

Regional Economic Development Councils – Round 11 Summary of Programs

Empire State Development (ESD) – ESD Grant Funds

Funding Available: Up to \$150 million

Program Description: Capital grant funding is available for capital-based economic development projects intended to create or retain jobs; prevent, reduce or eliminate unemployment and underemployment; and/or increase business or economic activity in a community or Region. Funding will be allocated to projects, including priority projects identified by the Regional Councils, identified as significant, regionally supported and capable of stimulating economic investment.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible Applicants include but are not limited to:

- For-profit businesses
 - Not-for-profit corporations
 - Business improvement districts
 - Local development corporations
 - Public benefit corporations (including industrial development agencies)
 - Economic development organizations
 - Research and academic institutions
 - Technology parks
 - Municipalities, counties
 - Regional planning councils
 - Tourist attractions
 - Community facilities
 - Incubators
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Empire State Development (ESD) – Strategic Planning and Feasibility Studies

Funding Available: Up to \$2 million

Program Description: ESD's Urban and Community Development Program promotes economic development in the State of New York by encouraging economic and employment opportunities and stimulating development of communities and urban areas. Total program funding of up to \$2 million is available for working capital grants of up to \$100,000 each to support 1) strategic development plans for a city, county, or municipality or a significant part thereof and 2) feasibility studies for site(s) or facility(ies) assessment and planning. Projects should focus on economic development purposes, and preference shall be given to projects located in highly distressed communities.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible Applicants include but are not limited to:

- Cities
 - Counties
 - Municipalities
 - Business Improvement Districts
 - Local Development Corporations
 - Not-for-profit Economic Development Organizations
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Empire State Development (ESD) – Excelsior Jobs Program

Funding Available: Up to \$75 million

Program Description: The Excelsior Jobs Program provides job creation and investment incentives to firms in strategic industries such as software development, scientific research and development, financial services, agriculture, manufacturing, back office, distribution, life sciences, music production and entertainment companies. Firms in these industries that create new jobs or retain existing jobs and make a significant capital investment are eligible to apply. Enhanced tax credits are available for “green projects” in the manufacturing, software development, scientific research and development, and agriculture strategic industries. “Green project” is defined in program regulations. Additionally, effective with the passing of the 2021-2022 budget, an enhanced investment tax credit and childcare services tax credit component were introduced for childcare expenses for projects operating in a qualified strategic industry.

Eligible Types of Applicants: For-profit business entities including corporations, limited liability companies, partnerships, and sole proprietorships.

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Empire State Development (ESD) – Market New York

Funding Available: Up to \$15 million [\$7M tourism marketing funds & \$8M tourism capital funds]

Program Description: Market New York is a grant program established to strengthen tourism and attract visitors to New York State by promoting destinations, attractions and special events. Funding is available for tourism marketing initiatives, capital/construction projects and the recruitment and/or execution of special events, including meetings, conferences, conventions, festivals, agritourism/craft beverage events, athletic competitions and consumer and industry trade shows.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible Applicants include but are not limited to:

- for-profit businesses
- not-for-profit corporations
- tourism promotion agencies
- convention & visitor bureaus
- destination marketing organizations
- tourist attractions / destinations
- business improvement districts
- public benefit corporations (including industrial development agencies)
- local development corporations
- regional planning councils
- economic development organizations
- municipalities, counties
- community facilities

Empire State Development (ESD) – NYS Business Incubators and Hotspots

Funding Available: Up to \$12.5 million

Program Description: The New York State Business Incubator and Innovation Hot Spots Support Program is the process of accelerating the development of entrepreneurial companies through a structured array of business support resources and services targeted to the needs of start-up companies. The business incubator is the entity responsible for organizing and managing these support services.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible Applicants are limited to:

- New York State based Not-for-profit Organization
- Have operated an incubator for 3 or more years
- Have demonstrated link to regional sources of innovation and expertise
- For a Hot Spot Designation, all the above apply and you must be located in one of the following NYS Economic Development Regions; Western New York, Southern Tier, Finger Lakes, Central New York and North Country

Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) – Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds

Funding Available: Up to \$20 million

Program Description: The New York State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a federally funded program administered by New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) that helps counties, cities, towns, and villages with projects that improve communities and benefit residents across New York State. Eligible applicants can apply for grants ranging from \$50,000 (Community Planning) to \$1,750,000 (Joint, Co-funded Water or Sewer). Detail available online, here:

<https://hcr.ny.gov/community-development-block-grant>

Eligible Types of Applicants: The New York CDBG Program provides community and economic development grants to towns, villages, and cities with a population less than 50,000, and counties with an unincorporated population less than 200,000.

