



# Technical Assistance and Funding Resources Guide

A Monthly Update from U.S. EPA, Region 2

July 2023

This guide is designed to assist community organizations, local governments, universities, and other partners in navigating technical assistance and funding opportunities across Region 2. This guide includes opportunities from a diversity of sources. Mentions of an opportunity or links to non-EPA sites do not imply official EPA endorsement.

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# Environmental Justice

Learn about the EPA's [Office of Environmental Justice](#) and read the [Annual Environmental Justice Reports](#) to learn how the Agency's programs and resources serve vulnerable communities across the country. For up-to-date information about Environmental Justice funding opportunities, events, and webinars, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: [join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov](mailto:join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov). Follow us on Twitter: [@EPAEnvJustice](#)

Para recibir información actualizada sobre oportunidades de financiamiento de Justicia Ambiental, eventos y seminarios web, suscríbese al listserve de Justicia Ambiental de la EPA enviando un mensaje en blanco de correo electrónico a: [join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov](mailto:join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov). Síguenos en Twitter: [@EPAEnvJustice](#).

## Opportunities

<b>NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC)</b>	NYS DEC's Office of Environmental Justice is currently offering two competitive grants to support and empower communities as they develop and implement solutions that significantly address environmental issues, harms, and health hazards, build community consensus, set priorities, and improve public outreach and education.	Application deadline <b>July 26</b>	<a href="#">More information here</a>	
<b>EJ Grant Programs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Community Impact Grants</a>: must address a community's exposure to multiple environmental harms and risks and include a new research component that will be used to expand the knowledge of the affected community. Examples include research, environmental monitoring, community gardens, tree plantings, habitat restoration, and environmental education.</li></ul> <p><a href="#">Air Quality Monitoring</a>: supports community-based organizations developing new or strengthening existing air monitoring programs focused on reducing exposure to harmful emissions in disadvantaged communities.</p>			
<b>EPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for Environmental Justice Grant Programs</b>	EPA's Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO) is helping fulfill EPA's commitment to Environmental Justice (EJ) by establishing Great Lakes Community Environmental Justice Grant Programs to be used for issuing and overseeing subawards for environmental restoration projects in historically underserved Great Lakes communities.	Application deadline <b>August 11</b>	<a href="#">More information here</a>	
<b>EPA National Environmental Youth Advisory Council</b>	This opportunity is targeted at a pass-through entity or entities ("principle recipients") with established relationships with underserved communities or with the ability to quickly build and sustain such relationships with those communities in order to develop and implement a subaward funding program to fund projects in those communities pursuant to the <a href="#">Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan III</a> .	EPA announced the formal establishment of the agency's <b>first-ever</b> National Environmental Youth Advisory Council (NEYAC). The NEYAC will provide independent advice and recommendations to Administrator Michael S. Regan on how to increase EPA's efforts to address a range of environmental issues as they relate to youth communities. The NEYAC will provide a	Application deadline <b>August 22</b>	<a href="#">More information here</a>

critical perspective on how the impacts of climate change and other environmental harms affect youth communities.

EPA is soliciting applications for youth to fill 16 vacancies on the NEYAC. Selected applicants will contribute to a balance of perspectives, backgrounds, and experience of the council and will be appointed by the Administrator. As a first-of-its-kind committee, all members of NEYAC will be between the ages of 16 and 29.

EPA will be hosting virtual application webinars where the public can ask EPA staff questions live. The next webinar will be:  
**Monday, August 7, 2023** (12:00-1:00pm) // [Register here](#)

## Tools & Resources

### EJScreen 2.2

### The Community Environmental Justice Mapping Tool

In June 2023, EPA again updated [EJScreen](#), the Agency's publicly available environmental justice (EJ) screening and mapping tool. EJScreen 2.2 makes important improvements to better meet the needs of users, including a redesigned and enhanced report, a new environmental indicator with corresponding indexes, and refreshed demographic and environmental data.

EJScreen 2.2 provides updated reports which compile various datasets into one document to help users better understand the multiple factors that impact their community. It also includes a new environmental indicator on Toxic Releases to Air, as well as associated EJ and supplemental indexes. This new indicator quantifies the relative potential human health impacts from exposure to [Toxics Release Inventory \(TRI\)](#) chemicals into the air. More information on the new indicator can be found on [the EPA's EJScreen webpage](#).

