

# Appendix E: Funding Opportunities

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Cities and towns can strengthen their local food systems through a variety of federal, state, local, and philanthropic projects and programs. Federal agencies help support local food systems by working with producers, engaging with communities, financing local processing and distribution, or helping retailers develop local food connections. Below are some of the resources available.

## **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

ARC uses Congressionally appropriated funds to invest in Appalachia's economic and community development through grants. As part of our unique federal-state partnership, ARC's grant application process begins at the state government level. All ARC grants align with the investment priorities outlined in our current Strategic Plan and reflect state plans and strategies. ARC funding opportunities include Area Development Program, ARISE, INSPIRE, POWER, READY Grants to Grow, and WORC.

➤ <https://www.arc.gov/grants-and-opportunities/>

## **USDA Agricultural Marketing Service**

### Farmers Market Promotion Program

The program aims to increase domestic consumption of and access to locally and regionally produced agricultural products, and to develop new market opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving local markets. This program can support the development, improvement, and expansion of farmers markets, agritourism activities, and other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities. There are two type of FMPP grants: Capacity Building (CB) and Community Development Training and Technical Assistance (CTA). CB projects are intended to assist applicants to achieve its mission and build long-term organizational capacity in the development, coordination, and expansion of domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, CSA programs, agritourism activities, online sales, or other direct producer-to-consumer (including direct producer-to-retail, direct producer-to-restaurant and direct producer-to-institutional marketing) market opportunities. CTA projects are intended to assist applicants' efforts to provide outreach, training, and technical assistance to farm and ranch operations serving local markets and other interested parties for developing, coordinating, and expanding domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, CSA programs, agritourism activities, online sales, or other direct producer-to-consumer (including direct producer-to-retail, direct producer-to-restaurant and direct producer-to-institutional marketing) market opportunities. The program requires cost sharing or matching 25 percent of the grant.

| Project Type | Duration (Months) | Minimum Award | Maximum Award |
|--------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| CB           | 36                | \$50,000      | \$250,000     |
| CTA          | 36                | \$100,000     | \$500,000     |

➤ <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/fmpp>

### Local Food Promotion Program

The program offers grant funds to support the development and expansion of local and regional food business enterprises to increase domestic consumption of, and access to, locally and

regionally produced agricultural products, and to develop new market opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving local markets. Planning grants fund the planning stages of establishing or expanding a local and regional food business enterprise. Activities can include but are not limited to market research, feasibility studies, and business planning. Implementation grants help establish, improve, or expand local and regional food business enterprises. Activities can include but are not limited to training and technical assistance for the business enterprise and/or for producers working with the business enterprise; outreach and marketing to buyers and consumers; and non-construction infrastructure improvements to business enterprise facilities or information technology systems. The program requires cost sharing or matching 25 percent of the grant.

| Project Type   | Duration (Months) | Minimum Award | Maximum Award |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Planning       | 18                | \$25,000      | \$100,000     |
| Implementation | 36                | \$100,000     | \$500,000     |

➤ <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/lfpp>

#### Organic Certification Cost Share Programs

Two Organic Certification Cost Share Programs help certified organic operations defray the costs associated with organic certification. Organic operations can be reimbursed for 50 percent of their certification costs up to \$500.

➤ <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/occsp>

#### Regional Food Business Centers Appalachia

There are two funding opportunities: Planning and Development Business Builder Subaward (\$5,000 - \$29,999.99) and Implementation and Expansion Business Builder Subaward (\$5,000 - \$100,000). Funds can be used for: food and farm business development, market access, and strengthening processing, aggregation, and distribution infrastructure. Can not be used for purchasing or leasing land, buildings, or real estate, the construction, renovation, demolition, or rehabilitation of any buildings, structure or land, non-specialized equipment like tractors, trucks, or trailers. The recipient must implement the approved proposal within two years of the date of the Business Builder Subaward, as stated in the grant award letter. All projects must be fully COMPLETED by December 21, 2027.

➤ [www.AppalachiaRFBC.org](http://www.AppalachiaRFBC.org) or email: [info@applachiaRFBC.org](mailto:info@applachiaRFBC.org)

#### Regional Food System Partnerships

The Regional Food System Partnerships (RFSP) program supports partnerships that connect public and private resources to plan and develop local or regional food systems. Effort is focused on building and strengthening local or regional food economy viability and resilience by alleviating unnecessary administrative and technical barriers for participating partners. RFSP is implemented through two project types: Planning and Design and Implementation and Expansion. Planning and Design projects support partnerships in the early stages of convening, envisioning, and planning processes for developing local or regional food systems.

