# July 2023 Grant Resources

**Southeast Crescent Regional Commission's (SCRC) State Economic and Infrastructure Development (SEID) grant program**, which resulted from the Commission's 5-year Strategic Plan (2023-2028) is to revitalize/stimulate AL's, GA's, MS', NC's, SC's, and VA's public infrastructure improvements and economic development projects for telecommunications, transportation, high-quality health care, access to affordable housing, business and workforce development, resource conservation and preservation, and tourism and recreation.  Sixty-nine NC counties will be eligible for $4,466,111; Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, and Wayne Counties are included in the funding notice. The goals are: 1) Invest in Critical Infrastructure; 2) Improve Health and Support Services Access and Outcomes; 3) Strengthen Workforce Capacity; 4) Expand Affordable Housing Stock and Access; and 5) Promote Environmental, Conservation, Preservation, and Access. The **deadline for pre-applications is July 21, 2023**, the full application portal opens on **Aug. 7, 2023**, and the **full application is due Sept. 15, 2023**. Notification of SEID Awards will be announced on Nov. 14, 2023.

Local governments (village, town, city, and county) and non-profits (IRS designated 501 (c)(3) and 501 (a)) are eligible. $20M-$500M is the award ceiling. The federal cost share for projects: may not exceed 50% - in transitional counties or isolated areas of distress for projects in distressed counties - may not exceed 80% in distressed counties and can be increased by 60-90% for multi-county or multi-state. Visit https://scrc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SCRC-SEID-Grant-NOFA-06082023-release.pdf and https://scrc.gov/southeast-crescent-regional-commission-scrc-announces-20-million-in-new-funding-through-the-state-economic-and-infrastructure-development-seid-grant-program/

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**USDOT, Build America Bureau, NEW Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program**. There is no requirement for cost sharing or matching the grant funds in this Program. Prepare the application as a MS Word document to cut/paste into the online application form to be submitted by 2 PM EST on August 14, 2023. No PDFs nor attachments will be permitted. The notice of funding is available at this link https://cms.buildamerica.dot.gov/buildamerica/sites/buildamerica.dot.gov/files/2023-06/Program%20website%20version%20NOFO%20updated.pdf .
Be sure to attend the **webinar on July 20, 2023, at 3:00 PM EST by** registering at the next link. Visit https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/RuralandTribalGrants.

The New Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program makes $10 million available over 5 years to provide states, local governments, and tribal governments with grants to support project development leading to future applications to DOT credit or grant programs. The grants can support legal, technical, and financial advisors to help them advance infrastructure projects. The 1st Notice of Funding opportunity will include 2 fiscal years and will make $3.4 million available to eligible applicants on a 1st come, 1st served basis.

Eligible project sponsors may receive grant funds to select advisors to assist with: Feasibility studies; project planning; revenue forecasting, funding, and financing options analyses; preliminary engineering and design work; environmental review; economic assessments and cost-benefit analyses; public benefits studies; technical, legal, and financial advisory assistance; and evaluation of potential projects to be

delivered through alternative delivery methods.

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**DOT – PROTECT NOFO: Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Discretionary Grant Program** Notice of Funding Opportunity – DOT's vision to address the climate crisis is to fund projects that improve the resilience of the surface transportation system, which includes highways, public transportation, ports, and intercity passenger rail. Three components will need to be addressed: 1) Use the best available scientific knowledge of climate change hazards, influences, and liabilities; support the continual operation or rapid recovery of critical local, regional, or national surface transportation facilities; and 3) develop inventive and mutual methodologies to reduce risk reduction, including the use of natural infrastructure, which is fully authorized under the program. Visit https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=347585 to view the NOFO and https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/protect/discretionary for more information about the NOFO and the PROTECT Program. Direct questions about the grant application to PROTECTDiscretionary@dot.gov or contact Becca Eversole at beversole@eccog.org for *DERPO* (Carteret, Craven, Jones, and Pamlico Counties) and Mickey Anderson at manderson@eccog.org for *ECRPO* (Duplin, Greene, Lenoir, and Wayne Counties). The grant **deadline is Fri., Aug. 18, 2023 by 11:59 PM** and applications must be submitted through grants.gov .

