

## APRIL 2025 GRANT RESOURCES NEWSLETTER



### **NC Resilient Coastal Communities Program (RCCP) Grant Opening:**

The N.C. Resilient Coastal Communities Program helps coastal communities set resilience goals, assess their capacity, and prioritize projects to address coastal hazards. Local governments in 20 coastal counties can receive technical assistance to engage the community, assess risks, and develop ready-to-implement resilience projects.

RCCP's 4 program phases are:

- Phase 1 - Community Engagement; Risk & Vulnerability Assessment.
- Phase 2 - Planning, Project Identification, & Prioritization. (\*)
- Phase 3 - Engineering & Design.
- Phase 4 - Implementation & Construction.

*\*Also included are CAMA Land Use Plan Updates.*

This program does not require a match. Grant information may be found at:

<https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/coastal-adaptation-and-resiliency/nc-resilient-coastal-communities-program#ProgramContacts-3609>.

**The grant application deadline is Friday, April 25, 2025, by 5:00 PM** submit all applications to [rccp@deq.nc.gov](mailto:rccp@deq.nc.gov). For additional information interested applicants may contact Mackenzie Todd,

Coastal Resiliency Coordinator at [Mackenzie.Todd@deq.nc.gov](mailto:Mackenzie.Todd@deq.nc.gov) or Kasen Wally, Coastal Resiliency Specialist, at [kasen.wally@deq.nc.gov](mailto:kasen.wally@deq.nc.gov).

For questions specifically related to land use planning and how this initiative overlaps with **CAMA Land Use Plan** updates, reach out to your District Planner – Rachel Love-Adrick in Morehead City at [rachel.love-adrick@deq.nc.gov](mailto:rachel.love-adrick@deq.nc.gov) or (252) 515-5403 (for Carteret, Craven, and Pamlico Counties) or Mike Christenbury in Wilmington at [mike.christenbury@deq.nc.gov](mailto:mike.christenbury@deq.nc.gov) or (919) 796-7426 (for Onslow County).

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### **Golden LEAF Foundation Grants Available:**

The **Open Grants Program** is for economic development projects aligned with the Golden LEAF priority areas - Job Creation and Economic Investment, Workforce Preparedness, and Agriculture - particularly in tobacco-dependent, economically distressed, and/or rural communities. Governmental entities and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations are eligible for awards of \$500,000 or less.

Examples of competitive project applications are:

- Develop and implement a new workforce training program to meet demand from local employers.
- Implement a career pathway at a high school for a high demand field.
- Extend water, sewer, or road infrastructure to a site to enable industrial development that will create full-time jobs.
- Support the development of new crops, expand markets for agriculture products, or provide training for farmers.
- Construction of infrastructure for public use needed for development of workforce housing (developer must be a local government entity or 501(c)(3)).

Contact Golden LEAF Foundation staff with questions after completing the following Inquiry Form at <https://goldenleaf.org/funding-opportunities/contact-programs/#form>.

The **Economic Catalyst Program** recognizes rural and economically distressed communities with the priority given to Tier 1 and 2 counties in tobacco-dependent communities that have sites available for development to attract new businesses and create opportunities for the expansion of existing businesses. Others in Tier 3 will be considered secondarily. This program does not have a predetermined limit. Visit the following link for more information, <https://goldenleaf.org/funding-opportunities/economic-catalyst/>. Companies must provide at least 50% of the cost of employee-only health insurance for full-time employees.

Prior to the submittal of an application, applicants are encouraged to contact Golden LEAF staff to discuss the potential projects and conditions that may be applicable. Golden LEAF considers applications from regional and local economic development entities (501(c)(3) non-profits) for activities that include company commitments for job creation. For more information on specific eligibility criteria and job creation parameters, visit <https://www.goldenleaf.org/catalyst/>.