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New York State Homes & Community Renewal (HCR) – New York Main Street Program (NYMS)

Funding Available: Up to \$6.2 million

Program Description: NYMS provides resources to invest in projects that provide economic development and housing opportunities in downtown, mixed-use commercial districts. Eligible applicants apply to HCR for matching, reimbursement grants ranging from \$50,000 - \$500,000 to assist downtown property owners with renovation projects or technical assistance projects to support later renovation projects. Details available online, here: <https://hcr.ny.gov/new-york-main-street> .

Eligible Types of Applicants: Units of local government and not-for-profit organizations.

Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) – Environmental Protection Fund (EPF)

Funding Available: Up to \$19.5 million

Program Description: EPF Parks, Preservation and Heritage grant funding is available for the acquisition, planning, development, and improvement of parks, historic properties, and heritage areas located within the physical boundaries of the State of New York. Grants can fund up to 50% of the total eligible project cost; up to 75% if the project is located within a high-poverty area. Grant awards are capped at \$500,000. If the total project cost is greater than \$4,000,000, up to \$750,000 may be requested. To ensure the public benefit from the investment of State funds, properties acquired or developed with grant funds will receive long-term protections, either through parkland alienation law, conservation easements, or public access or preservation covenants recorded against the property deeds.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible Applicants are listed below. Applicants must have an ownership interest in the project.

- Municipalities
- State Agencies
- Public Benefit Corporations
- Public Authorities

Not-for-profit Corporations that have tax-exempt status under the IRS code, are current with pertinent federal and state filings, and are pre-qualified in the Grants Gateway (see <http://www.grantsreform.ny.gov/Grantees>).

Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) – Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Funding Available: Up to \$1.9 million

Program Description: The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) provides funding to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both nonmotorized and motorized recreational trail uses. RTP grants provide Federal funding of up to 80 percent of the total project cost with a minimum 20 percent matching share. The maximum RTP grant award is \$250,000. This is a reimbursement program, meaning that the applicant must finance the project while requesting periodic reimbursements. The RTP funding is authorized in phases by the Federal Highway Administration. Project budgets and schedules must account for phased authorizations to comply with Federal requirements.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible Applicants are listed below.

- Municipalities
 - Not-for-profit Corporations pre-qualified in the [Grants Gateway](#)
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New York Department of State (DOS) – Local Waterfront Revitalization Program

Funding Available: Up to \$27.75 million

Program Description: Matching grants are available on a competitive basis to municipalities to develop and implement Local Waterfront Revitalization Programs (LWRP) and Watershed Management Plans to revitalize communities and waterfronts. The focus of the LWRP is to support community planning efforts to evaluate local resources, develop goals and strategies, and identify ways in which the community can reduce risk to community assets- all to ensure successful and sustainable revitalization.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible applicants are villages, towns, or cities and counties which are located along New York's coasts or inland waterways as designated pursuant to Executive Law, Article 42.

New York Department of (DOS) – Brownfield Opportunity Area Program

Funding Available: Up to \$3.5 million

Program Description: Grants are available on a competitive basis to eligible applicants for up to 90% of the total cost of the following activities:

- Development of a Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) Nomination that identifies strategies for revitalization of an area affected by known or suspected brownfields and that will be submitted to the Secretary of State for designation as a BOA.
- Pre-development activities to advance projects within a State-Designated BOA.
- Phase II Environmental Site Assessments within a State-Designated BOA.

