



Grant Resources and Opportunities

December 2022

Successful Grant Writing for Beginners

Grant writing is time-consuming, but there is no need for it to be difficult. When it comes to writing grants, take a step back and put yourself in the shoes of the funding source. While grant funders look for many qualities, the top questions they are looking to answer are:

- Are you capable of doing what you say?
- Will you handle money well?
- Will you have a Social Return on Investment (ROI)?

For more tips and inspiration, visit <https://www.grantwatch.com/grantnews/successful-grant-writing-for-beginners/>.

Paved Trails and Sidewalks Feasibility Grant

The NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division will be awarding \$2.5 million worth of grants ranging from \$60,000-\$120,000 for feasibility studies on paved trails/shared-use paths and sidewalks. The purpose of the Paved Trails and Sidewalk Feasibility Studies Grant Program is to improve the pipeline of bicycle and pedestrian projects accessing state and federal funding, resulting in successful implementation of projects led by communities prioritizing multimodal infrastructure.

There would be no local match, nor is this a reimbursement grant (NCDOT chooses and takes care of paying the consultant). For more information, visit <https://connect.ncdot.gov/municipalities/PlanningGrants/Pages/IMD-Feasibility-Studies-Program.aspx>.

If you have a sidewalk or multi-use path that you'd like to study in your town, please contact RPO staff to help you develop an application.

Solid Waste Infrastructure For Recycling (SWIFR) Grants for Political Subdivisions

The Solid Waste for Infrastructure (SWIFR) grant program funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) is an historic investment in health, equity, and resilience of American communities. The unprecedented funding provided by the BIL through the SWIFR grants will assist local waste management authorities by supporting improvements to local post-consumer materials management, including municipal recycling programs, and assisting local waste management authorities in making improvements to local waste management systems. The SWIFR grant provides a critical opportunity to fund a range of high-impact projects to increase recycling, reduce contamination, and promote a circular economy for sustainable materials management by making much-needed investments in solid waste management infrastructure.

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$40,000,000

Estimated Number of Awards: Approximately 25, at least one per EPA Region; from \$500,000 to \$4,000,000 per award

Deadline: Letters of Intent due December 15, 2022. Applications due January 16, 2023

10 Grants for First Responders and Emergency Services

The three major emergency service departments are police departments, fire departments, and emergency medical services (EMS). These departments generally need funding for additional equipment, training, and other necessities. Funding can come from various sources, but grants are a great start. For more information about grant opportunities for these first responders, visit

<https://www.grantwatch.com/grantnews/10-grants-for-first-responders-and-emergency-services/>.

NCDOT CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM

NCDOT's Transportation Planning Division has issued a call for projects in the Carbon Reduction Program. There is approximately \$19 million to spend on these projects across rural communities in the state for the first two years of the program.

Blue Cross Blue Shield releases two funding opportunities to expand oral health access in communities

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina has issued two grant opportunities to expand access to dental health across the state.

The **Access to Dental Care Program** will cover costs to support creation of new clinics or significant expansion of existing dental clinics in NC communities. Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis. To learn more, please go to: <https://www.bcbsncfoundation.org/grants-programs/current-opportunities/new-access-to-dental-care/>.

The **Oral Health Infrastructure and New Approaches grant program** will provide funds to support acquisition of critical dental equipment and/or integration of new approaches to preserve or increase clinic efficiency and effectiveness and expand equitable access to oral health services. Applications are due December 16, 2022. To learn more, please go to: <https://www.bcbsncfoundation.org/grants-programs/current-opportunities/supporting-improved-efficiency-and-effectiveness-in-existing-safety-net-dental-homes-through-infrastructure-and-new-approaches/>.

T Mobile Hometown Grant Program available to help build small towns

The T Mobile Hometown Grant Program is accepting applications from small towns with populations fewer than 50,000 to help build, rebuild, or refresh community spaces that help foster local connections in the community. Applications are due **December 31, 2022**. To learn more, please go to: <https://www.t-mobile.com/brand/hometown-grants>.

NC Recreational Trail Grant Program

The North Carolina Recreational Trails Program is accepting applications to support shovel-ready trail projects that are ready for construction. Applications are due **February 17, 2023**. To learn more, please go to <https://trails.nc.gov/trail-grants/apply-grant>

EDA invites applications for job creating projects

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) is inviting application under its Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs to support a range of construction and non-construction activities which will advance economic development and enhance the competitive environment in which jobs can be created and private investment leveraged.

Public entities, or nonprofit entities working in collaboration with local governments, looking for support to construct or renovate public assets, or to conduct analysis or regional technical assistance programs with clear economic development outcomes should consider EDA's grant programs. EDA currently has a range of programs available. For further information, please go to <https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>.

North Carolina applicants are also encouraged to reach out to the NC EDA representative, Hillary Sherman at hsherman@eda.gov to discuss program requirements and processes and alignment with potential projects.