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**EDA's Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship - 'FY 2023 Built to Scale (B2S)** program's deadline is approaching: The Economic Development Administration (EDA) is accepting applications under the Build to Scale Program to connect, develop and grow a wide array of projects to foster high-growth, technology-driven business to spur economic development. Under this Challenge EDA is offering 5 separate opportunities, as noted below:

Venture Challenge (has 3 subcomponent challenges) – provides funds to organizations that enable technology-based startups to form and grow.

Ignite – Offers up to $300k; funds can used be for establishing new partnerships, conducting community needs audits and assessments, establishing governance, establishing a new or reimagined commercialization and technology transfer function to advance technology entrepreneurship and accelerate company growth; funds are for 18-24 months and do require 1:1 match.

Build – Offers grants less than $750k; projects should pilot a solution to a demonstrated need or implement a proven solution to a demonstrated need in a new region or community; must demonstrate a commitment and ability to achieve, measure, and share data that support agreed upon impacts; must provide 1:1 match.

Scale – Offers grants ranging between $750k and $2M; applicants should propose projects that scale an existing initiative that has demonstrated prior success based on empirical evidence; requires proven track record of successful deployment of programs; period of performance expected to be 3-years; expected 1:1 match.

Capital Challenge (has 2 subcomponent challenges) – provides funds for programmatic and operational support for the formation, launch, or scale of investment funds that seek to provide access to the kinds of capital that enable technology companies to start and scale.

Form – Provides grant funds less than $400k; applications should identify, educate, and connect investors and other potential sources of equity-based capital within a regional technology cluster (funds should not go into venture fund); period of performance expected to be 3-years; 1:1 match.

Deploy – Provides grant funds between $400k - $750k; applications should raise and deploy equity or equity-based capital or deploy investment capital into technology startups, based on an investment (EDA projects should not use EDA funds or matching share funds as investment capital, but instead to operate or support 1 or more investment vehicles); period of performance expected to be 3-years and requires a 1:1 match.

EDA's Build to Scale Program is to strengthen justifiable systems and access multiple tiers of investments for program innovators, entrepreneurs, and start-up groups to build regional economies and assist communities and regional areas to 1) Grow into technologically driven businesses; 2) Create superior-skills and high paying jobs; and 3) Build future industries though 2 competitions - the 2023 Venture Challenge and the 2023 Capital Challenge. EDA posted a YouTube video/information webinar; the link may be found at https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/build-to-scale. Eligible entities include: An Indian tribe; a city or other NC political subdivision; a nonprofit organization / an institution of higher education, / a public-private partnership, / a science or research park, / a federal laboratory, / a venture development organization, or / an economic development organization that focuses on improving science, technology, innovation, or entrepreneurship; or a consortium of any of the previous entities. The **deadline is July 28, 2023**. Eligible grant awards will be announced 90-120 days after the deadline. A match, equal to at least 50 % of the total project cost, is anticipated. Visit

https://www.eda.gov/sites/default/files/2023-06/FY23_B2S_NOFO.pdf?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term= . Applicants must submit their applications via EDGE, the new EDA grant portal. More information on the Build to Scale Program is available at: https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/build-to-scale. The EDGE Grant System for application submission is available at: Funding Opportunity: 2023 Build to Scale Program (eda.gov).

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**EDA announces Recompetes Programs and releases new program tools**, Eligibility Mapping resources and information. EDA has released funding through the Recompetes Program to alleviate persistent economic distress and support long-term comprehensive economic development and job creation in places with high prime-age employment gaps (defined as employment gaps in 25-54 age group). The program is set up as a 2-phase competition. For Phase I, applicants can apply for 1 of the following: Strategy Development Only; Recompete Plan Approval Only; Both Plan Approval and a Strategy Development Grant.

Entities applying for Strategy Development Grants will be considered for investments in the range of $250,000 - $500,000, with limited potential to go up to $750,000. These grants will be designed to connect and support plans to spur economic development in the Project Region.

Entities applying for Recompete Plan Approval will be applying for selection which confers no immediate funds, but which opens the door to compete as part of Phase II for Implementation Funds. Applicants must apply for and receive Recompetes Plan Approval to be eligible to apply and receive Phase II Implementation Funds. EDA anticipates making 4 – 8 Phase II Implementation grants where grants to Local Markets average approximately $50 M and grants to Local Communities average approximately $20 M.