Implementation and Expansion projects support partnerships building on prior or ongoing efforts within a local or regional food system. The program requires cost sharing or matching 25 percent of the grant.

| Project Type               | Duration (Months) | Minimum Award | Maximum Award |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Planning & Design          | 24                | \$100,000     | \$250,000     |
| Implementation & Expansion | 36                | \$250,000     | \$1,000,000   |

➤ <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/rfsp>

### USDA Programs in the Local Food Supply Chain

The Agricultural Marketing Service created a fact sheet to help identify which USDA grants and programs apply to you depending on your place in the local and regional food system.

➤ <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/FoodSupplyChainFactSheet.pdf>

### **Meat and Poultry Inspection Readiness Grant (MPIRG) program**

Assists currently operational meat and poultry slaughter and processing facilities in obtaining a Federal Grant of Inspection under the [Federal Meat Inspection Act \(FMIA\)](#) or the [Poultry Products Inspection Act \(PPIA\)](#); or to operate as a State-inspected facility that is compliant with FMIA or PPIA under a respective [Cooperative Interstate Shipment \(CIS\) program](#).

| Project Type                                     | Duration (Months) | Start Date         | Completion Date    | Maximum Award |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Planning for a Federal Grant of Inspection       | 36                | September 30, 2021 | September 29, 2024 | \$200,000     |
| Cooperative Interstate Shipment (CIS) Compliance | 36                | September 30, 2021 | September 29, 2024 | \$200,000     |

➤ <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/mpirg>

### **Farmworker and Food Worker Relief Grant Program**

Provides approximately \$700 million in Consolidated Appropriations Act funds to provide grants to State agencies, Tribal entities, and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations with experience in providing support or relief services to farm workers or meatpacking workers. Awards will generally range from \$5,000,000 to \$50,000,000.

Entities receiving awards will then distribute relief payments to frontline farmworkers and meatpacking workers who incurred expenses preparing for, preventing exposure to, and responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. USDA strongly encourages small organizations to partner together or to partner with national organizations in submitting applications to ensure this support has the broadest reach and distribution possible to America's farm and food workers.

As part of this program, USDA also expects to fund one or more \$20,000,000 initiatives to eligible entities who can distribute the same relief payments to frontline grocery workers.

**Important Dates:**

- USDA will announce a Request for Applications through [Grants.Gov](#).
- Workers should apply to grant recipients to receive funds.
- Contact information typically available in the late fall.

➤ <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/ffwr>

## **USDA Rural Development**

### USDA Rural Development Summary of All Programs

USDA Rural Development is committed to helping improve the economy and quality of life in rural America. Through our programs, we help rural Americans in many ways. We offer loans, grants and loan guarantees to help create jobs and support economic development and essential services such as housing; health care; first responder services and equipment; and water, electric and communications infrastructure. The page below is a landing page for all programs and the PDF “program matrix” offers a useful summary of all programs. This funding appendices for Local Foods, Local Places identifies below some specific Rural Development grant and loan offerings that specifically mention local food systems.

- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/page/all-programs>
- [https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/RD\\_ProgramMatrix.pdf](https://www.rd.usda.gov/files/RD_ProgramMatrix.pdf)

### Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

This program provides funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas with no more than 20,000 residents. Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve local food system facilities such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs, and greenhouses. The program offers grants of up to 75 percent of eligible project costs, low-interest loans, and loan guarantees.

- <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program>

### Economic Impact Initiative Grant Program

Funding for essential community facilities is also available through this program for communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression. An essential community facility is one that provides an essential service to the local community, is needed for the orderly development of the community, serves primarily rural areas, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings.

- <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/economic-impact-initiative-grants>

### Rural Business Development Grants

These grants fund technical assistance, training, and other activities leading to the development or expansion of small businesses in rural areas with no more than 50,000 residents. Generally, grants range from \$10,000 up to \$500,000 and do not require cost sharing. The program can support activities such as training and technical assistance; acquisition or development of land; construction or renovation of buildings, equipment, roads, and utilities; capitalization of revolving loan funds; rural transportation improvements; feasibility studies and business plans; and rural business incubators.