**The Golden LEAF Board meets in Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct., and Dec. It will consider applications for the SITE Program during those six Board Meetings.**

The **SITE Program** was designed for rural and economically distressed communities that must have available sites to attract new businesses and create opportunities for the expansion of existing businesses. It will accept applications from organizations in all counties, but priority awards will be given to those with Tier 1 and Tier 2 designations, especially those who have been persistently economically distressed. Typically, the maximum award is up to \$50,000 for site due diligence and up to \$1,500,000 for site development.

The SITE Program has 3 phases, Identification, Due Diligence, and Development. Communities will be able to participate in the program in any of the 3 phases, and over a period of time a site may progress from Identification through to Development. Visit the SITE Program Resources page for detailed guidelines per phase at, <https://goldenleaf.org/funding-opportunities/site/site-resources/>.

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## GO OUTSIDE GRANTS

**NC GO offers funding for youth sports teams** is a new grant that provides funding for nonprofessional youth sports teams and events.

However, in January 2025, potential **GO Outside Grant** Applicants were notified that applications will not be available for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year and the reopening of the program will be dependent on funding in the next State Budget.

Potential program funding includes:

- \$5,000 for travel to assist non-professional youth sports teams to compete in North Carolina, or out-of-state, sporting events.
- \$25,000 to attract state, regional, area, and national sporting events, tournaments, and programs for nonprofessional youth sporting participants.

Eligible entities include: schools (public, private, or charter), home school associations, NC children's homes, and 501(c)(3) non-profits. Allowable projects are field trips, and visiting programs, as well as on-campus, agricultural or aquatic structures, archery ranges, and educational nature trails. Questions may be addressed to [GoOutside.nc.gov](http://GoOutside.nc.gov) and to apply for a grant visit, [www.GoOutside.nc.gov](http://www.GoOutside.nc.gov).

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### **NC Trails' 2025 - Recreational Trails Program (RTP):**

Eligible applicants may apply for \$10,000 - \$100,000 grants to fund shovel-ready trail development projects across the State. Technical assistance is also available for conceptual projects; contact the Regional Trail Specialist via this link, <https://trails.nc.gov/nc-trails-program/regional-trails-specialists>.

Federal, state, or local government agencies, as well as qualified non-profit organizations, are eligible **to apply by September 5, 2025 by 5:00 PM** through the WebGrants application at <https://ncparks.webgrantscloud.com/index.do>. For more information search, <https://trails.nc.gov/trail-grants/apply-grant>.

A fall 2025 grant round will be announced for the Safety and Education Grant (SEG) later this year, which will also be found via WebGrants.

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### **NC Department of Commerce Major Events, Games & Attractions Fund:**

NC Department of Commerce recently released information about its new grant, Major Events, Games, & Attractions Fund. Local NC governments may apply for funds. It was designed to support the State's efforts to attract major events to NC and its regions and was established by the NC General Assembly to stimulate economic activity by attracting events for out-of-state visitors and to strengthen the State's travel and tourism industry.

Access the grant's guidelines and documents at <https://www.commerce.nc.gov/guidelines-major-events-games-and-attractions-fund/download?attachment>. The contact for the new grant is Mark Poole, Director of Commerce Finance Center, at [mpoole@commerce.nc.gov](mailto:mpoole@commerce.nc.gov). The funds are appropriated annually by July 1st by the NC Secretary of Revenue.

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# ARPA UPDATES

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**UNC-SOG hosts virtual ARPA Office Hours** for local governments to discuss issues related to the American Rescue Plan Act Fiscal Recovery Fund program and local government finance. NC Association of County Commissioners (NACCC) participates in these sessions and provides timely updates for counties on ARPA-related matters. Click here to access the Zoom link, <https://zoom.us/j/95481909044?pwd=U1E2VHNhN2luSoJEYTJqeTZTMFRWdz09#success>.