Each application may include a submission for one eligible activity listed above. However, eligible applicants wishing to apply for multiple BOA projects may submit more than one application.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible applicants include:

- Cities, towns and villages
 - Counties
 - Local public authorities
 - Public benefit corporations
 - School districts
 - Special improvement districts
 - Recognized Indian nations or tribes
 - Certain 501(c)3 non-profit organizations
 - New York City Community Boards
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New York Department of State (DOS) – Local Government Efficiency (LGE) Grant Program

Funding Available: Up to \$4 million

Program Description: Provides funding to local governments to incentivize new actions to reduce the cost of operations and service delivery, thereby limiting growth in property taxes. Projects include local government reorganization and modernization efforts, through shared services, consolidations, city or county charter revisions that include functional consolidation, and establishment of regional service delivery mechanisms

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible applicants include counties, cities, towns, villages, special improvement districts, fire districts, public libraries, association libraries, public library systems (if they advance a joint application on behalf of member libraries), water authorities, sewer authorities, regional planning and development boards, school districts, and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

New York Department of State (DOS) – Environmental Protection Fund Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Grant

Funding Available: Up to \$1 million

Agency & Program: Department of State (DOS) Office of Planning, Development & Community Infrastructure – Environmental Protection Fund Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Grant

Funding Available: Up to \$1 million, with a maximum award of \$100,000

Program Description: Financial assistance grants are available on a competitive basis to municipalities to develop or update Comprehensive Plans that incorporate smart growth principles including promoting efficient and sustainable land development and redevelopment patterns that optimize prior infrastructure investments. A Comprehensive Plan should reflect a community goals and aspirations for its own future, and address a wide range of planning issues including, but not limited to, appropriate physical development, economic development, transportation patterns, natural and built resource inventories, and population trends, while setting a course for clean and affordable energy, efficient use of land, protection of agricultural working lands and forests and overall healthy communities.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible applicants are villages, towns and cities; as well as counties, regional planning entities or not-for-profits applying on behalf of a village, town, or city.

NYS Canal Corporation

Funding Available: Up to \$1 Million

Program Description: Up to \$1.0 million in competitive grants available to municipalities, and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations along the New York State Canal System for canal related projects. Funding is for capital projects and 50% match is required

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible municipalities, and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations along the New York State Canal System

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) – Energy Efficiency Programs

Funding Available: Up to \$3 million

Program Description: Two distinct energy programs provide technical and financial assistance to support energy efficiency decisions. The Flexible Technical Assistance Program provides objective and customized engineering analysis to help customers make informed energy decisions. The Commercial New Construction Program provides technical and financial support to evaluate energy efficiency options and to promote the installation of energy-efficient electric equipment in new and substantially renovated commercial buildings.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible Applicants include but are not limited to:

- Commercial Facilities
 - Industrial Facilities
 - Public and Private P-12 schools
 - Not-for-profit Corporations
 - Colleges
 - Universities
 - Healthcare Facilities
 - Agricultural Facilities
 - Municipalities (Local Government)
 - State Agencies & Government
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New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) - Carbon Neutral Economic Development Program

Funding Available: Up to \$15 million

Program Description: The purpose of this program is to support the planning, design and installation of economic development projects to operate at carbon neutral or net zero energy performance. The program is designed to target projects that align with the Region's or the State's Economic Development and Energy Priorities and offers the customer phased incentive payments. The Carbon Neutral Economic Development program is offered as a competitive program for exemplary, highly replicable, and resilient carbon neutral or net zero projects. Carbon Neutral Economic Development program supports projects in two categories for facility-level and community-level carbon neutral or net zero energy performance.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Commercial Facilities (not including multifamily), Food Processing Facilities, Restaurants, Wineries, Breweries, Distilleries, Public and Private K-12 schools, Colleges and Universities, Healthcare Facilities, Agricultural Facilities, Municipalities (Local Government), State Agencies & Other State Government, Not-for-profit Corporations, Private Developers, Mixed Use, Warehouse and Distribution Facilities.

