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## SEPTEMBER 2024 GRANT RESOURCES NEWSLETTER

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### GRANTS

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**'FY 2024 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (MARC) Grants:** MARC Grant Solicitations for 'FY 2024 are open. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funds will still be supplementing typical amounts.

Visit EPA's website for more details,

<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/current-and-upcoming-funding-opportunities>.

And view recent EPA Brownfields successful grant applications as downloadable samples of and click on <https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/WasteManagement/o/fol/1360606/Row1.aspx>. Free reviews/critiques of applications may be sent by Oct. 31, 2024 to Carrie Martin at [carrie.martin@njit.edu](mailto:carrie.martin@njit.edu). Thereafter, the grant applications are due Nov. 14, 2024.



**NC DEQ, Division of Water Infrastructure's Grants:** Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF-EC) for construction (DWSRF-EC-C) are available for projects addressing PFAS contamination in drinking water (and construction projects) and wastewater (CWSRF-EC-C). Low-interest CWSRF loans are available for green projects, such as stormwater quality infrastructure, stream restoration, reclaim water,

or energy efficiency projects. In Fall 2024, Asset Inventory and Assessment (AIA) grants and Merger/Regionalization Feasibility (MRF) grants are available for drinking water and wastewater studies from the SRP for all local government units (LGUs). Application information is available at - <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure/i-need-funding>. Fall 2024 applications are due Monday, September 30, at 5:00 PM.

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**USDA - Rural Development: Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program - Grants & Loans.** The Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program helps microenterprises startup and grow through a Rural Microloan Revolving Fund and provides training and technical assistance to microloan borrowers and micro entrepreneurs through loans and grants to Microenterprise Development Organizations (MDOs).

*Who may apply for this program?* These entities are eligible to be a Microenterprise Development Organization: Nonprofits, federally recognized tribes, and Institutions of higher education.

*The following are eligible to apply for a loan from the MDO as an ultimate recipient:* Businesses located in an eligible area with 10 or fewer full-time employees. Rural areas outside a city or town with a population of fewer than 50,000 residents. However, urbanized areas near a city of 50,000 or more may not be eligible. The borrower's headquarters may be based within a larger city so long as the project service area is located in an eligible rural area. The lender may be located anywhere.

Grants are available to provide technical assistance to rural micro-entrepreneurs or microenterprises, up to \$100,000 annually. Funding at the requested level is not guaranteed, and at least 15 percent matching funds are required. And a loan of \$50,000 - \$500,000 may be used for establishing a Rural Microloan Revolving Fund managed by the MDO. Total aggregate debt is capped at \$2.5 M. For more information visit, <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/rural-microentrepreneur-assistance-program/nc>. Contact Lisa Talley, Business Loan Specialist, at [Lisa.Talley@usda.gov](mailto:Lisa.Talley@usda.gov) or (919) 873-2068. The deadline for the state office is Sept. 30, 2024, 11:59 PM.

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**Building Resilient Infrastructures in Communities (BRIC) / Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA):** NC's Department of Public Safety (DPS) provides technical assistance throughout the application process. Jurisdictions must submit Letters of Intent by Oct. 4, 2024, 5:00 PM.

Visit <https://www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/emergency-management/hazard-mitigation/non-disaster-grants> for more information. Contact Sara Deskar, Community Planner, Eastern Carolina Council [sdeskar@eccog.org](mailto:sdeskar@eccog.org) or Kaine Riggan, Grant Development Specialist and BRIC/FMA Lead at [Kaine.Riggan@ncdps.gov](mailto:Kaine.Riggan@ncdps.gov).

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**PEOPLEFORBIKES Community Grant Program:** Top funding priorities are infrastructure grant projects that improve community, especially those economically impacted or historically distressed, by building connections in a low-stress bikeway network or improving access to recreational amenities. Small

Industry Community Grants are to support the material costs of infrastructure construction or non-material costs directly related and necessary to building infrastructure. The deadline for Letters of Interest is Oct. 11, 2024; if invited, full applications are due Nov. 29, 2024. Visit <https://www.peopleforbikes.org/grant-guidelines> and contact [infrastructure@peopleforbikes.org](mailto:infrastructure@peopleforbikes.org) for questions about the grant.

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**EPA Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants.** The program offers funding to reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity in disadvantaged communities. Partnerships are encouraged between multiple community-based organizations (CBOs), local or federally recognized tribal governments, and academic institutions.

Funding awards will be between \$10M-\$20M with a few awards between \$1M-\$3M; no match will be required. [The Application deadline is Nov. 21, 2024.](#)

The following are eligible projects:

- Focusing on climate resiliency and adaptation.
- Mitigating climate and health risks.
- Identifying community-led air and other pollution monitoring, prevention, and remediation.
- Demonstrating impact on investments in low- and zero-emissions resilient technologies.
- Combining workforce development to support reducing greenhouse gases and other air pollutants.
- Reducing indoor toxins and indoor air pollution.
- Facilitating the engagement of disadvantage communities in State and Federal advisory groups, workshops, rule makings, and other public processes.

