

NYS Department of State

Local Government Efficiency Grants

Q. Are municipal housing authorities eligible to apply for the LGE Program?

A. No, a municipal housing authority is not eligible for a Local Government Efficiency grant.

Q. If we are not eligible, how would we partner with an eligible entity?

A. Applications must have a minimum of two local government applicants, unless it is from a single local government that has had an operating deficit in each of the last three fiscal years or an operating deficit of over 10% in the last fiscal year. An ineligible applicant may partner with the required eligible entities on a project, however, only eligible partners will be considered in the funding calculations.

Q. Are automation and digitalization efforts eligible under the grant?

A. Yes, if they are part of a shared services project or consolidation of services between two or more local governments.

Q. What is the average size of an implementation grant?

A. The total maximum cumulative funding for an implementation project is \$200,000 for each local government involved in the project, not to exceed 90% of the project cost or \$1,000,000 whichever is less.

Q. Do we need to apply for a planning grant first? Can we go ahead and apply for an implementation grant if we do our preliminary vetting and research?

A. A planning grant is not necessary prior to an implementation grant award.

Q. Have you worked with land banks before? Rather than submit separate proposals for each town, can we submit a proposal for multiple communities involved in the land bank? How can we best leverage the pieces of the proposal?

A. Land banks are not eligible applicants for a Local Government Efficiency grant. However a land bank might be involved in a proposal including eligible local governments to share or restructure a local government service. All projects are evaluated based on the potential municipal tax levy impact, project need, service delivery benefits, operational changes, comprehensiveness and specificity of work plan, appropriateness of the project budget, local linkages and capacity, and local and regional support.

Q. Are school districts considered "eligible entities"?

A. Yes, school districts are eligible applicants and have been funded in the past for projects that include the consolidation of services such as transportation, distance learning and maintenance, as well as the full reorganization of multiple districts.

Q. Is a community college eligible for funding?

A. No, a community college is not eligible for a Local Government Efficiency grant.