

Empire State Development (ESD) – Regional Council Capital Funds Program

Funding Available: Up to \$60 million (min \$100,000)

Program Description: Capital grant funding is available for capital-based economic development projects intended to create or retain jobs; prevent, reduce or eliminate unemployment and underemployment; increase business or economic activity in a community or Region and/or expand, construct, restore or renovate New York State tourism destinations and attractions. Grant funding will be allocated among the ten regions, each represented by a Regional Council. Projects generally fall into one of four categories: 1) Business Investment, 2) Economic Growth Investment, 3) Tourism (formerly the Market New York Capital Grant Program), or 4) Strategic Focus Areas (which include childcare, distressed areas, and public-private partnerships).

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible Applicants include but are not limited to for-profit businesses, not-for-profit corporations*, business improvement districts, local development corporations, public benefit corporations (including industrial development agencies), economic development organizations, research and academic institutions, incubators, technology parks, municipalities, counties, regional planning councils, tourist attractions and community facilities.

Program Contact: Joseph Landy and Mary Elise Rees at nys-capitaldist@esd.ny.gov or 518-270-1130

Empire State Development (ESD) – Strategic Planning and Feasibility Studies

Funding Available: Up to \$1 million

Program Description: The Strategic Planning and Feasibility Studies Program was established to support planning grants for future development for communities and urban areas across New York State. Up to \$1 million is available for working capital grants of up to \$100,000 each to support 1) strategic development plans for a city, county, or municipality or a significant part thereof and 2) feasibility studies for site(s) or facility(ies) assessment and planning. Projects should focus on economic development benefits and impacts resulting from the project. Priority will be given to projects located in pro housing certified communities and to projects located in highly distressed areas (census tracts).

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible Applicants include but are not limited to cities, counties, towns, villages, business improvement districts, local development corporations, and not-for-profit economic development organizations.

Program Contact: Joseph Landy and Mary Elise Rees at nys-capitaldist@esd.ny.gov or 518-270-1130

Empire State Development (ESD) – Excelsior Jobs Program

Funding Available: Up to \$75 million

Program Description: The Excelsior Jobs Program provides job creation and investment incentives to firms in strategic industries such as software development, scientific research and development, financial services, agriculture, manufacturing, back office, distribution, life sciences, music production and entertainment companies. Firms in these industries that create new jobs or retain existing jobs and make a significant capital investment are eligible to apply. For more information and additional resources visit <https://esd.ny.gov/excelsior-jobs-program>.

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

Program Contact: <https://esd.ny.gov/regions>

Empire State Development (ESD) – NY KICKS

Funding Available: Up to \$5 million

Program Description: NY KICKS, a World Cup Legacy Investment Fund, will provide up to \$5 million in grant funding to support the creation, expansion, and enhancement of community soccer fields. Successful applicants will demonstrate project impact and community need, project readiness and feasibility, and leverage of non-ESD co-investment. Project costs must be related to the creation, expansion, or renovation of a publicly accessible soccer field intended for long-term use.

Awards will range from \$75,000 to \$200,000 and will cover a maximum of 50% of the proposed project cost. Proposals that request a lower level of ESD match will be scored more favorably. Priority consideration will be given to projects located in severely and moderately distressed areas

Eligible Types of Applicants: Municipalities, Public Authorities, Nonprofits (excluding schools and/or universities)

Program Contact: Joseph Landy and Mary Elise Rees at nys-capitaldist@esd.ny.gov or 518-270-1130

The New York State Business Incubator and Innovation Hot Spots Support Program

Funding Available: Up to \$11.875 million

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

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible Applicants are limited to:
New York State based Not-for-profit Organization
Have operated an incubator for 3 or more years
Have demonstrated link to regional sources of innovation and expertise

Program Contacts: Judith Tholl judith.tholl@esd.ny.gov
Stephen Oleynek stephen.oleynek@esd.ny.gov

Empire State Development (ESD) – Market NY Grant

Funding Available: Up to \$7 million (tourism marketing funds)

Program Description: Market New York is a grant program established to strengthen tourism and attract visitors to New York State by promoting destinations, attractions, and special events. For Round 16, the program is specifically tailored to support marketing and working capital projects.