[More information here](#)

### Trainings:

EPA is holding [multiple trainings and office hours](#) for users on EJScreen 2.2.

### Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities Program

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Brownfields Amendments authorize EPA to provide funding to organizations to conduct research and to provide training and technical assistance to communities to help address their brownfields challenges. Information presented [on this site](#) lists past and current technical assistance and research projects EPA funds and resources that are available to all communities. Please review the [Technical Assistance, Training, and Research Application Resources](#) for information on open solicitations.

[More information here](#)

[Información en español](#)

# Rural Communities

## Opportunities

<p><b>USDA</b></p> <p><b>Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Grants</b></p>	<p>USDA’s FY23-24 Rural Energy for America Program (REAP): Renewable Energy Systems &amp; Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans and Grants (RES/EEI) are now available. Grant funding is awarded to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to install renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements.</p>	<p>Application windows are open through</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
	<p>REAP Technical Assistant Grants (TAG) provide technical assistance to agricultural producers and rural small businesses applying to REAP.</p>	<p>Application Deadline</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Rural, Small, and Tribal Technical Assistance (RST TA)</b></p>	<p>EPA’s providers deliver targeted technical assistance and training to rural, small, and tribal municipalities and wastewater treatment systems to protect public health and safeguard the environment. The RST TA providers serve an important role in helping to 1) ensure that rural, small, and tribal communities that have difficulty in securing public funding receive the help they need to access resources to support infrastructure improvements and 2) support rural, small, and tribal wastewater treatment systems – centralized and decentralized – build their technical, managerial, and financial capacity to operate their systems well and maintain compliance.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>USDA</b></p> <p><b>ReConnect Loan and Grant Program</b></p>	<p>The ReConnect Loan and Grant Program furnishes loans and grants to provide funds for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service in eligible rural areas. The application window is now OPEN.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>

## Tools & Resources

<p><b>USDA</b></p> <p><b>Guide to Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Funding for Rural Development</b></p>	<p>The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) passed in August 2022 represents the largest single investment in rural electrification since the passage of the Rural Electrification Act in 1936.</p> <p>Sections 22001 through 22005 of IRA provide new loan and grant products and unprecedented incentives to expand clean energy, transform rural power production, create jobs, and spur economic growth.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>HUD</b></p> <p><b>Rural Gateway</b></p>	<p>The <a href="#">Rural Gateway</a> provides technical assistance, training, peer learning, and resource sharing to support rural housing and economic development.</p> <p>For more information, contact HUD’s Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development at 1-877-787-2526 or <a href="mailto:rhed@hud.gov">rhed@hud.gov</a>.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>

<b>EPA's Environmental Finance Center Network</b>	EPA's Environmental Finance Center Network offers free help on training and technical assistance to small wastewater and decentralized wastewater treatment works serving approximately 10,000 or fewer people.	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>Small Wastewater Treatment Assistance</b>		
<b>USDA Rural Development</b>	USDA's Forest Service (FS), Rural Development (RD), and the National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) have developed <a href="#">this resource guide for rural communities</a> to identify resources that develop the recreation economy.	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>Recreation Economy Resource Guide</b>		

## Food and Agriculture

### Opportunities

<b>NY State Department of Agriculture and Markets</b>	<b>Climate Resilient Farming Program:</b> Funds are also available for projects that mitigate the impact of agriculture on climate change under the climate resilient farming program to enhance the on-farm adaptation and resilience to projected climate conditions.	Application deadline <b>August 7</b>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>Grants for Climate Resilient Farming</b>			
<b>EPA Seeking Nomination for Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee</b>	EPA is accepting nominations for membership on the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC). Established in 1995, the PPDC is a diverse group of stakeholders who provide feedback to EPA on various regulatory, policy, and program implementation initiatives related to pesticides.	Nomination deadline <b>August 10</b>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>USDA</b>	Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) is a competitive program that supports the development of new tools, approaches, practices, and technologies to further natural resource conservation on private lands.	Ongoing	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>New Jersey Conservation Innovation Grants</b>	New Jersey announces funding opportunities for the state component of CIG on <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> every other year. The CIG State Component offers eligible entities the opportunity to apply for grants for eligible projects within the state. Interested applicants may <a href="#">review projects funded in prior years to see what has been successful in the past</a> .		
<b>Rochester Institute of Technology</b>	The Food Waste Reduction and Diversion Reimbursement Program is an innovative partnership between New York State and Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) focused on incentivizing the reduction of food waste in the state. The program provides reimbursement to New York State businesses or not-for-profits that generate, haul or recycle large amounts of food waste to offset the cost of select technologies and equipment that promise to reduce or divert that food waste from landfill or incineration.	Ongoing	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>Food Waste Reduction and Diversion Reimbursement Program</b>			

