

Resource Guide

American Rescue Plan Act

Economic Development Administration Programs



About the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy seeks to improve quality of life through the effective use, taxation, and stewardship of land. A nonprofit private operating foundation whose origins date to 1946, the Lincoln Institute researches and recommends creative approaches to land as a solution to economic, social, and environmental challenges. Through education, training, publications, and events, we integrate theory and practice to inform public policy decisions worldwide.

With locations in Cambridge, Massachusetts; Washington, DC; Phoenix; and Beijing, we organize our work around the achievement of six goals: low-carbon, climate-resilient communities and regions; efficient and equitable tax systems; reduced poverty and spatial inequality; fiscally healthy communities and regions; sustainably managed land and water resources; and functional land markets and reduced informality.

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A c k n o w l e d g m e n t s

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Introduction

The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy (Lincoln), with support from the F.B. Heron Foundation, is undertaking our Accelerating Community Investment (ACI) initiative to mobilize investment in low- and moderate-income communities, especially those that have been excluded from access to mainstream financial and wealth-building resources.

ACI seeks to create a more fertile environment for philanthropies and other mission-aligned investors to deepen investment in community and economic development, housing, and other areas that benefit society. The initiative is bringing public finance officials, impact investors, financial institutions, and communities together to increase available capital in the right place, at the right time, and for the right purpose. Our work explores the intersection of public finance, capital providers, impact investors, and community; it deepens their ability, will, and capability to support the deep system change we need to achieve greater opportunity for people in place.

The current domestic community investment infrastructure, despite achieving significant capital delivery, has yet to realize its ultimate goal—ensuring all people can thrive, regardless of zip code. We believe our work is promoting new, beneficial collaboration and improved practice for all actors in this ecosystem to better realize that goal.

No single intervention will instantly scale the efforts of Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) or position Development Finance Agencies (DFAs) and Housing Finance Agencies (HFAs) to deploy their capital in a way that increases the number of people provided a path to prosperity in place. However, our effort to achieve that scale and test the potential of partnerships among CDFIs, DFAs, and HFAs will contribute to significant progress on this journey.

One of our key focal points is better connecting public finance—both debt based and appropriations based—to other classes of investors in the community investment ecosystem. A key focus of the ACI initiative is developing use cases that connect our participants to new resources provided to communities within the American Rescue Plan Act. Ideally, these new federal resources and other investor capital will maximize impact and build a more equitable and resilient economy. We offer this Resource Guide as a tool to advance those goals.

As we work to develop new strategies, new approaches, and new partnerships to help forge a more just and equitable future, we must think more creatively and maintain our work's deeply collaborative aspect. Confronting the systemic racism embedded in our financial structures and addressing the challenges that communities face today—on multiple fronts and across the entire nation—demands nothing less.

About this Resource Guide

We have focused this Resource Guide on new or expanded programs from the Economic Development Administration that have been the subject of additional federal funding, appropriations, finance, and program changes as part of recent federal COVID-19 relief legislation. These programs are profiled in further detail herein, with links to key websites and data.

We have examined several new federal resources, including the direct to state, county, and city Coronavirus Relief Fund allocations, as well as new or expanded project finance/credit tools provided in various recent legislation. Now we explore the new economic development grant funding streams provided in the ARPA legislation. We hope this Resource Guide prompts policy makers, practitioners, and other community investment stakeholders to regard these resources in new and creative ways that increase the impact of these funds and tools on historically disinvested people and places.

We think there are exciting opportunities to leverage public financing with these new federal resources in ways that extend the reach and impact of community investment. That includes using resources from the programs in this Resource Guide not only as grant funds for programs, but to help you attract new investors to your communities—to underserved people and populations. And we welcome discussing the Resource Guide with you should you have any questions.

This guide also summarizes the Lincoln Institute's ACI initiative team's recommendations—both general and program specific—on potential programs and partnerships related to these new funds. In making these recommendations, we hope to assist both our ACI national Community of Practice (CoP) and the field at large in utilizing these funds to more effectively build a pipeline of potential investments to benefit disadvantaged communities.