- <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants>

### Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grant

This program offers grants to intermediary organizations to provide technical assistance and training for rural organizations and agencies to identify and plan for community facility needs that exist in their area. Grants up to \$150,000. Matching funds are not required, but preference is given to applications with a cash match.

- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-technical-assistance-and-training-grant>

### Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program

This micro-loan program can fund agriculture production activities. Potential loan recipients would need to find out if there is an existing loan fund in their geographic area, or an experienced lending organization could apply to Rural Development to start a loan fund.

- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-microentrepreneur-assistance-program>

### Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG)

These grants help agricultural producers with the processing and marketing of value-added products. The program aims to generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities, and increase producer income. Planning grants of up to \$75,000 can be used for activities such as conducting feasibility studies and developing business plans for processing and marketing a value-added product. Working capital grants of up to \$250,000 can be used for processing costs, marketing and advertising expenses, and some inventory and salary expenses. The grants require matching funds of 50 percent of total project costs.

- <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/value-added-producer-grants>

### Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program

The purpose of USDA's Business and Industry (B&I) Guaranteed Loan Program is to improve, develop, or finance business, industry, and employment and improve the economic and environmental climate in rural communities. Through this program, USDA provides guarantees on loans made by private lenders to help new and existing businesses gain access to affordable capital by lowering the lender's risk and allowing for more favorable interest rates and terms. Projects that are eligible under the locally or regionally produced agricultural food products initiative may be located in urban areas as well as rural areas. Locally or regionally produced

agricultural food products are loan guarantees made to establish and facilitate entities that process, distribute, aggregate, store, and/or market locally or regionally produced agricultural food products to support community development and farm and ranch income. The term “locally or regionally produced agricultural food product” means any agricultural food product that is raised, produced, and distributed in the locality or region in which the final product is marketed, so that the total distance that the product is transported is less than 400 miles from the origin of the product, or in the State in which the product is produced. The Business and Industry Loan Guarantee program is available on a rolling basis throughout the year.

- <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-industry-loan-guarantees/>

#### Rural Business Development Grants

USDA Rural Development enterprise and opportunity grant program 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.

- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants>

#### Socially-Disadvantaged Groups Grant (SDGG)

The primary objective of the SDGG program is to provide technical assistance to socially-disadvantaged groups through cooperatives and Cooperative Development Centers. Each fiscal year, applications are requested through a Notice published in the Federal Register and an announcement posted on Grants.gov. Examples of technical assistance are feasibility studies, business plans, strategic planning and leadership training.

- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/socially-disadvantaged-groups-grant>

### **USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture**

#### Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program

This program provides grants to organizations that train, educate, and provide outreach and technical assistance to new and beginning farmers on production, marketing, business management, legal strategies and other topics critical to running a successful operation. The Agriculture Act of 2014 provided an additional \$20 million per year for 2014 through 2018. The reasons for the renewed interest in beginning farmer and rancher programs are the rising average age of U.S. farmers, the 8% projected decrease in the number of farmers and ranchers between 2008 and 2018, and the growing recognition that new programs are needed to address the needs of the next generation of beginning farmers and ranchers.

- <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/beginning-farmer-and-rancher-development-program-bfrdp>.

#### Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program

This program helps private nonprofit entities fight food insecurity by funding community food projects that help promote the self-sufficiency of low-income communities. Community food projects are designed to increase food security in communities by bringing the whole food



system together to assess strengths, establish linkages, and create systems that improve the self-reliance of community members over their food needs. Preferred projects develop linkages between two or more sectors of the food system, support the development of entrepreneurial projects, develop innovative linkages between the for-profit and nonprofit food sectors, encourage long-term planning activities, and build long-term capacity of communities to address the food and agricultural problems of communities. Grants range from \$10,000 to \$400,000 and require a dollar-for-dollar match in resources.

- <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/community-food-projects-competitive-grant-program-cfpcgp>

#### Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Grant Program

This program supports projects to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables among low-income consumers participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program by providing incentives at the point of purchase. It funds pilot projects at up to \$100,000 over one year; multi-year, community-based projects at up to \$500,000 over no more than four years; and multi-year, large-scale projects of more than \$500,000 over no more than four years. USDA gives priority to projects that provide locally or regionally produced fruits and vegetables.

