



Dear Stakeholder,

Below is my monthly grants message. If you know of someone who would find this email round-up useful, please forward this along and invite them to subscribe by emailing my office at levenbergd@nyassembly.gov.

If you are planning to apply for an opportunity that requires a letter of support from a state official, please feel free to contact my chief of staff, Victoria Cafarelli, at cafarelliv@nyassembly.gov with more details about your project.

Upcoming Consolidated Funding Application Information Sessions

Round XIV of the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) is open now, and Empire State Development staff are holding information sessions about it this summer. [Click here to learn more about the programs under the CFA](#), most of which have a hard application deadline of **4 PM on Wednesday, July 31**. Register for a session to learn more about the funding available. A link will be emailed to all registered individuals the day before the scheduled information session.

Virtual session in partnership with **Westchester County**: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 - 3:00pm. [Click here to register.](#)

Virtual session in partnership with **Putnam County**: Monday, July 15, 2024 - 10:00am. [Click here to register.](#)

Best,

Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg

Congratulations!

Huge congratulations are due to the **Village of Ossining** and the **City of Peekskill**, which were among the big winners in the first round of Mid-Hudson Momentum Fund awards. Peekskill will receive \$10 million for infrastructure improvements that will permit sustainable mixed-use development near the Peekskill waterfront. Ossining will receive \$10 million toward the construction of a new Indian Brook Water Treatment Plant. I was pleased to support both of these applications and am so excited for their success!



Ossining Mayor Rika Levin with Peekskill Mayor Vivian McKenzie at the Mid-Hudson Momentum Fund announcement.

Reminder: Deadline Extended for Mid-Hudson Momentum Fund

The Mid-Hudson Momentum Fund focuses on mixed-use housing, transit-oriented development, and infrastructure projects in the Mid-Hudson region. This includes projects that 1) have garnered community support, 2) will result in additional units of affordable housing, 3) leverage non-State investment, 4) are financially sound, and 5) can begin quickly. The application deadline was extended to **4 PM on Friday, June 28**, so there is still time to apply for the next round. [Applications can be submitted through the CFA Portal](#). Guidelines can be found [here](#). You can sign up to receive Mid-Hudson Momentum Fund updates [here](#).

Department of Energy Low-Income Communities Bonus

The Department of Energy (DOE) has opened applications for the [Low-Income Communities Bonus \(LICB\)](#). Tax-exempt entities that expect to complete a solar or wind project smaller than 5 MW in the next ~4 years should apply for the LICB to [maximize the amount of money they can receive](#) with the Investment Tax Credit (ITC) through Direct Pay.

DOE administers the LICB Program in partnership with the Department of the Treasury and the IRS. The LICB requires its own application and is separate from the IRS's pre-registration and filing processes for Direct Pay. Unlike Direct Pay tax credits and their other bonus credits, the LICB is competitive and only granted to a limited number of projects. To qualify, an applicant must build a solar or wind project <5 MW that meets any of the following criteria:

- Category 1: [Located](#) in a low-income community (+10% bonus credit)
- Category 2: Located on Indigenous land (+10% bonus credit)
- Category 3: [Part of a Qualified Low-Income Residential Building Project](#) (+20% bonus credit)

- Category 4: [Part of a Qualified Low-Income Economic Benefit Project](#) (+20% bonus credit)
- Plan to claim the Investment Tax Credit (ITC) for this project
- Expect to complete this project in the next ~4 years. (The LICB will not apply for projects that have already been placed in service.)

The priority application deadline is **Thursday, June 27 at 11:59 PM**. After June 27, DOE will accept applications on a rolling basis. Applications received by the priority deadline will be more competitive. For more information, see the [DOE's LICB landing page](#) with more links and resources.

Other Deadlines Approaching Soon

New York-Presbyterian Community Fund: New York-Presbyterian's Community Fund aims to empower local community-based organizations (CBOs) to help combat environmental and external factors that affect the health outcomes of individuals. By providing targeted and scaled funding for programs that tackle social determinants of health, New York-Presbyterian is committed to supporting CBOs in bridging health disparities across New York City and Westchester. The Community Fund offers grants ranging from **\$75,000** to **\$150,000** annually, extendable for up to two years, with a maximum award of **\$300,000** for projects or programs seeking to address one of the following: social isolation, housing insecurity, or unemployment/economic recovery. Applications are due **Sunday, June 23**. Visit New York-Presbyterian's Web site to learn more.