Program & Partnership Ideas—General

The design of the programs profiled in this guide, their new focus, and the resources that will be provided are all unprecedented. These levels of investment give communities across the nation a singular opportunity to make transformative new investments across economic sectors to grow a more equitable and resilient economy. With these unprecedented funding sources and tools, multiple potential program partnership and strategy options exist between state agencies and stakeholder groups to reach low-income and minority populations in underserved communities.

EDA's new investment priorities focus on community informed, coalition approaches that bring state and local government, labor and community-based organizations, industry, academia, research institutions, philanthropy, and nonprofits together to develop strategy and execute projects for these new programs. This focus from the administration suggests that successful applicants should deeply engage with community to inform decisions on application areas of focus. To that end, we recommend that all applicants consider quickly developing and deploying a process to gather community input and demonstrate community agency and buy-in on proposed project activities across available programs.

Examples of such activities could include convening a public pitch session to gather project ideas that could be part of a broader proposal, and/or leveraging existing processes or community organizations to meet residents where they are to gain their trust and maximize their voices and input. Examples of relevant best practices exist in the robust civic engagement efforts used by Detroit Future City, an independent think tank, policy advocacy, and civic innovation organization. (More information about their civic engagement work can be found [here](#).)

In addition, eligible applicants should ensure that their public engagement strategies elevate and center the voice of people and places disproportionately affected—both by the pandemic and from living in communities that have been left behind historically. EDA's citing of these populations as having selection preference suggests that a robust, community-centered application is likely to be more competitive in all program areas.

The funding sources and financing tools summarized herein provide an exciting opportunity to expand and create deeper, better capitalized alliances with community partners serving small, minority- and women-owned, Native American, and rural businesses in underserved communities hit hardest economically by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We believe there are multiple potential program partnership and strategy options for eligible applicants and other stakeholders to reach low-income and minority populations in underserved communities. Potential strategies include the following:

- Grant funding for specific economic development infrastructure needs, including
 - real estate acquisition and/or rehabilitation that provides needed space for targeted industry or worker clusters;
 - deployment of broadband or other technology needed for more equitable economic growth;
 - water, sewer, road, utility, and other public infrastructure;
 - affordable, mixed-income, or other housing options; and
 - a range of other economic, community, and/or housing development grants.
- Using business grants or loans through new or existing development finance vehicles such as revolving loan funds for

- business growth, working capital, developing incubator or other business growth spaces, or a range of other purposes; and
- funding credit enhancement programs, such as capitalizing loan loss reserve funds on a portfolio level for low-cost, patient term lending to low-income and minority populations and/or targeted geographies.
- Grants to extend capacity of minority-owned and women-owned contractors, and contractors located in LMI communities, to carry out larger public works (and other public) contracts. This strategy can be used for a variety of activities, including minority- and women-owned small business loans, energy-efficient and home mortgages, first-time homebuyer mortgages, and constructing income-producing accessory dwelling units (ADUs);
- Developing—in both the Build Back Better and Good Jobs Challenge programs—new partnerships with Historically Black colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and/or other relevant research institutions to support economic development in targeted clusters such as
 - technology (rural broadband, computer science) transfer programs;
 - energy/green economy technology transfer programs; and
 - financial services degree programs with industry placements (banking, investments, asset management, real estate development, affordable housing, community facilities, and infrastructure).
- Enterprise preservation/growth and local wealth creation/retention in targeted business (very small, community owned, minority- and women-owned) for local residents, including patient equity and/or debt structures for cooperative or employee ownership conversion, acquisition of enterprises in models such as Local Economy Preservation Funds, and other capital aggregation strategies; (More information on the concept of Local Economy Preservation Funds can be found [here](#).)
- Addressing root, systemic causes of geographic, race, and/or gender inequities in attaining good jobs, building better economic development infrastructure, and providing resources to address those system-level barriers that have led to ongoing inequities in economic opportunity;
- Enabling housing finance authorities and other public entities to leverage their technical expertise by using their existing relationships and partnering with eligible Indigenous Communities program applicants to ensure they have the information and resources to access federal programs for which they are newly eligible; and
- Developing partnerships with regions eligible for the multiple programs that are part of the Coal Communities Commitment, to ensure that legacy energy industry communities are strong competitors for these resources and support state clean/renewable energy policy goals.