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) – Commercial and Industrial Carbon Challenge

Funding Available: Up to \$15 million

Program Description: The Commercial and Industrial Carbon Challenge program provides grant funding between \$500k and 5 million to fund single projects or project portfolios that reduce carbon emissions for large commercial and industrial customers. Projects can include energy efficiency or process efficiency measures, on-site generation, battery storage, beneficial electrification, carbon capture, or other proven efficiency or renewable energy technologies. Applications will be evaluated in two categories: Category A will focus on beneficial electrification, carbon capture, utilization and storage, process emission reduction, and low-carbon fuel projects and Category B will focus on more traditional measures. Applicants are required to commit to a carbon savings goal and provide detail on projects that can achieve that goal. Applications are primarily evaluated on their overall carbon savings goal and their project plans.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Any commercial or industrial entity that meets the program's size requirements:

- Average monthly peak electric demand of 3 MW or greater. This is calculated by averaging the monthly peak demand over the 12-month period preceding the submission of the application. This demand requirement can be met by a single applicant site or by aggregating the demand of multiple applicant sites across New York State.
 - Average monthly peak electric demand of 1.5 MW or greater that is serviced by market power providers to whom the Applicant pays the System Benefits Charge (SBC).
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New York Power Authority (NYPA) – ReCharge New York Power Program

Funding Available: Up to 22 Megawatts

Program Description: ReCharge New York (RNY) is a statewide economic development power program designed to retain or create jobs through allocations of lower cost electricity to businesses and Not-for-Profit Corporations. There is also power available to be allocated to businesses that plan to expand operations in the state or are looking to relocate to New York State.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Businesses and Not-for-Profit Corporations are eligible to apply. The program is not available to sports venues, retail businesses, gaming or entertainment related establishments, and places of overnight accommodations.

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation – Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Grants

Funding Available: Up to \$ 11 million

Program Description: The CSC grant program provides funding for municipalities to perform inventories, assessments, and planning projects that advance their ability to address climate change at the local level and become certified Climate Smart Communities. The program also supports municipal mitigation implementation projects that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the non-power sector (transportation, refrigerants, food waste, etc.) and adaptation implementation projects (cooling centers, flood plain restoration, emergency preparedness, etc.) that directly address climate change threats or alleviate hazards in the community exacerbated by climate changes.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible Applicants are: County; City; Town; Village; Borough of New York City

Political subdivisions such as municipal corporations, school districts, district corporations, boards of cooperative educational services, fire districts, public benefit corporations, industrial development authorities, and similar organizations are not eligible to apply to the CSC grant program. However, these political subdivisions may partner with a municipality to complete a CSC project. In this case, the municipality must act as the lead applicant and submit the application, enter into contract with the state, own all infrastructure or project components funded by the CSC program, receive reimbursement of grant funds, submit all deliverables, and complete all reporting requirements. Formal, fully executed partnership agreements between all parties is required as part of the grant contract.

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation – Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program

Funding Available: Up to \$65 million

Program Description: WQIP is a competitive, statewide reimbursement grant program to implement projects that directly address documented water quality impairments, improve aquatic habitat, or protect a drinking water source. Project types include: Wastewater Treatment Improvement, Non-agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control, Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection, Salt Storage, Aquatic Connectivity Restoration, and Marine District Habitat Restoration.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Municipalities and Soil and Water Conservation Districts are eligible for all project types unless otherwise noted. Not-for-Profits are eligible for Aquatic Connectivity Restoration, Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection, and Marine District Habitat Restoration only.

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation – Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Planning and MS4 Mapping Grant

Funding Available: Up to \$3 million

Program Description: Grants of up to \$30,000 are available to produce planning reports for non-agricultural nonpoint source water quality improvement projects. Grants of up to \$75,000 are available for comprehensive stream corridor studies. Grants up to \$400,000 are available for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) mapping. The program aims to get nonpoint source projects ready for construction and to apply for implementation funding; and encourages and supports cooperation among regulated MS4s to complete mapping of their stormwater system.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Municipalities, Soil and Water Conservation Districts are eligible for all project types unless otherwise noted. Regulated traditional MS4s are eligible for MS4 System Mapping.