<b>NY State Department of Environmental Conservation</b>	<p>The goal of this funding program is to assist municipalities in starting or expanding municipal food scraps recycling programs. Approximately \$2 million is available. To ensure equitable access and development of food scraps recycling opportunities for all New Yorkers, this year's opportunity will prioritize the first half of available funds for eligible projects serving Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>The following types of projects are included in this opportunity: Creating or expanding programs to increase residential food scraps recycling AND creating or expanding food scraps recycling programs and facilities.</p>	Ongoing	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>Municipal Funding for Food Scraps Recycling Initiatives</b>			

## Tools & Resources

<b>EPA</b>  <b>Food Waste Research</b>	<p>This new web page offers EPA research on food waste prevention and reduction, with a focus on processing and management.</p>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
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## Air & Water

### Opportunities

<b>NY State Department of Environmental Conservation</b>	<p>This funding Supports Updating Water Infrastructure, Combating Harmful Algal Blooms, Protecting Drinking Water, Increasing Flood Resilience, and Preventing Potential Contamination. The funding is part of the millions of dollars now available through the Consolidated Funding Application <b>recently announced by Governor Kathy Hochul</b> for a wide range of programs.</p>	Application deadline <i>extended to</i>  <b>August 11</b>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>Water Quality Protection Project Grants</b>			
<b>EPA</b>  <b>Climate Change Risk Assessment Technical Assistance</b>	<p>Free Climate Change Risk Assessment Technical Assistance from EPA's <b>Creating Resilient Water Utilities Initiative</b>. Climate change poses significant challenges to drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater (water sector) utilities in fulfilling their public and environmental health missions. This initiative provides the water sector and its stakeholders with practical tools, training, and technical assistance needed to increase their resilience to climate change. If you are a water utility, you can reach out to Aliza Furneaux (<a href="mailto:Furneaux.aliza@epa.gov">Furneaux.aliza@epa.gov</a>) to request technical assistance for your system.</p>	Application deadline  <b>August 15</b>	<a href="#">More information here</a>

<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Clean School Bus Grant Program</b></p>	<p>EPA is awarding approximately \$400 million in competitive grant funding to eligible applicants for the purchase of zero-emission (ZE) school buses, clean school buses, and ZE charging infrastructure. EPA is prioritizing applications that will replace buses serving high-need local education agencies, rural areas, Tribal school districts funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and public school districts receiving basic support payments for students living on Tribal land, and rural areas.</p> <p>To assist potential applicants, EPA will host a series of public webinars May through August to provide potential applicants with an overview of the program and how to apply.</p> <p>Please Note: Potential applicants without a <b>Federal Grants</b> account are encouraged to initiate the Federal Grants registration process well ahead of the deadline for funding as the registration process can take over a month.</p>	<p>Application deadline</p> <p><b>August 22</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Clean Water Act Technical Assistance for Municipalities</b></p>	<p>EPA has released the Clean Water Act <b>Integrated Planning Toolkit for Permitting Authorities</b>. Interested in Technical Assistance for municipalities or permitting authorities? <a href="#">Learn more here and request technical assistance</a>.</p>	<p>Application deadline</p> <p><b>August 31</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>NJ Department of Environmental Protection</b></p> <p><b>Stormwater Assistance Grants for Municipalities</b></p>	<p>\$19 million in grants are available to help municipalities with the transition to new municipal stormwater permitting system requirements designed to better protect NJ's waterways from pollutants in stormwater. These permitting changes will also help mitigate localized flooding that is increasing due to climate change.</p>	<p>Application deadline</p> <p><b>December 31, 2023</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program</b></p>	<p>EPA <b>Announced \$6.5 Billion in New Funding Available for Water Infrastructure Projects</b> and released notices of funding availability for the agency's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program and the State Infrastructure Financing Authority WIFIA (SWIFIA) program. Letters of interest will be accepted on a rolling basis until all funds are expended.</p> <p>If you're interested in scheduling a one-on-one meeting with the WIFIA program to explore this funding opportunity, please reach out to <a href="mailto:wifia@epa.gov">wifia@epa.gov</a>. Visit the <a href="#">WIFIA website</a> to learn more about the WIFIA program's <a href="#">eligibility requirements, and benefits, application process</a>, and <a href="#">portfolio</a>. Also, check out the <a href="#">WIFIA Fund Facts Dashboard</a>.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>