Readers are encouraged to contact the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and the author with any additional questions about these recommendations, or the program profiles herein.

Program Profiles—Summary

On March 11, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law, creating new initiatives and providing unprecedented new funding for many existing programs, including those operated by the United States Economic Development Administration (EDA). To access the Act, readers can use this link: <https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr1319/BILLS-117hr1319enr.pdf>

In the Act, EDA was allocated \$3 billion in supplemental funding—10 times the agency’s typical annual amount—to accelerate economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and to build resilient, equitable local economies that will be better prepared to weather future economic disruption. The new investments made possible through this funding—both in the legislation and in current agency rulemaking—emphasize equity and the ways funding can directly benefit previously underserved communities often disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

EDA is making this funding available through six innovative challenges designed to leverage existing program delivery mechanisms. That will enable larger, transformational national investments while leveraging flexible funding delivery models to support community-led economic development. With an emphasis on equity, EDA investments made under the American Rescue Plan will directly benefit previously underserved communities affected by COVID-19.

United States Department of Commerce—Economic Development Administration

American Rescue Plan Act Programs



\$1 Billion
Build Back Better Regional Challenge
www.eda.gov/arpa/build-back-better



\$100 Million
Indigenous Communities Program
www.eda.gov/arpa/indigenous



\$500 Million
Good Jobs Challenge
www.eda.gov/arpa/good-jobs-challenge



\$750 Million
Travel, Tourism & Outdoor Recreation
www.eda.gov/arpa/travel-tourism



\$500 Million
Economic Adjustment Assistance
www.eda.gov/arpa/economic-adjustment-assistance



\$90 Million
Planning, Research & Networks
www.eda.gov/arpa/planning-grants



\$100 million of Build Back Better Regional Challenge funds
\$200 million of Economic Adjustment Assistance funds
www.eda.gov/arpa/coal-communities

EDA is making a Coal Communities Commitment, allocating \$300 million of this appropriation to ensure support for these communities as they recover from the pandemic and create new jobs and opportunities, including creating or expanding a new industry sector.

Program Profile Detail—Build Back Better Regional Challenge

Administering Agency	United States Department of Commerce—Economic Development Administration											
Program Description/Purpose	<p>The Build Back Better Regional (BBB) Challenge is designed to help communities accelerate their economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and build local economies that will be resilient to future economic shocks. The program aims to transform regional economies and supercharge business/regional growth clusters through collaborative projects designed to grow new industries and scale existing ones.</p> <p>Grants would support the following types of activities:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="492 457 1511 726"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="492 457 745 510">Workforce</th> <th data-bbox="745 457 1000 510">Entrepreneurship</th> <th data-bbox="1000 457 1255 510">Planning</th> <th data-bbox="1255 457 1511 510">Infrastructure</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="492 510 745 726">Start and grow workforce development programs to support the needs of industries.</td> <td data-bbox="745 510 1000 726">Support entrepreneurs to commercialize technologies for industries of the future.</td> <td data-bbox="1000 510 1255 726">Create and scale visionary goals, partnerships, and plans for the future.</td> <td data-bbox="1255 510 1511 726">Build the roads, grids, fiber, and “bricks” that will enable all communities to thrive.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The program will provide 20–30 regions across the country transformational investment to revitalize their economies. These areas will have the opportunity to grow new regional industry clusters or scale existing ones through planning, infrastructure, innovation and entrepreneurship, workforce development, access to capital, and more.</p>				Workforce	Entrepreneurship	Planning	Infrastructure	Start and grow workforce development programs to support the needs of industries.	Support entrepreneurs to commercialize technologies for industries of the future.	Create and scale visionary goals, partnerships, and plans for the future.	Build the roads, grids, fiber, and “bricks” that will enable all communities to thrive.
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Size of Program	<p>\$1 billion in grant funds (Note: \$100 million of this appropriation is set aside for the Coal Communities Commitment.)</p> <p>Phase 1: 50–60 regional coalitions of partnering entities will be awarded approximately \$500,000 in technical assistance funds to develop and support three to eight projects to create a regional growth cluster.</p> <p>Phase 2: EDA will typically award 20–30 regional coalitions \$25 million to \$75 million—and less commonly up to \$100 million—to implement those projects.</p>											
Eligible Applicants	<p>EDA invites eligible applicants to form regional coalitions to apply for funding to implement three to eight distinct but related projects in their region. Applicants will coordinate with industry and community partners, sharing a holistic vision to build and scale a strategic industry cluster.</p> <p>Applicants should identify one key coordinating lead institution per regional cluster to steer the concept and projects into the implementation phase. At the same time, applicants should foster collaboration and coordinate resources to ensure these investments have the greatest economic impact on our communities, regions, and the nation.</p> <p>Coalition members eligible to apply include a(n):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Organization of an EDA-designated Economic Development District; • Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes; • state, county, city, or other political subdivision of a state, including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions; • institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; and • public or private nonprofit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a state’s political subdivision. 											
Eligible Activities	<p>The Build Back Better Regional Challenge is designed to help communities nationwide accelerate their economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and build local economies resilient to future economic shocks.</p>											