New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) – Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP)

Funding Available: Up to \$15 million

Program Description: GIGP provides grants on a competitive basis to projects that improve water quality through the implementation of green infrastructure, energy efficiency and/or water efficiency practices in New York State. Grants will be available to cover a minimum of 50% up to a maximum of 90% of the total eligible project costs for planning, design, and construction based on Median Household Income (MHI). The maximum grant amount for an individual GIGP award is \$3 million. GIGP projects selected for funding go beyond offering a greener solution. They maximize opportunities to; leverage the multiple benefits of green infrastructure, energy efficiency, and water efficiency, build capacity in these environmentally innovative fields, and/or facilitate the transfer of new technologies and practices to other areas of the State.

GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Eligible Types of Applicants include: Municipalities, Private Entities, State Agencies, and Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Regional Green Infrastructure: Up to a maximum 75% or 90% of total eligible project costs based on municipality's MHI

Regional Green Infrastructure projects utilize green infrastructure to restore natural landscape features, such as flood plains, riparian buffers, streams, and wetlands. These natural features provide water quality benefits and enhance watersheds, while preserving wildlife and their habitat.

Local Green Infrastructure: Up to a maximum 75% or 90% of total eligible project costs based on municipality's MHI

Local Green Infrastructure projects are typically located in an urban environment and provide water quality, environmental justice, and/or climate mitigating benefits. These projects consist of site and neighborhood specific green infrastructure practices, such as bioretention, cisterns, downspout disconnections, green roofs, green walls, permeable pavements, stormwater street trees, and Urban Forestry Programs.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Eligible Types of Applicants include: Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)

Renewable Energy: Up to a maximum 50% or 75% of total eligible project costs based on municipality's MHI

Renewable Energy projects such as wind, solar, micro-hydroelectric, and biogas combined heat and power systems (CHP) that provide power to a POTW. POTW renewable energy projects can be located onsite or offsite. These projects include the portion of a publicly owned renewable energy project that serves the POTW's energy needs.

Energy Efficient Replacements: Up to a maximum 50% or 75% of total eligible project costs based on municipality's MHI

Energy Efficient Replacement projects achieve at least a 40% reduction in energy consumption through the replacement of equipment with energy efficient equipment. These projects must compare the energy used by the existing system or unit process to the proposed project.

WATER EFFICIENCY

Eligible Types of Applicants include: Municipalities

Water Meter Installation: Up to a maximum 50% or 75% of total eligible project costs based on municipality's MHI

Water Meter Installation projects provide for the purchase and installation of water meters in previously unmetered areas. These projects can include backflow prevention devices if installed in conjunction with water meters.

Water Meter Replacement: Up to a maximum 50% or 75% of total eligible project costs based on municipality's MHI

Water Meter Replacement projects include the replacement of existing broken/malfunctioning water meters or upgrading existing meters with automatic meter reading systems (AMR), smart meters, meters with built in leak detection, or backflow prevention devices if installed in conjunction with water meter replacement.

Water Meter Retrofit: Up to a maximum 50% or 75% of total eligible project costs based on municipality's MHI

Water Meter Retrofit projects add AMR capabilities or leak detection equipment to existing meters (not replacing the meter itself).

New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) – Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant Program

Funding Available: Up to \$2.5 million

Program Description: Grants are offered to municipalities to help pay for the initial planning of wastewater infrastructure projects. The goal is to advance these water quality improvement projects to construction, so successful applicants can use the engineering report funded by the grant to seek financing through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, Water Quality Improvement Project program, or other funding entities to pursue the identified solution.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Municipalities that meet median household income thresholds as defined in the Program Overview.

Federal Industrial Development Bond Cap – Industrial Development Bond Cap Program

Funding Available: Up to \$300 million

Program Description: Up to \$300 million of the 2021 statewide private activity bond allocation (“volume cap”) authority under Federal guidelines will be dedicated to facilitate lower cost tax-exempt bond financing for qualified projects by authorized State and/or local government issuers.

Eligible Types of Applicants: In order to receive the benefits of a tax-exempt interest rate, private borrowers and their projects must be eligible under one of the federally-recognized private activity bond categories described in the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) sections 142-144, and 1394.