Applicants interested in applying for both Strategy Development and Recompete Plan Approval must complete both application requirements. To be eligible, areas can utilize the Recompete Eligibility Mapping Tool to determine the eligibility of their project region. The mapping tool is available at: Recompete Eligibility Mapping Tool (REMT) - Main Map Viewer (anl.gov).  In cases where an area is shown as partially eligible on the map, they are encouraged to view the Census Tract Mapping Tool to determine the eligible census tracts. This Census Tract Tool is available at: Recompete Eligibility Mapping Tool – Census Tracts Viewer (anl.gov). For ease of use, interested parties may find it most helpful to remove all layers on the left, except the box for Eligible Census Tracts with Partially eligible municipalities and Eligible Census Tracts within Partially Eligible Counties.

**Applications for both Strategy Development and Recompetes Plan Phase I must be submitted by 11:59pm ET on October 5, 2023**. Only applicants who apply for and receive approval for their Recompetes Plan will be eligible to apply for Phase II Implementation resources in winter 2023. The full notice for the Recompetes Program is available at https://www.eda.gov/sites/default/files/202306/Recompete_Pilot_Program_NOFO_phase_1_vF.pdf. General program FAQs are available at https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/recompete-pilot-program/faq.

EDA is hosting upcoming webinars on the Recompetes program:
    July 7, 2023 – at noon – To register, please go to:
      **https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/register/gjgdetjv**
    July 11, 2023 - at 4:30pm – To register please go to:
      https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/register/eayhfpwj

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**EDA is accepting applications under Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs** to support accept construction, planning, technical assistance grant applications to advance job creation: The Economic Development Administration is a federal agency that provides grant funds 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. **The Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs have a rolling deadline!** For further information, please go to https://sfgrants.eda.gov/s/.

NC 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.

**US Department of Labor's webinar, "Empowering All Workers – Morning, Noon, and Night Discretionary Program**," highlights 8 programs to train, connect, train, support, and empower.  The US Secretary for the Department of Labor stated the funding opportunities will, "advance equity and access for workers who most need DOL resources with investments that lead workers to good, high-quality jobs, especially workers who have been underserved." The programs will provide "... support services in a style/language that impacts them, partnering with unions, community colleges, players, and local workforce boards. The programs require strong partnerships to be effective, sustainable, and scalable." Visit DOL_GRANTS . For more information,  contact Ogm@dol.gov .

**Employment and Training Administration** – Laura Watson
1) Youth Build; 2) Growth Opportunities – Re-entry Youth; 3) Pathway Home – Re- entry Adults; 4) Strengthening Community Colleges; 5) Workforce Pathways for Youth; 6) Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities; 7) State Apprenticeship Expansion (Formula Grant Program); 8) Building Pathways to Infrastructure (for H1B industries); and 9) Workforce Data Quality Initiative (for State Governments).

**Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB)** – Mark Mittelhauser
1) Strengthening global labor standards and enforcing labor commitments among trading partners and 2) Combatting international child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking. (8-10 grant awards annually [US and non-US organizations], $2-10M, 4–5-year grants, priority areas Mexico and Central America).

**Women's Bureau** – Wendy Chun-Hoon
Offer 2 competitive grants, annually – posted in late summer and awarded in late summer or early fall. 1) Women in Apprenticeship and Non-Traditional Occupations (WANTO) – jobs in construction and manufacturing and 2) Fostering Access, Rights, and Equity Grant (FARE)

**Office of Disability Employment Policy** – Jennifer Sheehy
2 Demonstration grants - 1) Center for Advancing Employment for Youth (CAPE– Youth) and 2) in the spring, Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion (EARN) – ASK-EARN.

**Veterans' Employment and Training Service** – John Savage
Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) – The grant is open only for 30 days and is offered annually; it covers a 3-year period of performance.

**Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Office of Training and Educational Grants** – Robert Murphy
'Susan Harwood Training Grants:' 1) Target Topic Training; 2) Training and Educational Materials Development; and 3) Capacity Building Development. Information is available in the spring or early summer for awards totaling $12.7M.

**Mine Safety and Health Administration** - Ursula Frazier
The Competitive grant, 'Brookwood Sago Grant – Mine Safety Training,' was developed to honor the miners lost in the US' 2 worst mine disasters. It is offered annually and announced in the spring.

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