	<p>Phase 1 grants will fund technical assistance and planning activities, while Phase 2 grants will be larger and fund project implementation for a subset of Phase 1 awards.</p> <p>Technical assistance grants to Phase 1 awardees may include costs incurred by personnel to coordinate new or existing resources to benefit regional competitiveness, convene regional partners, and organize outreach activities to engage historically underserved populations, racial minorities, and women in the proposed cluster. Eligible uses of the technical assistance award funds also include developing environmental and engineering information, if applicable.</p> <p>Funding awarded for implementation projects in Phase 2 of the BBB Regional Challenge may be used to implement a variety of construction and nonconstruction projects. Proposals to support regional growth clusters may encompass everything from infrastructure that supports industrial sites, to developing or supporting transportation hubs, entrepreneurship and commercialization programs, or demand-driven workforce training that builds or expands an industry sector.</p> <p>Eligible Phase 2 implementation grant costs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • construction activities such as water and sewer system improvements; • industrial parks; • shipping and logistics facilities; • business incubators and accelerators; • brownfield redevelopment; • technology-based facilities; • wet labs; • multitenant manufacturing facilities; • science and research parks; • transportation enhancements; and • telecommunications infrastructure (for example, broadband). <p>Eligible nonconstruction activities can include design and engineering, technical assistance, economic recovery strategy development, market feasibility studies, and the capitalization of revolving loan funds (RLFs).</p> <p>Please note that, in general, EDA will not reimburse pre-award project costs, and under no circumstances will EDA or DOC be held responsible for application preparation expenditures, which are distinguished from pre-award project costs.</p>
<p>Application, Approval and Schedule</p>	<p>Notice of Funding Opportunity posted: July 23, 2021 Phase 1 applications due: October 19, 2021 50–60 Regional Clusters selected for technical assistance grants in December 2021 Phase 2 applications due: March 15, 2022. Applicants should propose a collection of three to eight interrelated projects totaling \$25M–\$75M; open to proposals up to \$100M. Projects should be implementation ready.</p>
<p>Website/Regulation</p>	<p>https://eda.gov/arpa/build-back-better/ (Build Back Better Regional Challenge Home page) https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=334735 (for grant and application materials)</p>