- <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/food-insecurity-nutrition-incentive-fini-grant-program>

#### Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Competitive Grants

The Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production competitive grants. The competitive grants will support the development of urban agriculture and innovative production projects through two categories, Planning Projects and Implementation Projects. There will be \$1 million for Planning Projects that initiate or expand efforts of farmers, gardeners, citizens, government officials, schools and other stakeholders in urban areas and suburbs. Projects may target areas of food access, education, business and start-up costs for new farmers and development of policies related to zoning and other needs of urban production. There will be \$2 million for Implementation Projects that accelerate existing and emerging models of urban, indoor and other agricultural practices that serve multiple farmers. Projects will improve local food access and collaborate with partner organizations and may support infrastructure needs, emerging technologies, educational endeavors and urban farming policy implementation.

- <https://www.farmers.gov/manage/urban/opportunities>

#### Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction Project Cooperative Agreements

These cooperative agreements are intended to solicit applications and fund pilot projects in at least 10 states. The primary goal is to assist local and municipal governments with projects that develop and test strategies for planning and implementing municipal compost plans and food waste reduction plans. Implementation activities will increase access to compost for agricultural producers, improve soil quality and encourage innovative, scalable waste management plans that reduce and divert food waste from landfills.

- <https://www.farmers.gov/manage/urban/opportunities>

### Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program

The purpose of the Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program is to increase the knowledge of agricultural science and improve the nutritional health of children. The program's goal is to increase the capacity for food, garden, and nutrition education within host organizations or entities, such as school cafeterias and classrooms, while fostering higher levels of community engagement between farms and school systems by bringing together stakeholders from distinct parts of the food system. Eligibility: State agricultural experiment stations; colleges and universities; university research foundations; other research institutions and organizations; Federal agencies; national laboratories; private organizations, non-profit organizations, foundations, or corporations; individuals.

- <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities/food-agriculture-service-learning-program>

## **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service**

### Environmental Quality Incentives Program

The program provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to plan and implement conservation practices that improve soil, water, plant, animal, air, and related natural resources on agricultural land. Producers are eligible for payments totaling up to \$450,000 for completed high tunnel systems that can extend the growing season for high-value crops in an environmentally safe manner. The program can also provide up to \$20,000 per year for organic producers and those transitioning to organic to address natural resource concerns and meet requirements for the National Organic Program.

- <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip/>

## **USDA Farm Service Agency**

### Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

This program provides low-interest financing so producers can build or upgrade permanent facilities to store commodities. Eligible facilities include cold storage facilities for fruits, vegetables, dairy, and meat products. Producers may borrow up to \$500,000.

- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/price-support/facility-loans/farm-storage/index>

### Microloan Program

The Microloan Program helps finance small, beginning, niche, and non-traditional farm operations; farms participating in direct marketing and sales such as farmers markets; and farms using hydroponic, aquaponic, organic, and vertical growing methods. Eligible uses of funds include making a down payment on a farm; build, repair, or improve farm buildings; purchase hoop houses, tools, and equipment; gain GAP (Good Agricultural Practices), GHP (Good Handling Practices), and organic certification; and market and distribute agricultural products. The maximum loan amount is \$50,000.

- <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/microloans/index>

## USDA Food and Nutrition Service

### Farm to School Grant Program

These grants support farm-to-school programs that improve access to local foods in schools.

- Implementation grants of \$50,000 to \$100,000 help state and local agencies, schools, or school districts scale or further develop existing farm-to-school initiatives.
- Planning grants of \$20,000 to \$50,000 help schools or school districts just getting started on farm-to-school activities organize and structure their efforts for maximum impact by embedding known best practices into early design considerations.
- Training grants of \$20,000 to \$50,000 help state and local agencies, Indian tribal organizations, agricultural producers, and nonprofit entities support trainings that strengthen farm-to-school supply chains or provide technical assistance in local procurement, food safety, culinary education, and/or integration of an agriculture-based curriculum.

- <http://www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool/farm-school-grant-program>
- <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/farm-school-resources>

### Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

This program, similar to the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, awards grants to state agencies and Indian Tribal organizations to provide low-income seniors with coupons for fruits and vegetables at farmers markets. The state agencies provide nutrition education to participants and authorize farmers markets to accept the benefits. For a list of state program contacts, visit:

- <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfmnp/senior-farmers-market-nutrition-program>

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP offers nutrition assistance to low-income individuals and families. Benefits can be used to purchase many of the foods sold at farmers markets, including fruits and vegetables, dairy products, breads and cereals, and meat and poultry. The Food and Nutrition Service works with state agencies, nutrition educators, and neighborhood and faith-based organizations to help those eligible for nutrition assistance access benefits. The Food and Nutrition Service also has resources for farmers markets and retailers interested in accepting SNAP benefits.