## Tools & Resources

<p>EPA</p> <p><b>Watershed Academy - National Nonpoint Pollution Control Program Learning Module</b></p>	<p>EPA's <a href="#">Watershed Academy</a> is providing a training module designed to provide a high-level overview of the Clean Water Act Section (CWA) 319 Nonpoint Source (NPS) program for State and Territory NPS Programs.</p> <p>The Section 319 program is an essential source of support for state, territorial and tribal efforts to control NPS pollution, the prevailing cause of the nation's water quality problems. The course contains four sections and will take about two hours to complete. This module is recommended for the Watershed Academy <a href="#">Certificate Program</a>.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p>EPA</p> <p><b>Water Technical Assistance Page</b></p>	<p>EPA's <a href="#">Water Technical Assistance Page</a> now includes a one-stop-shop <a href="#">EPA water technical assistance request form</a> where communities can request no-cost direct water technical assistance to evaluate their drinking water, wastewater, stormwater infrastructure, and water quality improvement needs. The page also now includes specific examples of what types of assistance are available and who is eligible.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p>EPA</p> <p><b>PFAS Analytic Tools</b></p>	<p>EPA has released a new interactive webpage, called the "<a href="#">PFAS Analytic Tools</a>," which provides information about per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) across the country. This information will help the public, researchers, and other stakeholders better understand potential PFAS sources in their communities. The PFAS Analytic Tools bring together multiple sources of information in one spot with mapping, charting, and filtering functions, allowing the public to see where testing has been done and what level of detections were measured.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p>EPA</p> <p><b>Advance Program</b></p>	<p>The <a href="#">U.S. EPA's Advance Program</a> supports states, tribes and local governments that want to take proactive steps to keep their air clean by promoting local actions to reduce ozone and/or fine particle pollution. The program offers expertise and technical assistance in air quality, mobile sources, heat island and green infrastructure, woodsmoke and cost-effective energy efficiency, renewable energy, and climate policies and programs to interested state, local, and tribal governments. The Advance program integrates our work with climate planning, air toxics, multi-pollutant planning and environmental justice. To subscribe to the Advance monthly newsletter, email <a href="mailto:advance@epa.gov">advance@epa.gov</a>.</p> <p>Please contact the EPA Region 2 contact, <a href="mailto:manj.muhammad-bilal@epa.gov">manj.muhammad-bilal@epa.gov</a>, or the EPA Headquarters Advance Program team (Rich Damberg, <a href="mailto:damberg.rich@epa.gov">damberg.rich@epa.gov</a>; Mia South, <a href="mailto:south.mia@epa.gov">south.mia@epa.gov</a>; or <a href="mailto:ADVANCE@epa.gov">ADVANCE@epa.gov</a>) if you have questions about becoming an Advance program partner.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
<p><b>Assistance from EPA's Municipal Ombudsman</b></p>	<p>The <a href="#">Office of the Municipal Ombudsman</a> provides a unique service specifically for utilities/municipalities in identifying technical assistance opportunities, brainstorming federal funding options (BIL and more!), clean water act flexibilities, integrated planning assistance, and more. Please reach out to <a href="mailto:municipalombudsman@epa.gov">municipalombudsman@epa.gov</a> or 202-564-1709 to discuss your projects, permits, or other clean water concerns today.</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>



EPA

**Climate Change and Human Health**

EPA's [Climate Change and Human Health](#) Web content is now live. This content reflects a broader effort to expand EPA's [Climate Change](#) website to include dimensions of social vulnerability. It explains that everyone faces possible health impacts from climate change, and that certain groups are at more risk than others due to both climate and non-climate factors. The pages highlight life stages and populations, and actions people can take to reduce climate-related health effects.