Funding is available, but not limited to, the following primary initiatives:

Tourism Marketing: Strategic storytelling and campaigns designed to build awareness and drive new visitation to regional attractions.

Special Events: The recruitment and execution of primary draws such as festivals, athletic tournaments, expos, and agritourism or craft beverage events.

Business Events: The recruitment of vital industry hubs, including meetings, conventions, conferences, and trade shows that support local hotels and restaurants.

Program Guidelines: iloveny.com/MarketNY

Tourism Capital Projects: All tourism capital funding (including land acquisition, construction, renovation, or equipment) has been moved to the Regional Council Capital Funds Program. For more information on this funding visit: <https://esd.ny.gov/regional-council-capital-fund-program>.

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

- for-profit businesses
- not-for-profit corporations
- tourism promotion agencies
- convention & visitor bureaus
- destination marketing organizations
- tourist attractions / destinations
- business improvement districts
- public benefit corporations & IDA's
- local development corporations
- economic development organizations
- municipalities, counties
- community facilities

Program Updates:

- **Active Contract:** Organizations with an "Active Market New York Contract" (where final reporting has not yet been accepted) are ineligible for new awards.
- **Prequalification:** All Not-for-Profit corporations must be "Prequalified" in the Statewide Financial System (SFS) by the application deadline.
- **Launch Window:** Marketing and events funded by this grant may only officially start three months after the award date.

**New York State Homes & Community Renewal (HCR)
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)- Open Round
Funding Available: Up to \$20 million**

Program Description: The New York State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a federally funded program administered by New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) that helps counties, cities, towns, and villages with projects that improve communities and benefit residents across New York State. CDBG funds may be requested on an on-going basis for:

- Economic Development – Assistance to small business and microenterprises.
- Community Planning – Community needs assessments and project readiness planning that leads to eligible CDBG projects.
- Public Facilities – Assistance to facilities serving the public such as senior centers, community centers and day cares. This includes handicapped accessibility improvements.
- Imminent Threat – Assistance to address existing conditions that have blighting influence or pose a serious threat to the health or welfare of the community. This includes demolition and clearance activities.

Eligible applicants can apply for grants of up to \$1,000,000 (Public Facilities and Imminent Threat), \$750,000 (Economic Development), and \$50,000 (Community Planning).

Eligible Types of Applicants: The New York CDBG Program provides community and economic development grants to towns, villages, and cities with a population less than 50,000, and counties with an unincorporated population less than 200,000. For a list of eligible communities, see here: <https://hcr.ny.gov/community-development-block-grant#program-guidelines> .

The NYS CDBG Request for Applications (RFA) and additional information on applying for CDBG funding can be found here: <https://hcr.ny.gov/community-development-block-grant#funding-round-materials>.

Program Contact: Applicants can contact HCR staff at HCR_CFA@hcr.ny.gov or 518-474-2057 for assistance.

**New York State Homes & Community Renewal (HCR)
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)- Public Infrastructure
Funding Available: Up to \$25 million**

Program Description: The New York State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a federally funded program administered by New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) that helps counties, cities, towns, and villages with projects that improve communities and benefit residents across New York State. CDBG funds may be requested for public or private water source development, storage, and distribution; sanitary sewage collection and treatment; flood control and storm water drainage; and municipal utilities. These types of projects may also include ancillary public works components such as sidewalks, streets, parking and open space. Eligible applicants can apply for grants of up to \$1,500,000 or up to \$2,000,000 with other state and/or federal funding sources committed to the project.

Eligible Types of Applicants: The New York CDBG Program provides community and economic development grants to towns, villages, and cities with a population less than 50,000, and counties with an unincorporated population less than 200,000. For a list of eligible communities, see here: <https://hcr.ny.gov/community-development-block-grant#program-guidelines>.

The NYS CDBG Request for Applications (RFA) and additional information on applying for CDBG funding can be found here: <https://hcr.ny.gov/community-development-block-grant#funding-round-materials>

Program Contact: Applicants can contact HCR staff at HCR_CFA@hcr.ny.gov or 518-474-2057 for assistance.