- <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>

### WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

The program is associated with the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, popularly known as WIC. It awards grants to state agencies and Indian Tribal organizations to provide coupons for fresh, unprepared, locally grown fruits and vegetables to WIC participants for use at farmers markets. The state agencies provide nutrition education to participants and authorize farmers markets to accept the benefits. For a list of state program contacts, visit:

- <https://www.fns.usda.gov/fmnp/wic-farmers-market-nutrition-program>

## USDA Forest Services

### Urban Forestry Grant

Funds supplied by the USDA Forest Service are intended to substantially invest in the long-term growth and development of local urban and community forestry programs.

- [Urban Forestry Grant 2025 | Ohio Department of Natural Resources](#)

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

### Brownfields Multipurpose Grants

Multipurpose (MP) Grants provide funding to carry out a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities with a proposed target area, such as a neighborhood, a number of neighboring towns, a district, a corridor, a shared planning area or a census tract. The target area may not include communities that are located in distinctly different geographic areas. The performance period for these grants is five years, and applicants can apply for up to \$800,000.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-multipurpose-grants>

### Brownfields Assessment Grants

Assessment grants provide funding to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning and community involvement related to sites potentially contaminated by hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or petroleum. The maximum grant amount is \$350,000.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-assessment-grants>

### Brownfields Cleanup Grants

Cleanup grants provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at sites contaminated by hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or petroleum. The maximum grant amount is \$200,000 per site. Awardees must contribute 20 percent of the amount of funding provided by EPA, although waivers of this requirement are available. An applicant must own the site for which it is requesting funding at time of application.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-cleanup-grants>

### Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program

This program provides financial assistance to organizations for projects that address local environmental and/or public health issues in their communities using EPA's Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Model. The program helps recipients build collaborative partnerships to help them understand and address environmental and public health concerns in their communities.

- <https://www.epa.gov/environmental-justice/environmental-justice-collaborative-problem-solving-cooperative-agreement-0>

### Environmental Justice Small Grants

This grant program supports and empowers communities working on solutions to local environmental and public health issues. The program is designed to help communities

understand and address exposure to multiple environmental harm and risks and funds projects up to \$30,000. Previously funded projects include Educating South Florida's Residents on Hydroponic Urban Gardening; Promoting Sustainable Agriculture and Healthy Food Production in Athens, Georgia; Creating Safe Soil for Healthy Gardening; and Promoting Urban Agriculture and Food Sustainability in Brooklyn, New York.

- <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-small-grants-program>

### Targeted Brownfields Assessments

This program helps states, tribes, and municipalities minimize the uncertainties of contamination often associated with brownfields. This program supplements other efforts under the Brownfields Program to promote the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields. Services include site assessments, cleanup options and cost estimates, and community outreach. Services are for an average of \$100,000. The sites for this program are selected locally, once a year. Applicants should currently have redevelopment plans for the contaminated property.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/targeted-brownfields-assessments-tba>

### Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities Program

This program funds three organizations who—with their extensive team of subgrantees, contractors, partners, and other network contacts—provide technical assistance to communities and other stakeholders. The program helps communities tackle the challenge of assessing, cleaning up, and preparing brownfield sites for redevelopment, especially underserved, rural, small and otherwise distressed communities.

- <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/epas-technical-assistance-brownfields-tab-communities-program-providing-technical>

### Urban Waters Small Grants

This grant program helps protect and restore urban waters, improve water quality, and support community revitalization and other local priorities. Projects address local water quality issues related to urban runoff pollution, provide additional community benefits, actively engage underserved communities, and foster partnerships. The grants are competed and awarded every two years, with individual award amounts of up to \$60,000.

- <https://www.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants>

### Wetlands Restoration

Wetland Program Development Grants provide eligible applicants an opportunity to conduct projects that promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction and elimination of water pollution.

- <https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/funding-and-grants>

## **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

### Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) Entitlement

This program provides funding to help entitled metropolitan cities and urban counties meet their housing and community development needs. This program provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled communities to carry out a wide range of community development activities directed toward neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and improved community facilities and services.