Program Profile Detail—The Good Jobs Challenge

Administering Agency	United States Department of Commerce—Economic Development Administration
Program Description/Purpose	EDA's American Rescue Plan Good Jobs Challenge aims to get Americans back to work by building and strengthening systems and partnerships that bring together employers who have hiring needs with workforce development entities to train workers with in-demand skills that lead to good-paying jobs.
Size of Program	\$500 million in grant funds
Eligible Applicants	<p>The Good Jobs Challenge is designed to support the needs of an applicant's identified regional workforce system through a single integrated award. EDA will make awards to either the System Lead Entity of a regional workforce system or the Backbone Organization of a sectoral partnership as the lead applicant. These organizations may make subawards to other eligible recipients as necessary for the proposed project and as approved by EDA. (See Section A.1.b. of the NOFO for addition details and examples of System Lead Entities and Backbone Organizations.)</p> <p>Eligible applicants for EDA's Good Jobs Challenge include a(n):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Organization of an EDA-designated Economic Development District; • Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes; • state, county, city, or other political subdivision of a state, including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions; • institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; and • public or private nonprofit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a state. <p><i>Individuals or for-profit entities, including for-profit institutions of higher education, are not eligible.</i></p>
Eligible Activities	<p>EDA's Good Jobs Challenge program is providing \$500 million to fund collaborative skills training systems and programs. EDA encourages efforts to reach historically underserved populations and areas, communities of color, women, and other groups facing labor-market barriers such as persons with disabilities, disconnected youth, individuals in recovery, and individuals with past criminal records, including justice-impacted and reentry participants; also, trainees participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and veterans and military spouses.</p> <p>These systems and partnerships will create and implement industry-led training programs designed to provide unemployed or underemployed workers skills and connect them to existing and emerging job opportunities. Ultimately, these systems are designed to train workers with the skills to secure a union job or a quality job that provides good pay, benefits, and growth opportunities.</p> <p>EDA will fund proposals within the following three phases, as applicable to regional needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System Development: Help establish and develop a regional workforce training system comprising multiple sector partnerships • Program Design: Develop the skills training curriculum and materials, and secure technical expertise needed to train workers • Program Implementation: Implement nonconstruction projects needed to provide workforce training and connect workers with quality jobs, including wraparound services
Application, Approval and Schedule	Applications due: January 26, 2022
Website/Regulation	<p>https://eda.gov/arpa/good-jobs-challenge/ (Good Jobs Challenge Home page)</p> <p>https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=334735 (for grant and application materials)</p>

Program Profile Detail—Economic Adjustment Assistance

Administering Agency	United States Department of Commerce—Economic Development Administration
Program Description/Purpose	<p>The Economic Adjustment Assistance program (EAA) is EDA’s most flexible program, and its grants will help hundreds of communities across the nation plan, build, innovate, and put people back to work through construction or nonconstruction projects designed to meet local needs.</p> <p>A wide range of technical, planning, workforce development, entrepreneurship, and public works and infrastructure projects are eligible for funding under this program.</p> <p>Stakeholders must address EDA’s new investment priorities in applications. Those investment priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • equity; • recovery and resilience; • workforce development; • manufacturing; • technology-based economic development; and • environmentally sustainable development. <p>To access more detailed information on EDA’s investment priorities, click here: https://www.eda.gov/about/investment-priorities/</p>
Size of Program	\$500 million in grant funds
Eligible Applicants	<p>Eligible applicants for EDA’s Economic Adjustment Assistance program include a(n):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Organization of an EDA-designated Economic Development District; • Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes; • state, county, city, or other political subdivision of a state, including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions; • institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; and • public or private nonprofit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a state. <p><i>Individuals or for-profit entities are not eligible.</i></p>
Eligible Activities	<p>The program is designed to invest in infrastructure, technical assistance, planning, and revolving loan programs through competitive grants available to every community.</p> <p>A wide range of technical, planning, workforce development, entrepreneurship, and public works and infrastructure projects are eligible for funding under this program. EDA encourages application submissions based on long-term, regionally oriented, coordinated, and collaborative economic development or redevelopment strategies that foster economic growth and resilience. That includes plans aimed at building stronger regional economic links between urban centers and rural areas.</p> <p>EAA intends to address larger projects, and EDA anticipates projects will cost between \$500,000 and \$5 million. New requirements for this Economic Adjustment Assistance program include two new requirements of note. In the ED-900 accompanying an application, applicants should explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “whether and if so how the project will incorporate strong labor standards, including project labor agreements and community benefit agreements, that offer wages at or above the prevailing rate and include local hire provisions, and a description of the applicant’s workforce plans and practices;” and • “what steps the applicant will take to ensure that the economic benefits of the project will be shared by all communities in the project region, including any underserved communities.” <p>Note: The quality of this plan is an evaluation factor. Applications are not complete without that discussion.</p>