**New York State Homes & Community Renewal (HCR)
New York Main Street Program (NYMS)
Funding Available: Up to \$4.2 million**

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

Eligible Types of Applicants: Pro-Housing certified cities, towns, and villages; counties; and not-for-profit organizations.

Program Contact: Questions? Please send an email to HCR_CFA@hcr.ny.gov and your question will be directed to the appropriate program staff.

Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP)

Environmental Protection Fund (EPF)

Funding Available: Up to \$26 million

Program Description: Grant funding is available for the acquisition, planning, development, and improvement of parks, historic properties, and heritage areas located within the physical boundaries of the State of New York. Grants can fund up to 50% of the total eligible project cost; up to 75% if the project is located within a high-poverty area. Grant awards are capped at \$675,000. To ensure the public benefits from the investment of State funds, all properties acquired or developed with grant funds will require long-term protections; these include public access covenants, preservation covenants or conservation easements recorded against the property deed; municipal parkland must remain parkland in perpetuity.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Applicants must have and document an ownership interest in the project property.

- Municipalities
- State Agencies
- Public Benefit Corporations
- Public Authorities
- Not-for-profit Corporations that have tax-exempt status under the IRS code, are current with pertinent federal and state filings, and are prequalified in the Statewide Financial System (SFS): (see <https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/resources-grant-applicants>).

Program Contact:

Contact Mary Beth Bobish, Director, Grants Bureau, NYSOPRHPGrants@parks.ny.gov or (518) 474-0427

New York Department of State (DOS) – Local Waterfront Revitalization Program
Funding Available: Approximately \$13.975 million

Program Description: Matching grants are available on a competitive basis to municipalities to develop and implement Local Waterfront Revitalization Programs (LWRP) and Watershed Management Plans to revitalize communities and waterfronts. The focus of the LWRP is to support community planning efforts to evaluate local resources, develop goals and strategies, identify ways in which the community can reduce risk to community assets, and prioritize design and construction projects which achieve community revitalization goals. By providing planning, public engagement, design, and construction funding, this program helps communities breathe new life into their underused waterfront assets in ways that expand public access and ensures sustainable revitalization.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible applicants are villages, towns, or cities located along New York’s coasts or inland waterways as designated pursuant to Executive Law, Article 42, or counties or regional planning councils with the written consent and acting on behalf of one or more eligible villages, town, or cities.

Contact Information: The LWRP Request for Applications (RFA) which describes all grant program requirements, informational webinars, and other grant application resources are available on the Department of State’s website at <https://dos.ny.gov/2026-2027-environmental-protection-fund-local-waterfront-revitalization-program> . Applicant questions can be submitted by e-mail to LWRP@dos.ny.gov with the subject line: “26-LWRP-17 RFA Questions”. Questions will be accepted until June 12, 2026, with responses posted on the Department’s Funding & Bid Opportunities website by July 10, 2026.

***Full program rules, requirements, and guidelines can be found at <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/> within the 2026 CFA Available Resources Guide**

New York State Department of State (DOS) - Brownfield Opportunity Area Program
Funding Available: Approximately \$2 million

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

- Pre-planning to identify and complete an area-wide inventory of known or suspected brownfields and other underutilized and/or vacant sites and conduct a preliminary land-use analysis to determine the presence of concentrations of brownfields, vacant, abandoned, and/or other underutilized lands that may be candidates for future BOA planning efforts. Pre-Planning will not culminate in a BOA Designation.
- Development or update of a Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) Plan that identifies strategies for the revitalization of an area affected by known or suspected brownfields that will culminate in a request to the Secretary of State for BOA Designation.
- Predevelopment activities that implement the vision, goals, and objectives of a State-designated BOA. Eligible predevelopment activities include analyses, plans and studies, or professional services to further improvement or advance redevelopment within a State-Designated BOA.
- Phase II Environmental Site Assessments, including site environmental investigation activities with sampling and chemical testing within a State-designated BOA, which will be detailed in a Phase II ESA report. The ASTM standard for Phase II Environmental Site Assessments does not include the level of technical specificity required to select and design a remedy for the property, but it does provide flexibility in determining the necessary level of assessment needed and is appropriate for the land use planning stage of the redevelopment process. The completion of an Environmental Site Assessment must advance the goals and priorities for the revitalization and redevelopment of the BOA.