- <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-entitlement/>

### CDBG Non-Entitlement Communities Program for States and Small Cities

This program provides funding to help states and units of local government in non-entitled areas meet their housing and community development needs. The program provides grants to carry out a wide range of community development activities directed toward neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and improved community facilities and services. All CDBG activities must meet at least one of the following national objectives: benefit low- and moderate-income persons, aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight or meet certain urgent community development needs. No less than 70 percent of the funds must be used for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons over a period specified by the state, not to exceed 3 years.

- <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-state/>

### CDBG §108 Loan Guarantee Program

This program provides loan guarantee assistance for community and economic development. Section 108 is the loan guarantee provision of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Under this section, HUD offers communities a source of financing for certain community development activities, such as housing rehabilitation, economic development, and large-scale physical development projects. Loans may be for terms up to 20 years.

- <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/section-108/>

### Distressed Cities Technical Assistance Program (DCTA)

The DCTA program is designed to improve fiscal health and build capacity of relatively small units of general local government (UGLGs) and their nonprofit partners in places experiencing persistent poverty and economic distress. “Local governments” include villages, towns, tribes, cities, counties, and other small municipalities.

Needs for TA may stem from multiple factors including, but not limited to, changing market dynamics, economic decline, emigration, and/or natural disasters. TA is primarily focused on financial management but may include governance and management, leadership development, data and research, building partnerships, community engagement, strategic planning, plan implementation, and program evaluation. The guidance provided by TA teams helps recipients build specific knowledge and skills to be more successful in meeting the needs of their communities.

- <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/dcta/>



## Programs of HUD

This 2017 document provides a complete listing of all HUD programs including major mortgage, grants, assistance, and regulatory programs.

- <https://www.hud.gov/hudprograms>

## **U.S. Small Business Administration**

### **Small Business Resource Guide**

The Indiana District Resource Guide provides localized information and contacts for the SBA's local business assistance, funding programs and contracting programs.

- <https://www.sba.gov/document/support-indiana-district-resource-guide>

### **Business Guide**

The SBA's online Business Guide provides 24/7 access to free information to help plan, launch, manage and grow small businesses.

- <https://www.sba.gov/business-guide>

### **Local Assistance**

The Small Business Administration works with a number of local partners to counsel, mentor and train small businesses including SCORE mentors, Small Business Development Centers, Veteran's Business Outreach Centers, and Women's Business Centers.

- <https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance>

### **Loans**

Loans guaranteed by the Small Business Administration range from \$500 to \$5.5 million and can be used for most business purposes, including long-term fixed assets and operating capital. Businesses must be for-profit, do business in the United States, have invested equity, and have exhausted financing options. Even those with bad credit may qualify for startup funding. Lender Match is a free online tool that connects small businesses with SBA-approved lenders.

- <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans>

### **Federal Contracting**

Small businesses can learn how to find and win contracts with the federal government and gain a competitive advantage with help from the SBA's business development programs.

- <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting>

## **Others**

### AARP Community Challenge Program

AARP provides small grants for quick-action projects to improve housing, transportation, public space, smart cities and other community elements.

- <https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/community-challenge/>

### Aetna Foundation

The Aetna Foundation funds community groups that are advancing healthy eating and active living in homes, schools, and neighborhoods. A major part of this effort is connecting people of limited means with fresh fruits and vegetables through community gardens, urban farms, and farmers markets.

- <https://www.aetna-foundation.org/grants-partnerships/health-eating-living.html>

### America Walks Community Challenge Program

The America Walks Community Challenge grant program works to provide support to the growing network of advocates, organizations, and agencies using innovative, engaging, and inclusive programs and projects to create places where all community members have safe, accessible, equitable, and enjoyable places to walk and be physically active.

- <https://americawalks.org/community-change-grants/>

### Bob Woodruff Foundation

The Bob Woodruff Foundation is committed to economic security and racial equity in the US, with a focus on designing and implementing equitable programs for veterans and their families and supporting our partner organizations to do the same. Deadline: Typically Spring & Fall 2022. Eligibility: nonprofits.

- <https://bobwoodrufffoundation.org/nfl-grants/>

### Farmers Market Coalition

The Farmers Market Coalition website includes funding resources for farmers markets and other community food projects. Pure funding examples are restricted to members of the coalition, but they also offer a state-based resource that announces funding opportunities specific to a state.