<p>Application, Approval and Schedule</p>	<p>Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. EDA strongly encourages all applicants to start early and contact their EDA representative for assistance.</p> <p>Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications are accepted beginning in July 2021. • Funds must be obligated by September 30, 2022. • Funds expire on September 30, 2027, and no funds can be disbursed after that date. • The period of performance for all projects must end by May 31, 2027, to allow for closeout. <p>Note: The normal processes for environmental and historic-preservation review apply and should be completed prior to award.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants will work with EDRs as the primary ARPA EAA program contacts. • The presumptive grant rate is 80%, with EDA discretion to go to 100%. • Applications that provide more matching funds are also more competitive. <p>Applicants can visit www.eda.gov/contact to find contact information for their state's Economic Development Representative, a staff contact assigned each state covered by an EDA regional office.</p>
<p>Website/Regulation</p>	<p>https://eda.gov/arpa/economic-adjustment-assistance/ (Economic Adjustment Assistance Program page)</p> <p>https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=334735 (for grant and application materials)</p>

Program Profile Detail—Indigenous Communities

Administering Agency	United States Department of Commerce—Economic Development Administration
Program Description/Purpose	<p>The Indigenous Communities program is designed to support the needs of Tribal governments and Indigenous communities. EDA will support important partners to develop and execute economic development projects that communities need to recover from the pandemic and build economies for the future.</p> <p>A wide range of technical, planning, workforce development, entrepreneurship, and public works and infrastructure projects are eligible for funding under this program.</p> <p>Indigenous communities are also eligible and encouraged to apply under all of EDA's other programs.</p>
Size of Program	Through the Indigenous Communities program, EDA is allocating \$100 million in American Rescue Plan funding specifically for Indigenous communities that were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.
Eligible Applicants	<p>Eligible entities under the Indigenous Communities program are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Tribes or a consortium of Indian Tribes, as defined in 13 C.F.R. § 300.3; • a public or private nonprofit organization or association serving Native Hawaiians; and • a public or private nonprofit organization or association serving Native Pacific Islanders of Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau. <p><i>State-recognized Tribes, unrecognized Tribes, and nonprofits that do not fall within the definitions above are not eligible.</i></p>
Eligible Activities	<p>Eligible projects are similar to those of EDA's Economic Adjustment Assistance program (EAA). A wide range of EAA project types are eligible, including planning, workforce development, entrepreneurship, revolving loan funds, public works, and infrastructure projects. EDA encourages application submissions based on long-term, regionally oriented, coordinated, and collaborative economic development or redevelopment strategies that foster economic growth and resilience. Any project that supports recovery from the economic effects of the pandemic is eligible.</p> <p>In addition, a wider range of projects are eligible for the Indigenous Communities program, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • foundational economic infrastructure: broadband, energy, roads, water, wastewater; • vocational and higher education facilities; and • community health facilities, even if the connection to job creation is indirect. <p><i>Note: Projects that directly support casinos or requests to replace lost revenue remain ineligible.</i></p>
Application, Approval and Schedule	<p>Rolling. EDA strongly encourages all applicants to start early and contact their EDA representative for assistance. EDA began accepting applications for the program in July 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All awards will be made at 100% grant rate. • Applicants are not required to demonstrate committed beneficiaries or provide signed ED-900Bs to be competitive. • EDA will reimburse certain pre-award project costs, including preliminary engineering reports preparation and environmental and historic-preservation requirement compliance costs. <p>September 30, 2022: All funds must be obligated. May 31, 2027: Period of performance must end to allow for closeout.</p>
Website/Regulation	<p>https://eda.gov/arpa/indigenous/ (Indigenous Communities program page) https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=334735 (for grant and application materials)</p>