An application for funding should only include one activity. Eligible applicants wishing to apply for more than one grant activity should submit a separate application for each.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Cities, towns, and villages, Counties, Regional planning council, Local public authorities, Public benefit corporations, School districts, Special improvement districts, Supervisory districts, District corporations, Recognized Indian nations or tribes, Certain 501(c)3 non-profit organizations New York City, Community Boards

Contact Information: The BOA Request for Applications (RFA), which describes all grant program requirements, is available on the Department of State's Funding & Bid Opportunities website at <https://dos.ny.gov/funding-bid-opportunities>. Questions can be submitted by e-mail to opd@dos.ny.gov with the subject line: "26-BOA-19 RFA Questions". Questions will be accepted until June 12, 2026, with responses posted on the Department's Funding & Bid Opportunities website by July 10, 2026.

***Full program rules, requirements, and guidelines can be found at <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/> within the 2026 CFA Available Resources Guide**

**Department of State (DOS) - Smart Growth Community Planning and Zoning Grant
Funding Available: Approximately \$3.9 million**

Program Description: Financial assistance grants are available on a competitive basis to municipalities to develop or update comprehensive plans, area plans or zoning ordinances that incorporate smart growth principles including promoting economically efficient and environmentally sustainable development patterns that optimize prior infrastructure investments. These planning efforts should be founded on a robust public engagement effort that reflect a community’s goals and aspirations for its future, and address a wide range of planning issues including, but not limited to, appropriate physical development, housing, economic development, transportation patterns, analyses of the natural and built environment, natural resource protection, siting of renewable energy facilities, protection of agricultural working lands, waterfronts, and watersheds.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Eligible applicants are counties, villages, towns, and cities; as well as counties, regional planning councils or not-for-profits applying on behalf of one or more eligible municipalities. Additionally, villages, towns, and cities may jointly apply with a county, non-profit, or regional planning board.

Program Contact:

The SGCP Request for Applications (RFA) which describes all grant program requirements is available on the Department of State’s Funding & Bid Opportunities website at <https://dos.ny.gov/funding-bid-opportunities>. Questions can be submitted by e-mail to smart.growth@dos.ny.gov with the subject line: “26-OPDSG-18 RFA Questions”. Responses to questions received by June 12th will be posted to the DOS Funding & Bid Opportunities website by July 10th.

**New York State Canal Corporation – Canalway Grant Program
Funding Available: Up to \$1 million**

Program Description: The Canalway Grant Program is administered by the NYS Canal Corporation, a subsidiary of the New York Power Authority (NYPA). The Canalway Grant Program awards up to \$1.0 million dollars in competitive grants annually that are available to eligible municipalities, units of local government, federally recognized Native American Nations, and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations along the New York State Canal System for canal related capital projects. The minimum grant request amount is \$25,000. The maximum grant request is \$150,000. There is a 1:1 grant match requirement from awardees, and grant funding is distributed via reimbursement only. Grant administration and pre-development costs cannot exceed 10% of the grant award. Projects must be located on land owned by the applicant, sub applicant, and/or Canal Corporation. Grant awardees must complete projects within two years of grant award.

Eligible Types of Applicants:

- Municipalities (towns, villages, cities, etc.)
- Units of Local Government (counties, soil and water conservation districts, etc.)
- Federally recognized Native American Nations
- 501(c)3 non-profit organizations

Boundary Eligibility: Projects must be located along one of the four canals of the Canal System (Erie, Champlain, Oswego and Cayuga-Seneca), trail linkages or connections to existing Canalway Trail segments, or the historic Erie Canal alignment.