[More information here](#)

Check out EPA's [Indoor Air Quality and Climate Change webpage](#) to see how climate change may impact the indoor environment and human health and gain access to IAQ and climate related resources.

## Community and Economic Development

### Opportunities

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**Climate Resilience Regional Challenge**

This competitive grant program can help coastal and Great Lakes communities become more resilient to future impacts of climate change. There are two separate parallel tracks under this grant:

- **Regional Collaborative Building and Strategy Development** will support building/expanding regional partnerships and engaging with tribes and underrepresented communities to assess the risk to climate change. This includes incorporating adaptation actions and building community capacity for climate adaptation efforts.
- **Implementation of Resilience and Adaptation Actions** will support projects such as acquiring vulnerable land, building natural infrastructure, improving existing public infrastructure resilience, or strengthening public access to coastal natural resources. This track also includes updating state and local policies and planning community-led relocation to increase resilience.

NOAA technical assistance is available for organizations applying for and receiving a grant. Many technical assistance options are available, including data, tools, training, and access to NOAA expertise. Visit the [technical assistance page](#) to learn more.

Letters of intent are due by **August 21, 2023**, and grant applications are due **February 13, 2024**.

[More information here](#)

**Department of Interior  
Puerto Rico Inflation Reduction Act Funding**

The funding is available to the **Puerto Rican** government and educational institutions for technical assistance for climate change planning, mitigation, adaptation, and resilience.

Application deadline  
**September 30**

[More information here](#)

<p><b>NY State Department of Conservation</b></p> <p><b>Climate Smart Communities Grant Program</b></p>	<p>Grant Funds Help Municipalities Adopt Green Infrastructure, Greenhouse Gas Reduction, and Storm Resiliency Initiatives. The <a href="#">Climate Smart Communities Grant Program</a> provides competitive, 50/50 matching grants to municipalities to conduct climate change mitigation and adaptation projects, including actions that are part of a strategy to achieve <a href="#">Climate Smart Communities certification</a>.</p>	<p>Application deadline</p> <p><b>July 28</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<p><b>NY State Homes and Community Renewal</b></p> <p><b>New York Main Street Program</b></p>	<p>New York Main Street provides financial resources and technical assistance to communities to strengthen the economic vitality of the State's traditional Main Streets and neighborhoods. The New York Main Street grant program provides funds to units of local government, and not-for-profit organizations that are committed to revitalizing historic downtowns, mixed-use neighborhood commercial districts, and village centers.</p>	<p>Application deadline</p> <p><b>July 28</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Solar for All Grants</b></p>	<p>EPA is seeking applications through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to bring solar to millions of homes in low-income and disadvantaged communities. Tools and resources for prospective grantees, including webinar links and helpful templates, can be found on <a href="#">EPA's GGRF webpage</a>. To compete in this competition, all applicants are required to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to apply to this competition. The deadline for the NOI differs by applicant type and are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>July 31, 2023</b> for states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico;</li> <li>• <b>August 14, 2023</b> for territories (specifically, The Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), municipalities, and eligible nonprofit recipients; or             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>August 28, 2023</b> for Tribal governments and Intertribal Consortia.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Please direct questions to <a href="mailto:ggrf@epa.gov">ggrf@epa.gov</a>.</p>	<p>Application packages must be submitted by</p> <p><b>September 26th, 2023</b></p> <p>(but you must have first submitted your NOI by the NOI deadline)</p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<p><b>EPA</b></p> <p><b>Brownfields Job Training Grants</b></p>	<p>\$12 million is now available for environmental job training grants under the FY24 Brownfields Job Training Program. EPA is seeking applications for the program and anticipates awarding approximately 24 grants nationwide at amounts up to \$500,000 per award. The grants allow nonprofit and other eligible organizations to recruit, train, and retain a local, skilled workforce by prioritizing unemployed and under-employed, including low-income individuals living in areas impacted by solid and hazardous waste in environmental jobs.</p>	<p>Application deadline</p> <p><b>August 2</b></p>	<p><a href="#">More information here</a></p>
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<b>National Endowment for the Arts</b>	Our Town is the NEA’s creative placemaking grants program. Through project-based funding, the program supports activities that integrate arts, culture, and design into local efforts that strengthen communities over the long term. Our Town projects engage a wide range of local stakeholders in efforts to advance local economic, physical, and/or social outcomes in communities. These projects have a required partnership component. Grants range from \$25,000 to \$150,000, with a minimum nonfederal cost share/match equal to the grant amount.	Application deadline	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>Our Town</b>		<b>August 3</b>	