Program Profile Detail—Travel, Tourism & Outdoor Recreation

Administering Agency	United States Department of Commerce—Economic Development Administration
Program Description/Purpose	The EDA Travel, Tourism & Outdoor Recreation (TTOR) program is focused on accelerating the recovery of communities that rely on the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors. The majority of the program comprises noncompetitive state grants, which are provided to quickly invest in marketing, workforce, and other projects to rejuvenate safe leisure, business, and international travel.
Size of Program	<p>\$750 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$510 million in noncompetitive state grant awards to help quickly invest in marketing, workforce, and other projects to rejuvenate safe leisure, business, and international travel • \$240 million in competitive grants to help communities hardest hit by challenges facing the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors for investment in infrastructure, workforce, or other projects to support industry recovery and future economic resilience
Eligible Applicants	<p>Eligible applicants for the noncompetitive EDA statewide Travel, Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants include governors, the mayor of DC, and other applicable territory leaders or their designees. EDA will send these applicants a formal invitation to apply for this noncompetitive portion of the program.</p> <p>Eligible applicants for EDA's Competitive Tourism Grants program include a(n):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Organization of an EDA-designated Economic Development District; • Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes; • state, county, city, or other political subdivision of a state, including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions; • institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; and • public or private nonprofit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a state.
Eligible Activities	<p>Eligible activities for the noncompetitive state grant program include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tourism marketing and promotion; • workforce training; • economic development planning and coordination; • technical projects to assist economic recovery from damage to the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation industries; • upgrades/retrofits to existing travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation infrastructure (require additional environmental review to be approved); • new infrastructure projects that lead to long-term increases in tourist activity (require additional environmental review to be approved); • subgrants for eligible uses to cities, towns, and other entities; and • other uses approved by EDA. <p>Eligible activities for the competitive grant program include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strategy development for travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation pandemic recovery; and • recovery project implementation, including construction projects for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ cultural, arts, and tourism facilities; ○ zoos and aquariums (policy change); ○ new outdoor recreation and trail infrastructure and public access enhancements; ○ nature-based infrastructure projects to improve access to recreation; ○ nonconstruction activities, including countrywide or multistate travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation promotion; and ○ diversification projects—EDA prefers projects that support the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors. <p><i>Note: State and local-level tourism promotion and marketing projects are eligible only under state tourism grants.</i></p>

Application, Approval and Schedule	<p>Noncompetitive grants: Application due 60 days after the governor, mayor of DC, and other applicable territory leaders receive information from EDA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 26, 2021: EDA sent states and territories information on their direct allocation funding level and how to apply to receive the funding 60 days after invitations received • November 2021: Awards made no later than November • May 31, 2027: Last day to incur costs <p>Competitive grants: Rolling. EDA encourages eligible applicants to submit their applications as soon as possible.</p>
Website/Regulation	<p>https://eda.gov/arpa/travel-tourism/ (Travel, Tourism & Outdoor Recreation program page)</p> <p>https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=334735 (for grant and application materials)</p>