Program Contact: Andy Marzo, Canals Strategic Projects Manager, New York Power Authority and New York State

**New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)
Building Cleaner Communities Competition (BCCC)
Funding Available: Up to \$25 million**

Program Description: The purpose of this program is to support the design and installation of commercial, light industrial, and institutional projects to operate at carbon neutral or net zero energy performance. The program is designed to target projects that align with the Region's or the State's economic development and energy priorities and offers the customer phased incentive payments. The Building Cleaner Communities Competition is offered as a competitive program for exemplary, highly replicable, and resilient carbon neutral or net zero energy projects. These projects can be new construction, deep retrofit, adaptive reuse, and gut rehabilitation projects.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Commercial facilities, light-industrial and manufacturing facilities, warehouses and distribution centers, municipal and government facilities, offices, restaurants, food processing facilities, breweries, retail, colleges and universities, healthcare facilities, K-12 schools, hotel developments, religious facilities, agricultural facilities, mixed use facilities (residential can be included in this type), and decarbonization of an existing central plant in New York State. For profit, non-profit, government or agency entities are all eligible.

Full program rules, requirements, and guidelines can be found at <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/> within the 2026 Available Resources Guide.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation – Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source and MS4 Planning Grant
Funding Available: Up to \$3 million

Program Description: Grants of up to \$50,000 are available to produce planning reports for non-agricultural nonpoint source water quality improvement projects. Grants of up to \$75,000 are available for comprehensive stream corridor studies. Grants up to \$400,000 are available for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) mapping. Grants up to \$50,000 are available for stormwater management program planning for MS4s. The program aims to prepare nonpoint source projects for construction and application for implementation funding and encourages and supports cooperation among regulated MS4 Operators to complete mapping of their stormwater system.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Municipalities, including Indian Nations (as defined in program overview), and Soil and Water Conservation Districts are eligible for the Nonpoint Source Planning Reports project type. Municipal MS4 Operators regulated by the MS4 General Permit and Soil and Water Conservation Districts on behalf of regulated MS4 Operators are eligible for the MS4 Mapping and MS4 Stormwater Management Program Planning project types.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Grants
Funding Available: At least \$18 million

Program Description: The Climate Smart Communities Grant Program is a competitive grant program that allows applicants to 1) complete a subset of CSC certification actions, 2) complete projects that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, mainly from the non-power sector, 3) complete climate adaptation projects that directly address or alleviate hazards exacerbated by climate changes, and 4) complete engineering feasibility studies for flood alleviation projects, conversion of existing refrigeration equipment to natural refrigerants, or smart growth analyses.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Counties, towns, cities, villages, Indian Nations, local public authorities, and local public benefit corporations of the State or New York.

Program Contact: Myra Fedyniak, cscgrants@dec.ny.gov, 518-402-8448

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation – Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program

Funding Available: At least \$75 million

Program Description: WQIP is a competitive, statewide reimbursement grant program to implement projects that directly improve water quality or habitat, promote flood risk reduction, restoration, and enhanced flood and climate resiliency, protect a drinking water source, or improve dam safety. Project types include Wastewater Treatment Improvement, Non-agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control, Vacuum Trucks in Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Areas, Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection, Salt Storage and Road Salt Reduction, Dam Safety Repair/Rehabilitation and Dam Removal, Aquatic Connectivity, Marine District Habitat Restoration, Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Enhancement, and Landfill Leachate Treatment.

Eligible Types of Applicants: Municipalities, including Indian Nations, (as defined in the Program Overview) and Soil and Water Conservation Districts are eligible for all project types unless otherwise noted. 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profits are eligible for Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection, Dam Safety Repair/Rehabilitation and Removal, Aquatic Connectivity, Marine District Habitat Restoration, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Enhancement.

Program Contact: dowgrants@dec.ny.gov; 518-402-8179

New York Power Authority (NYPA) – ReCharge New York Power Program
Power Available: Up to 22.7 Megawatts

Program Description: Program Description: ReCharge New York (RNY) is a statewide economic development power program designed to retain or create jobs through allocations of lower cost electricity to businesses and Not-for-Profit Corporations. There is also power available to be allocated to businesses that plan to expand operations in the state or are looking to relocate to New York State. For more information visit <https://www.nypa.gov/services/incentives-and-grants/recharge-ny> . For assistance with completing the application please contact PoweringBusiness@nypa.gov.

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

Program Contact: PoweringBusiness@nypa.gov

