community Project Funding is generally defined as spending provisions in federal legislation that:

- Are requested on behalf of constituents or constituent organizations by a Member of Congress or Senator;
- Provides, authorizes, or recommends a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or specific funding amount to a specific entity for a specific purpose; and,
- The purpose of the project must meet the objective of a federal program under existing law.

Community Project Funding is typically requested for projects with a clear purpose and goal above and beyond normal operating activities, for which private, non-federal funding is not available or sufficient. Community Project Funding will typically only serve as a partial contribution to the total cost of a project.

Is there a deadline for submitting a request?

Yes. The deadline to submit a Community Project Funding request for our office is April 5th.

What if I miss a deadline? Are any exceptions made if the bill hasn't been passed?

Congressional offices review numerous requests in a short amount of time. As a result, deadlines are strictly enforced. Once my office submits our requests to the full committee, I am unable to change or add requests. That is why it's important to submit your request before the deadline.

Are Community Project Funding requests publicly disclosed?

Yes. All requests for Community Project Funding submitted by the Member to the committee for consideration must be publicly listed on that Member's website, including the name and address of the requestor, the amount requested, and the justification for use of taxpayer funds.

Are there limitations on what Community Project Funding can be used for?

Yes. Federal Programs have very specific restrictions on how federal funds can be used. It is recommended that you closely examine this guide for references to eligible

uses or limitations on use. Generally, funding cannot be used for debt service, recurring or routine expenses, reimbursement of costs, or projects that cannot demonstrate value to the community.

Can I request funding for “bricks and mortar”?

In general, no. One of the most common requests for funding is for building construction or renovation. Most appropriations accounts specifically prohibit this kind of project given the high demand.

There are some exceptions to this rule, including the Economic Development Initiative under the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and certain projects under the Military Construction Subcommittee, etc.

Should I submit my request to both my U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators?

Yes. It is strongly recommended that you submit your request to all of your federal representatives.

How much should I request?

It depends on the account from which you are requesting funds. You should not request more funds than you need or that can be realistically spent in the Fiscal Year for which you receive the funds. While you should request the amount that can be expended in the upcoming Fiscal Year that you need, please remember that projects are rarely funded fully due to budgetary restraints. Receipt of funds from Community Project Funding in one Fiscal Year is not a guarantee for Community Project Funding in future Fiscal Years.

What if I do not know the appropriate Account or Agency for my project request?

This guide has been prepared to outline information on available accounts. Requestors should use this guide to identify the appropriate account to identify one that meets the needs of your project or organization. Please call my office if you need additional information.

If my project is funded, will I receive the full amount I request?

There is no guarantee that an approved Community Project Funding request will be funded at the requested level. It is very likely that you will only receive a portion of your request, if funded at all. This is mostly due to budgetary restraints. Please keep this in mind when requesting support for your project.

Do I need letters of support?

Yes. The more community support for a project, the better. As listed above, letters of support from local, municipal, and state elected officials and stakeholders, as well as

editorials and articles in local newspapers on the importance and necessity of the project are all important.

I submitted a request. Will it be approved? When will I know?

The FY 2022 Community Project Funding process is extremely targeted and this process is also very competitive. While my team will look at all requests, it is strongly recommended you explore other grant and funding sources as well.

Many subcommittee deadlines are in mid-April. In order for my team and I to properly examine all requests, my office's deadline is April 5th.

The House Appropriations bills are typically considered in the late spring, with the Senate considering bills in late spring and over the summer. The House and Senate have to convene a "conference committee" to work out the differences in each of those bills.

The Committee requires all Members to publicly disclose and post their final requests to the Appropriations Committee once the requests are made. Please remember, even if your project is supported in the House and/or Senate Appropriations bills, the funding level is subject to change until the final bill is signed into law.

If my Community Project Funding request is granted, what is the process for getting the assistance and how quickly will I receive it?

In general, recipients of Community Project Funding will be contacted by the appropriate agency or office that oversees the account from which your project received funding. This cannot happen until the appropriations bill in which your project was listed is signed into law. The timing varies between departments and agencies – some may start the process within several weeks, others may take several months after the bill's enactment into law.

In most cases, you will have to complete and submit a grant application outlining the project's goals, cost estimates and other requirements. You will work with a program or contract officer to complete these steps; they may have questions or additional requirements that could affect the timing of the obligations or outlay of funding to your organization.

The process of accessing funding and the time it takes to complete the necessary steps, surprises many recipients who expect the money to be provided immediately.

Please be sure to take this into account when submitting a request.

Can I depend on receiving Community Project Funding for the same project more than once?

Generally, no. Most successful requests are one-time infusions of funding, generally used to launch a project or partially contribute towards the total cost of a project.

Given the limitations on the appropriations process for Community Project Funding, there is no guarantee that Congress will support a project for more than one year. However, you should discuss the needs of your project with your Congressional sponsor(s) if you believe that federal support will be needed beyond a single fiscal year.

Other Federal Funding Resources

The Community Project Funding process is highly competitive, and while there are many worthy projects that deserve support, funding limitations prevent many from receiving funding through the Congressional appropriations process. However, it is important to note that Community Project Funding represents only a small fraction of the discretionary funding available through competitive grants, loans, and other opportunities.

Below are a number of useful resources to explore other federal funding opportunities. Each Congressional office has staff dedicated to assisting organizations with seeking and applying for grants; you are strongly encouraged to contact your Congressional representatives to discuss how you can access any assistance from your federal elected officials.

Key Resources

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 applicants, intended purposes, and more.

SAM.gov

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

GovLoans.gov

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

Benefits.gov

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

USA.gov

The official guide to US Government Information and Services.

This section will be updated with more information at a later date.