Program Profile Detail—Statewide Planning, Research & Networks

Administering Agency	United States Department of Commerce—Economic Development Administration
Program Description/Purpose	<p>Through the Statewide Planning, Research & Networks (SPRN) program, EDA is funding a range of planning, research, and network support activities. This program features three funding priorities, which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • statewide planning grants; • research grants to study and evaluate EDA’s new American Rescue Plan programs; and • Networks & Communities of Practice grants to develop stakeholder and grantee networks to help EDA grantees with technical assistance, best practice, and community connections to scale what works and accelerate impact.
Size of Program	<p>\$90 million in grant funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$59 million for statewide planning grants; and • \$31 million for research grants and networks/communities of practice grants.
Eligible Applicants	<p>Eligible applicants for EDA’s statewide planning grants include governors, the mayor of DC, and other applicable territory leaders or their designees. EDA will send these applicants a formal invitation to apply for this noncompetitive portion of the program.</p> <p>Eligible applicants for EDA’s research and networks/communities of practice grants include a(n):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Organization of an EDA-designated Economic Development District; • Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes; • state, county, city, or other political subdivision of a state, including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions; • institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; and • public or private nonprofit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a state.
Eligible Activities	<p>Research program awards of between \$200,000 and \$600,000 are expected. Eligible activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • real-time research and evaluation of American Rescue Plan programs, especially the Good Jobs Challenge, BBB Regional Challenge, Indigenous Communities program, and the Travel & Tourism programs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Note: EDA’s regular recipient pool is eligible for these awards. <p>Networks & Communities of Practice program awards of between \$2 million and \$6 million are expected. Eligible activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing nationwide, sustainable networks for existing and future EDA grantees, including EDDs, Tribal Partners, university centers, RLF grantees, and Build to Scale (B2S) grantees; and • developing a Community of Practice around ARPA program grantees, coal community grantees, and/or critical areas of need.
Application, Approval and Schedule	<p>Applicants encouraged to apply by October 31, 2021, and will be evaluated on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applicant capacity; • applicant expertise in the applicable component; • strategic approach of the proposal; • feasibility of budget; strength of proposed financial match (if any); • feasibility of deliverables and timeline; • project sustainability, scalability, and dissemination; and • cross-collaboration with other EDA grantees and/or other economic development partners.
Website/Regulation	<p>https://eda.gov/arpa/planning-grants/ (Statewide Planning, Research & Networks home page)</p> <p>https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=334735 (for grant and application materials)</p>

Program Profile Detail—Coal Communities Commitment

Administering Agency	United States Department of Commerce—Economic Development Administration
Program Description/Purpose	<p>EDA’s Coal Communities Commitment (CCC) allocates \$300 million of its \$3 billion American Rescue Plan appropriation to support coal communities as they recover from the pandemic and to help them create new jobs and opportunities, including by creating or expanding a new industry sector. This announcement builds on the “Initial Report to the President on Empowering Workers Through Revitalizing Energy Communities” developed by President Biden’s Interagency Working Group.</p> <p>EDA also supports these communities through the existing Assistance to Coal Communities (ACC) initiative.</p>
Size of Program	EDA will dedicate \$100 million of its Build Back Better Regional Challenge funds and \$200 million of its Economic Adjustment Assistance funds to directly support coal communities.
Eligible Applicants	<p>There is no predefined list of impacted coal communities. Coal communities include those outlined by the Interagency Working Group report as well as communities and regions that can reasonably demonstrate how changes in the coal economy have resulted or are anticipated to result in job losses and layoffs in any coal-reliant commercial sector (for example, coal mining, coal-fired power plants).</p> <p>Eligible applicants for EDA’s American Rescue Plan CCC include a(n):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Organization of an EDA-designated Economic Development District; • Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes; • state, county, city, or other political subdivision of a state, including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions; • institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; and • Public or private nonprofit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a state.
Eligible Activities	<p>Eligible activities for the Build Back Better and Economic Adjustment Assistance coal communities are found in those program materials.</p> <p>Eligible activities for the Assistance to Coal Communities initiative assist communities impacted by the declining use of coal through activities and programs that support economic diversification, job creation, capital investment, workforce development, and re-employment opportunities.</p>
Application, Approval and Schedule	<p>Applications will be accepted for the CCC program under the terms of the Build Back Better Notice of Funding Opportunity: July 23, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 applications due: October 19, 2021: Fifty to sixty regional clusters selected for technical assistance grants in December 2021 • Phase 2 applications due: March 15, 2022. Applicants should propose a collection of three to eight interrelated projects totaling \$25 million to \$75 million; open to proposals up to \$100 million. Projects should be implementation ready. <p>Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis for the CCC program under the Economic Adjustment Assistance program. EDA strongly encourages all applicants to start early and contact their EDA representative for assistance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications accepted beginning in July 2021. • Funds must be obligated by September 30, 2022. • Funds expire on September 30, 2027. • The period of performance for all projects must end by May 31, 2027, to allow for closeout.
Website/Regulation	<p>https://eda.gov/arpa/coal-communities/ (Coal Communities Commitment Home page) https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=334735 (for grant and application materials)</p>