<b>NOAA</b> <b>Funding for Virtual Research Centers Addressing Climate and Extreme Heat</b>	Extreme heat disproportionately affects our nation’s underserved communities and is one of the deadliest extreme weather events in the U.S. This competitively awarded funding will support two new virtual research centers that will provide actionable, place-based information that communities and individuals can use as climate change makes heat waves more frequent and intense.	Letters of Intent are due	<a href="#">More information here</a>
		<b>August 14</b>	
		Full applications are due	
		<b>October 16</b>	

<b>USDA/USFS</b> <b>Annual Urban &amp; Community Forestry National Challenge Cost Share Grant</b>	These grants provide up to \$500,000 for Urban and Community Forestry investments that address the <a href="#">National Ten Year Urban and Community Forestry Action Plan (2016-2026)</a> , (Action Plan): <b>Goal 5 Improve Urban and Community Forest Management, Maintenance and Stewardship</b> . The Action Plan’s <a href="#">National Action Plan’s Five-Year Benchmark Accomplishment Report</a> also recommends expanding, refining, and customizing technology tools for different regions and to prioritize technology that provides accessible data for a range of foresters, decision-makers, and community members. This includes identifying best management practices, training, and technology suitable for the size and capacity that a community can utilize.	Application deadline	<a href="#">More information here</a>
		<b>August 15</b>	

<b>HUD</b> <b>Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRP)</b>	New funding from IRA and \$4 billion in loan commitment authority will make HUD-assisted multifamily housing more energy efficient, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and improve climate resiliency. Read the press release for this announcement <a href="#">here</a> .	Application deadlines	
	<b>Elements:</b> Provides modest awards designed to add proven and highly impactful climate resilience and carbon reduction measures to the construction scopes of in-progress recapitalization transactions.	<b>March 28, 2024</b>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
	<b>Leading Edge:</b> Provides funding to owners aiming to quickly meet ambitious carbon reduction, renewable energy generation, use of building materials with lower	<b>April 30, 2024</b>	<a href="#">More information here</a>

embodied carbon, and resilience goals without requiring extensive technical assistance from HUD.

**Comprehensive:** Amplifies recent technological advancements in utility efficiency, carbon reduction strategies, and energy generation; and brings a new focus on preparing for climate hazards by reducing residents' and properties' exposure to hazards.

May 30,  
2024

[More information here](#)

**Economic Development Administration (EDA)**

**Local Technical Assistance Program**

This program helps fill the knowledge and information gaps that may prevent leaders in the public and nonprofit sectors in distressed areas from making optimal decisions on local economic development issues.

Ongoing

[More information here](#)

## Tools & Resources

**Department of Transportation (DOT)**

**Discretionary Grants Dashboard**

The **Dashboard** provides communities with an overview of discretionary grant opportunities that can help meet their transportation infrastructure needs. Designed with all communities in mind, the Dashboard identifies grant programs with rural and Tribal set-asides or match waivers available. The Dashboard is updated weekly.

**The DOT Navigator** is a resource to help communities understand the best ways to apply for grants, and to plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services.

[More information here](#)

**EPA**

**Disaster Resilient Design Concepts**

The designs showcased can help communities reduce the impact of disasters, recover more quickly, strengthen local economies, and create safer, more equitable places to live by reducing hazards especially for those most vulnerable. The document is organized by hazard type: wildfire, hurricanes and coastal flooding, inland and riverine flooding, extreme heat, drought, landslide and mudslide, and tornado and earthquake.

