



August 2025 Grant Resources Newsletter



Welcome to ECC's August 2025 Grant Resources Newsletter. This is a resource for local government employees, elected and appointed officials, and other community-focused individuals in the ECC region for receiving information about upcoming opportunities, relevant updates, and useful tools pertaining to grants.

Grants

205j Water Quality Management Planning

Is your community interested in a water quality
planning project?



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The 205j grant Request for Proposal (RFP) for 2025 opened on July 25. NC Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) notes approximately \$550,000 is available this year.

Preferred projects include:

- 9-Element watershed restoration plan creation or update for 12-digit HUCs or smaller watersheds.
- Site-specific design plans based on 9-Element plans.
- Source identification studies.
- Stormwater infrastructure mapping.
- Projects that have regional or statewide benefits or involve cooperation between local governments.

Only councils of governments are eligible to apply. Contact ECC soon if your jurisdiction is interested in partnering on a 205(j) project. The proposal deadline is Thursday, September 18th.

This grant is competitive. A local match is preferred, but it is not required. There is no minimum or maximum award amount.

Links:

- Click [HERE](#) for the 2025 RFP.
- Click [HERE](#) for the NC DEQ webpage on 205(j).

319 Grants Program



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Environmental Quality

NC DEQ offers funding for the 319 Grants Program on an annual basis. The purpose of this program is to improve impaired waters by addressing nonpoint source pollution.

Local governments are eligible to apply for this grant. There is a minimum 40% non-federal match, and greater non-federal matches are more competitive. There is no minimum or maximum funding amount. Around \$1 million is available per cycle.

Projects must:

- Improve waters impaired by nonpoint source pollution, **and**
- Be located in an area with an approved watershed restoration plan (refer to the section on 205j above).

Some eligible projects include:

- Wetland restoration
- Stream restoration
- Riparian restoration
- Stormwater management projects

Projects affiliated with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program, including Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), are not eligible.

It is too late to apply for the 2025 cycle. The request for proposal is released in the Spring. If your jurisdiction has impaired waters and an approved watershed restoration plan, you may want to plan for next year.

Link:

- Click [HERE](#) for the NC DEQ webpage about this program.

\$204 million awarded for water projects

Governor Josh Stein and NC DEQ recently announced \$204 million in funding assistance to local governments across the state for drinking water and wastewater projects. See [HERE](#) for press release.



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Projects in the ECC region include:

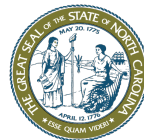
- City of Goldsboro – PFAS Treatment Preliminary Engineering - \$500,000
- Town of River Bend – Drinking Water Improvements – Phase II - \$6,274, 250
- Town of Walstonburg – Water System Improvements Phase 2 - \$909,976

The Fall funding round starts July 29, with application due by September 30.

See the linked press release above for information about application training.

Multifamily Recycling Grant Program

The NC DEQ Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS) is accepting applications for the Multifamily Recycling Grant Program.



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This program assists with the development of recycling programs for multifamily residences. Multifamily residence is loosely defined as a structure with five or more dwelling units. Eligible projects provide new points of access for recycling. Projects must also include an educational component, such as informational materials and signage for residents.

Local governments, public housing authorities, and certain businesses and non-profits are eligible to apply.

Local governments and public housing authorities must provide at least a 10% cash match. A local government's distribution from the Solid Waste Disposal Tax can be used to cover this match.

Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis.

Link:

- Click [HERE](#) for the request for proposal.

Industrial Development Fund Utility Account

The NC Department of Commerce (DOC) is accepting applications for its Utility Account. The purpose of this program is to create jobs through public infrastructure improvements.



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Eligible applicants include local governments in Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties. All counties in the ECC region are Tier 1 or 2, with the exception of Carteret County, which is Tier 3. There is a 25% local cash match for projects not located in one of the 25 most distressed counties.

Eligible projects are infrastructure improvements that will result in the creation of private sector jobs. See the guidelines below for job creation and other requirements.

The local government is responsible for repayment if the proposed job creation goal is not met.

Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

Link

- Click [HERE](#) for guidelines document.
- Click [HERE](#) for NC DOC page on the Utility Account.

The Grant Portal (TGP) - Aging Grants / Grants for Seniors

View a catalog of aging grants at <https://north-carolina.thegrantportal.com/aging-seniors>. TGP is online database of grant opportunities. It shows there are currently **87** available grants and **over \$20 million** in available funds for aging services in North Carolina. Information about grant details requires a paid subscription.



ARPA Updates

Office Hours

The UNC School of Government (SOG) hosts office hours via Zoom for discussions on local government finance including ARPA. Click [HERE](#) for the office hours page on UNC SOG's NC Finance Connect website. Consider bookmarking this page to stay up to date on future offerings.



Reminder: December 31, 2026 is the deadline to expend ARPA SLFRF funds.

Reminder: If your entity accepted ARPA SLFRF funds, you must maintain an active registration on [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov). If you've forgotten your entity's expiration date, please consider checking your registration status on SAM.gov soon!

Reminder: ECC staff are available to provide ARPA SLFRF technical assistance to local governments within our nine-county region. There is no cost for this service. Reach out to ECC staff if you have questions or concerns related to:

- SAM.gov registration
- Treasury notices / documentation requests
- ARPA compliance requirements
- Anything else related to ARPA SLFRF

Contact Carlton Gideon, Senior Community Planner, cgideon@eccog.org, 252-638-3185 ext. 3018.

Updates

ECC Services

Would you like to pursue a grant opportunity but are short-staffed? Consider grant writing and administration services



offered by ECC. If interested, contact Carlton Gideon, Senior Community Planner, cgideon@eccog.org, 252-638-3185 ext. 3018.

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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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