Upcoming ARP/Finance Office Hours:

- April 17, 2025: 8:30-9:30 AM
- April 23, 2025: 12:00-1:00 PM
- April 29, 2025: 8:30-9:30 AM

**Final Reminder: ARPA Annual and Quarterly Report are due on April 30th.** Counties and municipalities with a population < 250,000 residents that were allocated < \$10M in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) funding must submit **Annual P&E Reports**. Larger local governments and those allocated more SLFRF funding must submit **Quarterly P&E Reports**. Review the following PDF to ensure a successful submittal of the P&E Report at <https://canons.sog.unc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/PE-Report-Portal-2024-5-Steps-to-Success.pdf>.

Even if your community has not obligated or expended ARPA funds during this reporting period, you still must submit a report to Treasury. In preparation for the report, it would be helpful to do the following:

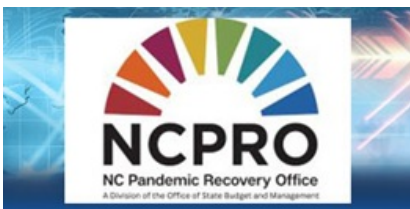
- If roles have changed since the last reporting deadline, make sure your Treasury portal credentials are available.
- Check your [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) registration expiration/renewal date, roles, and credentials. An active [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) registration is required during the award period.

Please reach out to ECC staff if you have any questions, issues, or would like assistance with ARPA matters.

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## UPDATES

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**NC's Federal Grant Management Technical Assistance Sessions Offered.** NCPRO will offer eight (8) sessions on a variety of grant management topics from April 3rd to Dec. 4th. Local government grant managers, fiscal agents, and policy team members will learn to apply 2 CFR 200, the NC Administrative Code in relation to NCPRO federal funding focused on State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF).

The 1st Session, *Federal Funds Closeout Process*, provided valuable information to Local Governments with SFRF funds. The Sessions topics are:

- Session 2 - *Pass-Through Entity Requirements*, May 8th, 3:00-4:30 PM.
- Session 3 - *General/Entity Level Standards*, June 5th, 3:00-4:30 PM.
- Session 4 - *Financial Management*, Aug. 7th, 3:00-4:30 PM.
- Session 5 - *Internal Controls*, Sept. 4th, 3:00-4:30 PM.

- Session 6 - *Procurement*, Oct. 2nd, 3:00-4:30 PM.
- Session 7 - *Equipment & Property Management*, Nov. 6th, 3:00-4:30 PM.
- Session 8 - *Time and Effort*, Dec. 4th, 3:00-4:30 PM.

Visit this TEAMS link to access Sessions:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F%23%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3AmeetingMGY2ZWZhNjMtODk2MCooMGVILTkyMjYtZjM1ZjE3NjUyMzJk%40thread.v2%2Fo%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%25227a7681dc-b9d0-449a-85c3-ecc26cd7ed19%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%25226a562987-08e1-4fbe-9be4-e849f84edde1%2522%257d%26anon%3Dtrue&type=meetup-join&deeplinkId=c2f5fa93-d5e1-4117-bf88-db7948e7549e&directDl=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true> .



**FEMA  
GRANTS  
OUTCOMES**



**FEMA-GO Changes:** The FEMA Web Portal is being updated to comply with President Trump's Executive Orders, consequently users should expect a different look and feel!!!

Users will still be able to find helpful information about FEMA GO and access self-guided training resources regarding any stage of the grants management life cycle on the FEMA Grants Outcomes webpage at <https://www.fema.gov/grants/guidance-tools/fema-go> . Also visit the FEMA GO Guides – YouTube playlist at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL72oKwOoJlKKTHyZPYrOabVboHNagQA5> to view FEMA GO tutorial videos.

In addition to the training resources, the FEMA GO Help Desk's dedicated technical support team, stands ready to provide technical support and assistance to FEMA GO users. The FEMA GO Help Desk hours of operation are Mon.-Fri. 9:00-6:00; phone calls at 877-585-3242 are also accepted and emails at [femago@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:femago@fema.dhs.gov).

## CONNECT WITH US!



Eastern Carolina Council 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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