- <https://farmersmarketcoalition.org/education/funding-opportunities/>
- <https://farmersmarketcoalition.org/state-map/>

### Fruit Trees For Your Community

If selected for an orchard donation, FTPF provides high-quality fruit trees and shrubs, equipment, on-site orchard design expertise and oversight, horticultural workshops, and aftercare training and manuals. Recipients must be nonprofits, NGOs, public schools, or government entities serving a charitable purpose. Deadline: Rolling

- <https://link.edgepilot.com/s/4c9267b7/uSoC6vvjfkmuJc8R6sLZ3w?u=https://www.ftpf.org/apply>

### Georgia Council for the Arts

**Vibrant Communities Grants** support single art projects such as an art exhibit, a theatre production, a series of workshops for children, or an artist residency. **Grant Request:** Between \$1,000 and \$5,000 **Match Requirement:** 50% match of request amount

- <https://gaarts.org/grants/>



### Georgia Department of Agriculture

The **Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program (RFSI)**, an initiative designed to enhance the robustness and sustainability of Georgia's food supply chain. Funded in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), the RFSI program aims to empower Georgia's agricultural producers by strengthening the middle segments of the food supply chain.

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/resilient-food-systems-infrastructure-program#:~:text=The%20Georgia%20RFSI%20program%20has,@agr.Georgia.gov.&text=1.,Matching%20funds%20required.&text=Eligible%20entities%20include:,of%20the%20food%20supply%20chain.&text=Support%20the%20development%20of%20value, and%20accessibility%20for%20underserved%20communities.&text=Applications%20must%20be%20submitted%20to,@agr.Georgia.gov.>

### Grantspace

GrantSpace provides easy-to-use, self-service tools and resources to help nonprofits become more competitive grant applicants and build strong, sustainable organizations. Grantspace additional lists Requests for Proposals for a variety of grant opportunities, including those related to health.

- <http://grantspace.org/>

### Healthy Food Access Portal

The Healthy Food Access portal was created by PolicyLink, The Food Trust, and Reinvestment Fund to better support communities seeking to launch healthy food retail projects. Among the resources and tools is a guide to find funding and policy efforts by state.

- <https://www.healthyfoodaccess.org/resources-tools-find-money-policy-efforts-by-state>

### Kaboom Playground Grants

Kaboom provides several different grants that support the creation of playgrounds in communities.

- [Funding Partners - KABOOM!](#)

### Kids Gardening

Kids Gardening provides their own grant programs and maintains a list of additional grant opportunities that support school and youth garden programs.

- <https://kidsgardening.org/grant-opportunities/>

### Kresge Foundation

Annually, the Kresge Foundation makes more than 400 grants to nonprofits and cities. Kresge programs work both independently and in collaboration to award single-year and multiyear grants that fund general operating, projects and planning activities advancing strategic objectives. Most often, applicants are invited, but occasionally, program teams issue an open

call for letters of interest (LOIs) within a focus area. For initiatives, programs typically use an open request-for-proposals process.

- <https://kresge.org/grants-social-investments/>

### National Endowment for the Arts Our Town Grant Program

The National Endowment for the Arts' Our Town grant program is the agency's primary creative placemaking grants program. Projects may include arts engagement, cultural planning, and design activities. The grants range from \$25,000 to \$200,000. Our Town invests in creative and innovative projects in which communities, together with their arts and design organizations and artists, seek to:

- Improve their quality of life;
- Encourage greater creative activity;
- Foster stronger community identity and a sense of place; and
- Revitalize economic development.

- <https://www.arts.gov/grants/apply-grant/grants-organizations>

### Partners for Places

A successful matching grant program, Partners for Places creates opportunities for cities and counties in the United States and Canada to improve communities by building partnerships between local government sustainability offices and place-based foundations.

National funders invest in local projects to promote a healthy environment, a strong economy, and well-being of all residents. Through these projects, Partners for Places fosters long-term relationships that make our urban areas more prosperous, livable, and vibrant. The grant program will provide partnership investments between \$25,000 and \$75,000 for one year projects, or \$50,000 and \$150,000 for two year projects, with a 1:1 match required by one or more local foundations.