[More information here](#)

**HUD**

**Community Project Funding (CPF) Page**

Economic Development Initiative (EDI) CPF grants provide investment in a wide variety of projects such as housing, homelessness prevention, workforce training, public facilities, parks, resilience planning, and other critical infrastructure and services. The CPF page will be your one-stop shop for key information, resources, and training related to CPF grant implementation.

[More information here](#)

**American Planning Association**

**Equity in Zoning Policy Guide**

The **Equity in Zoning Policy Guide** by the American Planning Association (APA) provides a framework for assessing and improving equity in housing policy.

[More information here](#)

**Environmental Protection Network**

**Pro Bono Technical Assistance Program**

The Environmental Protection Network (EPN) has more than 550 EPA alumni across the country volunteering their time to protect the integrity of EPA, human health, and the environment. EPN harnesses the expertise of former EPA staff to provide the unique perspective of former regulators with decades of historical knowledge and subject matter expertise on issues including air and water pollution, toxic substances, hazardous waste, and more.

[More information here](#)

<b>Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Economic Development Profiles Tool</b>	<p>The Economic Development Cluster of the Federal Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Interagency Working Group launched this tool to provide insight into how universities and colleges can work with regional economic development ecosystems to successfully serve as a means to engage community leaders, leverage the involvement of the private sector, and establish a strategic blueprint for regional collaboration.</p>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>FEMA Resource Roadmap</b>	<p>For your awareness and visibility, FEMA updated a <a href="#">Resource Roadmap</a> to help identify potential sources of funding and other resources to help them with COVID-19 pandemic recovery. The five Roadmaps: food and nutrition, housing, healthcare, education, and economic recovery.</p>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>EPA and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)</b>	<p>With unprecedented funding to support our national infrastructure, EPA will improve people's health and safety, create good-paying jobs, and increase climate resilience throughout the country. Visit <a href="#">EPA's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law</a> page to learn more.</p>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>HUD Resources for Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA) and Smaller Distressed Cities</b>	<p>This <a href="#">library of resources</a>, relevant to Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA) recipients and smaller distressed communities, features a wide range of resources, reports, webinars and funding opportunities that might be of interest to small governments, tribal organizations and non-profits, including COVID-19 recovery information. Check back regularly for new resources and information!</p>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>New Jersey Institute of Technology Technical Assistance to Brownfields</b>	<p>The New Jersey Institute of Technology is U.S. EPA Region 2's Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities (TAB) provider. The TAB program is intended to serve as an independent resource to communities and nonprofits attempting to cleanup and reclaim brownfields. Free NJIT TAB services are provided to state, regional, county, tribal and local government entities, and nonprofits in EPA Region 2 who are interested in learning about, identifying, assessing, cleaning up and/or redeveloping brownfields.</p>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>EPA Tools and Partnerships for Community Revitalization</b>	<p>EPA's Office of Research and Development has launched a project advancing community revitalization. The program is centered on a suite of science-based tools that EPA has developed that integrate information and data important to community revitalization in ways that facilitate decision-making and strategic planning to advance public health and sustainability.</p> <p>Follow the link to view the selection of <a href="#">Tools and Partnerships for Community Revitalization</a> and website links featuring case studies, videos, and training webinars. The tools highlighted were selected through a collaborative effort among 60 specialists participating in the partnership.</p>	<a href="#">More information here</a>
<b>EPA Smart Growth Technical Assistance Opportunities</b>	<p>EPA's focus on Smart Growth covers a range of development and conservation strategies that help protect our health and natural environment and make our communities more attractive, economically stronger, and more socially diverse.</p> <p>EPA offers several technical assistance opportunities to help communities learn about and implement smart growth approaches.</p>	<a href="#">More information here</a>

