

Powering the Comeback Resource Guide

RESOURCES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Renewable And Clean Energy Initiative

[The Renewable and Clean Energy Initiative](#) provides direct grant funding to local governments to support the development and construction of renewable and clean energy infrastructure throughout the state.

Learn more [here](#). Applications opened June 15, 2021, and remain open while funding is available.



Funding to Develop Affordable Housing

The Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) has grant funding available to acquire land and/or existing properties to provide or develop affordable housing, supportive housing, or non-congregate shelter. Additional funding is available to support using these properties to rent to and provide housing services for households at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Additional funds may be also requested for the renting of and providing tenancy support services within the same properties to provide shelter or housing for households at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Learn more [here](#). Read the relevant 2021 law is [here](#).

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Affordable Housing Development Incentives Grant



The [Affordable Housing Development Incentives Grant Program](#) provides grants to local governments to develop one or more affordable housing developments in their community that are liveable, vibrant, and driven by community benefits. These incentive grants can help cover tap fees, infrastructure, parks/playgrounds and other needs and amenities that support the affordable housing project. Learn more [here](#). The relevant 2021 law can be found [here](#).

Affordable Housing Planning Grant Program

The [Affordable Housing Planning Grant Program](#) provides grants to local governments to help them understand their housing needs and adopt policy and regulatory strategies to qualify for the Affordable Housing Development Incentives Grant Program.

Learn more [here](#). Applications are due September 20, 2021. The relevant 2021 law can be found [here](#).

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Rural Economic Development Initiative

The Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) program is designed to help rural communities diversify their local economy and create a more resilient Colorado. REDI will support a wide range of creative projects in communities across the state, including planning and construction phases, programming, and capacity building, and a key goal of the projects will be to create and retain jobs, either directly or indirectly. All applications must create and retain jobs, either directly or indirectly. Learn more [here](#). Application cycle open through October 1, 2021.

Rural Jump Start Program

The Rural Jump-Start Program seeks to help economically-distressed communities attract new businesses and jobs. When a community is a designated rural jump-start zone, new businesses can receive tax relief and incentive payments, including credits, exemptions, and refunds from state income tax, state sales and use tax, as well as county and municipal personal property taxes. Counties, municipalities, and higher education institutions work together to apply for this program. [Click here](#) for more information on the program and how to apply.

Harm Reduction Grant Fund

The [Harm Reduction Grant Fund Program](#) supports local communities to help them rethink and expand opportunities to address problematic drug use using a public health approach, rather than through a criminal justice system model. Nonprofits that provide these services are eligible to apply for funding. Learn more [here](#).

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Community Revitalization Grant Program

This grant program promotes economic recovery and diversification by supporting projects that combine creative industry workforce housing, commercial spaces, performance spaces, community gathering spaces, child care centers, and retail partnerships, and support creative sector entrepreneurs, artisans, and community non-profit organizations.

Learn more [here](#). Current application cycle closes October 1, 2021.



Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation Grant Program

The forest service will issue forest restoration and wildfire risk mitigation grants for projects across Colorado. Grants can now fund capacity-building efforts to provide local governments, community groups, and collaborative forestry groups with the resources necessary to plan and implement forest restoration and wildfire risk mitigation projects, including community and partner outreach and engagement, identifying priority project areas, coordinated planning, and acquiring community equipment for use by landowners. Learn more about the next round of grant funding and how to apply [here](#).

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Agriculture Drought Resiliency Grant Program

The Agricultural Drought Resiliency Program was created in response to the 2020 drought season, which resulted in record-high temperatures, low humidity, extremely dry conditions, and rampant wildfires. These conditions have caused deep economic and ecological costs to agriculture, severely impacting our farmers and ranchers. The program is intended to support drought and climate resilience efforts for agricultural producers.

Learn more [here](#). Applications close September 30, 2021.

Watershed Restoration Grant Program

Organizations interested in developing watershed/stream restoration and flood mitigation studies and projects can apply for funding through the Colorado Water Conservation Board Construction Fund's [watershed restoration grants](#) and flood mitigation grants. Grants must support work to restore, mitigate, and protect streams and riparian areas susceptible to flooding and erosion following a wildfire, including installation or repair of water and debris control structures.

Interested applicants should [complete the application](#) and submit it by November 5, 2021.



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COMING SOON! Affordable Housing Toolkit Program

The [Affordable Housing Toolkit Program](#) will offer technical assistance to local governments that demonstrate an understanding of the housing needs of their residents and communities, and show a commitment to taking the steps necessary to make changes to their land use codes and related processes that can incentivize and reduce barriers to the development of affordable housing. The first RFP for communities will be released in July 2022.

The relevant 2021 law can be found [here](#).

COMING SOON! Housing Development Grants Hotels Tenancy Support Program

The Housing Development Grants Hotels Tenancy Support Program provides \$30 million in grants and loans for local governments and nonprofits to purchase underutilized hotels and motels and other underutilized properties to provide affordable housing or shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness. Grant recipients are encouraged to invest in hotels and motels that are women and minority-owned, as well as those that are ADA compliant.

Learn more [here](#).

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COMING SOON! Outdoor Equity Grants

The Outdoor Equity grant program aims to reduce barriers to the Colorado outdoors for historically underserved communities, create pathways for formal or informal conservation, and offer environmental and Colorado outdoor-based educational opportunities by providing grants to applicants that will engage racially or ethnically diverse eligible youth from low-income families, LGBTQ youth, Native American or Indigenous youth, or youth with disabilities. More information will be made available later this fall.

COMING SOON! Broadband Deployment Funding

This year, the Legislature passed multiple pieces of legislation to support the development and expansion of broadband infrastructure. The newly-created Colorado Broadband Office will assist multiple state departments in disbursing over \$75 million to help local governments, Indian tribes or nations, school districts, and businesses deploy and expand broadband access, especially to underserved communities, and to subsidize certain households for broadband service, based on household income and local broadband accessibility.

The relevant 2021 laws can be found [here](#) and [here](#) – more information about how to access these programs is coming soon.

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COMING SOON! Charge Ahead Colorado Program

The [Charge Ahead Colorado Program](#) helps fund the installation of electric vehicle charging stations. Funding is directed to private nonprofit or for-profit corporations, state agencies, federal agencies, public universities, and public transit agencies, as well as local governments, landlords of multi-family apartment buildings and homeowner associations.

The next grant cycle opens October 4. More information on future grant opportunities is coming soon, and can be found [here](#).



COMING SOON! Funding to Support Coal Transition Communities and Workers

The Legislature allocated \$15 million to fund just transition programs and assist coal workers who are transitioning into other fields of work through education, reskilling, and more. Funding is designated for the implementation of the [Colorado Just Transition Action Plan](#). Eligible applicants include economic development districts, Indian tribes, registered apprenticeship programs, higher education institutions, and nonprofit organizations in addition to counties, municipalities and other political subdivisions of the State. Read the relevant 2021 law [here](#) – more information on how to access this funding coming soon.