For more information visit, <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/inflation-reduction-act-community-change-grants-program>.



**AMERICORPS State and National Discretionary Grants Are Open:**

Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 AmeriCorps State and National Competitive Grants for the following categories - Community Development, Disaster Prevention and Relief, Education, Employment, Labor and Training, Environment, Food and Nutrition, Health, and Housing. Eligible applicants include Native American tribal organizations and federally recognized tribal governments, City or town governments, Nonprofits with/without a 501(c)(3) IRS tax designation, and

State and County governments.

The American Climate Corps is a federal government national service and workforce development initiative that is focused on training young people for the clean energy and climate resilience workforce. For more information visit, <https://americorps.gov/funding-opportunity/fy-2025-ameri-corps-state-national-grants>. The Application deadline is Jan. 23, 2025.



**USDA-Rural Development: Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant in**

**North Carolina:** This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas, such as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area. Eligible borrowers include: Public bodies, community-based non-profits, and federally recognized Tribes. Private and commercial businesses are ineligible. Eligible rural areas include: villages, towns, and cities with no more than

20,000 residents, and Federally Recognized Tribal Lands.

Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment, and pay related project expenses. Examples of essential community facilities include:

- Health care facilities, such as hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics, nursing homes or assisted living facilities.
- Public facilities, such as town halls, courthouses, airport hangars, or street improvements.
- Community support services, such as childcare centers, community centers, fairgrounds, or transitional housing.
- Public safety services, such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles, or equipment.
- Educational services, such as museums, libraries, or private schools.
- Utility services, such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment.

Applications are accepted year-round through the local USDA-Rural Development office via

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/find-your-local-area-office>. For more information visit, <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program/nc>.

**ARPA UPDATES**



**The ARPA / CSLFRF deadline, Dec. 31, 2024.** This deadline applies to all local governments, to have obligated those funds by 12/31/2024!! The Treasury's rule which was adopted in 2021, clarified the meaning of an "obligation," stating, "...order placed for property and services and entering into contracts, subawards, and similar transactions that require payment." The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF, or Fiscal Recovery Funds) program's Final Rule (as of March, 2024) is available at: <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Final-Rule-FAQ.pdf>.

UNC-SOG is offering an "ARPA Checklist" session, on September 20, 8:30-9:30 AM, that will provide jurisdictions with the steps to have taken and completed by December 31, 2024.

Zoom Log in for all Office Hour Sessions:

<https://zoom.us/j/95481909044?pwd=U1E2VHNhN2luSoJEYTJqeTZTMFRWdz09>

Meeting ID: 954 8190 9044

Passcode: 779726

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**Apply to Participate in a Statewide Affordable Housing Initiative by October 18th:** UNC-SOG announces "Our State, Our Homes: Partnering to Address Housing Needs in North Carolina" program - "Carolina Across 100" is an 18-month program, coordinated by the ncIMPACT Initiative and guided by the Carolina Engagement Council. The initiative will bring together entities from across campus to facilitate cross-sector collaboration among selected community teams comprised of a diverse set of stakeholders including local government agencies, housing developers, builders, financial institutions, supportive service providers, employers, faith-based and community organizations and more.

Visit NCIMPACT and UNC-SOG's Initiative in partnership with Carolina Across 100 in the Sept. 10th press release for affordable housing, which includes the online application, <https://carolinaacross100.unc.edu/unc-chapel-hill-launches-statewide-program-to-help-address-housing-needs-in-nc-communities/>.

Communities that are interested are encouraged to submit an online application by Oct. 18, 2024.

## UPDATES

**NC DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE to offer EVENT FUNDING:** Local Governments will soon be able to apply for funds to boost major events through a new program designed to attract visitors to the State of North Carolina. Funds will be programmed, so get ahead, get prepared, visit the guidelines and procedures at <https://www.commerce.nc.gov/guidelines-major-events-games-and-attractions-fund/download?attachment>.

**Grants.gov:** Upcoming maintenance dates: Sept. 21-23 and Oct. 19-21, 2024. Visit the website's calendar, <https://www.grants.gov/support/grants-gov-maintenance-calendar>.



For technical support or to report an issue with FEMA GO, please contact the FEMA GO Help Desk. Its hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET. The Help Desk accepts phone calls at 1-877-585-3242 and emails at [femago@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:femago@fema.dhs.gov).

Plan to join the next virtual FEMA GO Quarterly User Focus Group webinar, which is scheduled for Oct. 10, 3:00 - 4:30 PM EST; more details will be forthcoming.



Eastern Carolina Council continues its mission- *to improve the region's quality of life by providing human, planning, and economic development services to local governments and area residents by leveraging resources and collaborating regionally.*

Eastern Carolina Council | PO Box 1717 | New Bern, NC 28560 US

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