## Webinars & Virtual Events

All times in EST

<b>EPA Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series</b>	This month's topic is: Wildfire Impacts on Drinking Water.	<b>July 25</b> (2:00-3:30pm)	<a href="#">Register here</a>
<b>Northeast Regional Climate Center Webinar Series</b>	The Northeast Regional Climate Center (NRCC) hosts a monthly webinar with NOAA affiliates to address timely weather and climate concerns. Recorded versions are available after the live webinar.	<b>July 27</b> (9:30-10:30am): Drought.gov Update  <b>August 31</b> (9:30-10:30am): Hurricane Outlook and Season-to-Date Update	<a href="#">Register here</a>
<b>EPA Helping Communities Solve Water Challenges</b>	Every community deserves access to clean, safe and reliable drinking water and wastewater services. Yet too many communities across America – in rural, tribal, suburban, and urban areas – struggle to address water infrastructure needs and obtain funding.  EPA's Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) efforts provide free hands-on support for communities to assess their water needs, identify potential solutions, and apply for federal funding to address their water challenges.	<b>July 31</b> (1:00-2:00pm)	<a href="#">Register here</a>
<b>EPA Tools and Resources Webinar Series</b>	EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) hosts a monthly public webinar series to share EPA resources and information that are useful, practical/applied and available to meet <a href="#">state research needs</a> . View all available recordings of previous webinars <a href="#">here</a> .	<b>August 16</b> (3:00-4:00pm): Environmental Quality Index (Cumulative Impacts)  <b>September 20</b> (3:00-4:00pm): Renewable Waste Management: Solar Panel Recycling	<a href="#">Register here</a>

# Grant Resources

## Resources for Finding Funding Opportunities

<b>EPA General</b>	General information about EPA's grants can be found <a href="#">here</a> . Subscribe to the <a href="#">EPA Grants Update Listserv</a> .  Search EPA's <a href="#">Clearinghouse for Environmental Finance</a> .
<b>Grants.gov</b>	This is a single access point for over 900 grant programs offered by the 26 Federal grant-making agencies. The <a href="#">search for grant opportunities</a> feature, located at <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> , allows you to electronically find and apply for these competitive grant opportunities. EPA posts synopses of competitive grant opportunities on <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> .
<b>Assistance Listings (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance)</b>	<a href="#">Assistance Listings</a> on <a href="#">beta.SAM.gov</a> (formerly CFDA.gov) provides access to a database of all federal programs available to state and local governments; federally recognized Indian tribal governments; U.S. territories; domestic public, quasi-public, and private profit and nonprofit organizations and institutions; specialized groups; and individuals. After you <a href="#">find the program you want</a> , contact the office that administers the program and find out how to apply.
<b>Resources for Small Businesses</b>	EPA's gateway to environmental information and contacts for small businesses can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
<b>Guide to Finding Resources for Environmental Justice Efforts</b>	The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice offers a guide with general guidance and tips on searching for funding opportunities, as well as information on tools, trainings, and other relevant resources that are available to help address community needs. This guide can be accessed <a href="#">here</a> .

## Resources for Writing Grants

<b>EPA Grants Management Online Training</b>	This online training course is designed to introduce EPA grant applicants and recipients to key aspects of the entire grant life cycle, from preparation of an application through grant closeout. The course is divided into separate modules that can be completed individually. Upon completion, you will be prompted to generate a downloadable <a href="#">certificate of completion</a> . You can access the online course on EPA's <a href="#">Grants Management Training for Applicants and Recipients</a> website.
<b>HUD Grant Writing Tips</b>	General tips on writing a winning grant submission from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
<b>USDA Grant Writing Resources</b>	General information on federal funding and grant writing resources from the USDA can be found <a href="#">here</a> in their <a href="#">Guide to Funding Resources</a> .
<b>Grants.gov Blog Series</b>	Learn tips and advice for writing federal grant applications through the <a href="#">Grant Writing Basics Blog Series</a> including: How to Start Working on Future Funding Opportunities, Demystifying Funding Opportunity Announcements, Tips to Avoid Last Minute Problems, and Making Sure You Are Eligible before Writing.
<b>EPA Grants Webinar Series Recordings</b>	EPA Grants webinar series recordings are available on the <a href="#">EPA Grants website</a> . Topics include: Competition Process, Developing a Budget, and Complying with EPA Assistance Agreements.
<b>And more</b>	Links to other grant writing resources <a href="#">here</a> .