- [Partners for Places – The Funders Network](#)

### Playworld - Playground Related Opportunities

Playworld aggregates funding and other opportunities for planning and construction of playgrounds and play spaces for children, to address healthy concerns such as obesity and diabetes, and promote active living among youth.

- <https://playworld.com/grant-guide>

### Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH)

REACH is a national program administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities. Through REACH, recipients plan and carry out local, culturally appropriate programs to address a wide range of health issues among African Americans, American Indians, Hispanics/Latinos, Asian Americans, Alaska Natives, and Pacific Islanders. REACH gives funds to state and local health departments, tribes, universities, and community-based organizations. Recipients use these funds to build strong partnerships to guide and support the program's work. Along with funding, CDC provides expert support to REACH recipients.

<https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/state-local-programs/reach/index.htm>

### Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation supports research and programs to help build a national culture of health. Projects that link local foods assets such as community gardens and farmers markets with recreation and alternative transportation projects that seek to improve access to healthy foods could fit with the foundation's giving. The foundation has programs that help to transform local environments in ways that remove health barriers and make it easier for people to lead healthier lives.

- <https://www.rwjf.org/en/how-we-work/grants-and-grant-programs.html>

The foundation also has programs to increase the ability to provide more free fresh produce in low-income communities, raise public awareness about food insecurity, and encourage healthier eating.

- <http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/collections/healthy-food-access.html>

### Rural Health Information Hub: Rural Funding and Opportunities

Aggregates funding and other opportunities for rural communities from a variety of sources, including federal, state, and private.

- <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/funding>

### Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Transportation Alternative Set Aside

This program provides set-aside funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives (including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity); recreational trail projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former divided highways. Funds are allocated to state departments of transportation, which select projects through a competitive process. Local governments, school districts, and nonprofit organizations responsible for the administration of local transportation safety programs are among the entities eligible to apply for funding.

- [http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation\\_alternatives/guidance/guidance\\_2016.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation_alternatives/guidance/guidance_2016.cfm)

### The Awesome Foundation

The Awesome Foundation awards monthly \$1000 micro-grants to small scale, innovative projects. Anyone can apply – individuals, groups, or organizations. Projects are more likely to be funded if they have a community impact and if they will see significant incremental benefit from a small grant. There are about 50 chapters throughout the United States – mainly in larger cities. See the website for chapter locations and eligibility.

- <http://www.awesomefoundation.org/en>

### The Ford Family Foundation

The foundation is accepting applications to two funding opportunities for small or rural communities with populations under 35,000. The Good Neighbor Grant offers funding to address unexpected needs or simple projects. Grants are available between \$1,000 and \$10,000. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Additionally, the Community Building Spaces Grant offers funding for the development of public spaces. Various uses of funding include land acquisition, purchasing buildings, construction and renovations, among other activities. Grants are available between \$50,000 to \$250,000 and accepted on a rolling basis.

- <http://www.tfff.org/>

### T-Mobile Hometown Grants

T-Mobile Hometown Grants is a \$25 million, five-year initiative to support the people and organizations who help small towns across America thrive and grow. Hometown Grants are given every quarter to up to 25 small towns. Apply for funding to support a community project of your choice, like revitalizing or repurposing a historic structure, creating a downtown asset or destination, or improving a space where friends and neighbors gather. Projects that add to a sense of place or could lead to further investment are of particular interest. We look forward to learning more about your town and your project. Projects *must* be completed *and* usable by the public by May 31, 2026.

- [Main Street America Submission Manager - T-Mobile Hometown Grant Application Q1 2025 \(Application Open January 1 - March 31, 2025\)](#)

### Walmart Community Grant Program

The Walmart Foundation provides community grants of \$500 to \$5,000 to nonprofits, government entities, educational institutions, and faith-based organizations for projects that benefit the service area of a Walmart facility (Walmart Store, Sam's Club, or Logistics Facility). Funding areas include hunger relief and healthy eating, health and human service, quality of life, education, community and economic development, diversity and inclusion, public safety, and environmental sustainability.

- <http://giving.walmart.com/walmart-foundation/community-grant-program>

### W.K Kellogg Foundation

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation helps communities transform school food systems, improve community access to good food, and create environments for active living. The foundation accepts grant applications from organizations and institutions throughout the year.

- <https://wrm.wkkf.org/uWebRequestManager/UI/Application.aspx?tid=24bf1841-48f7-4971-b7a7-96bd78992f62&LanguageID=0>