Youth Climate Action Fund Grants: Partners for Climate Action has partnered with Bloomberg Philanthropies' new Youth Climate Action Fund to provide grants for young people, ages 15 – 24, to design and implement urgent climate solutions in the mid-Hudson Valley Region, including Putnam County. Award amounts will range between \$1,000 to \$5,000. Visit the Partners for Climate Action Web site to learn more and apply. Applications are due by **5 PM on Sunday, June 30**.

Earth Rising Foundation Small Grant Program: The Earth Rising Foundation is a small climate justice foundation that seeks to amplify existing and emerging voices demanding a future based on cooperation and care for each other and the planet. The Earth Rising Foundation works to support youth climate activists in various ways, offering material support for actions, which can include funding for consultants, transportation, and equipment, educational and media initiatives, as well as creative projects. The small grant provides between \$200 to \$20,000 to support climate activism and initiatives that raise awareness about the climate crisis in areas of Youth Activism, Indigenous Voices, Sustainable Visions, Climate Intersections, and Regenerative Agriculture. Click here to apply by **Sunday, June 30**.

EPA: 2024 Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has launched the 2024 [Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program](#) to fund the replacement of non-zero-emission Class 6 and Class 7 heavy-duty vehicles with zero-emission vehicles. The EPA expects to offer up to \$932 million in funding for high-quality applications that propose to serve communities across the country, particularly those overburdened by air pollution. At least \$400 million will be used to fund projects in communities in air quality nonattainment areas. Applicants must submit all application materials by **Thursday, July 25** at 11:59 PM.

Eligible applicants to the Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant (CHDV) Program include: states, including U.S. territories; municipalities, including public school districts; Indian Tribes; and nonprofit school transportation associations. Vehicles eligible for replacement under the Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program include Class 6 and Class 7 school buses and other non-school bus Class 6 and Class 7 vehicles, including (but not limited to): Refuse Haulers/Dump Trucks, Class 6/7 Transit Buses, Delivery Trucks, Utility Trucks, Bucket Trucks, Other Box Trucks.

Eligible activities and costs for the Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program include:

- The incremental cost of replacing a non-zero-emission Class 6/7 heavy-duty vehicle with a Class 6/7 zero-emission vehicle;
- The purchase and installation of fueling infrastructure that will support vehicles replaced under this program;
- Driver/mechanic training related to the maintenance and operation of new vehicles and supporting fueling infrastructure, and vehicle warranties; and

- Costs directly related to the implementation, management, and oversight of the project, including recipient and subrecipient personnel and benefits, contractual services, consulting on vehicle deployments, travel, supplies, and indirect costs.

Potential applicants without a [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) or [System for Award Management](https://www.sam.gov) (SAM.gov) account are encouraged to initiate the registration process for each account as soon as possible since the registration process can take a month or more.

Additional Opportunities

Local Stewardship Planning & River Education Grants: [\\$1 million in grant funding is now available for projects to help communities in the Hudson River Valley](#) improve water quality, advance stewardship of habitat and natural resources, and enhance river education. Two Hudson River Estuary Requests for Applications (RFAs) are available: 2024 Local Stewardship Planning (Round 43) and 2024 River Education (Round 44). The minimum grant award is \$10,500 and the maximum is \$75,000. The deadline for all applications is **Wednesday, July 17 at 3 PM**.

NYSCA Arts & Culture Grants: The New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) has opened its FY2025 funding opportunities. [Click here to learn more about available awards](#). All applications are due by **4 PM on Wednesday, July 17**.



DEC Environmental Justice Community Impact Grant: The DEC’s Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) will make available \$7,337,509 in funding for [Environmental Justice Community Impact Grants](#) to community-based organizations for projects that address exposure of communities to multiple environmental harms and risks (“projects”). Eligible applicants are not-for-profit (NFP) community-based organizations having 501(c)(3) status or a community-based organization may partner with a NFP that will serve as their fiscal sponsor. You must develop and electronically submit grant applications in the SFS Grants Management System no later than **3:00 PM on Wednesday, August 7**. The maximum amount an applicant may request is \$100,000. Applicants are not required to have matching funds under this grant opportunity. Please email all environmental justice grant opportunity questions to Marilyn Moore, Program Manager: justice@dec.ny.gov. DEC will accept questions regarding this grant opportunity until

close of business on **Wednesday, July 24**. DEC will upload all questions and answers in SFS for all applicants to view.

NEA Our Town Grant: The [National Endowment for the Arts \(NEA\) Our Town Grant](#) program offers creative placemaking grants program provides project-based funding to support 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. Competitive projects are responsive to unique local conditions, develop meaningful and substantive engagement in communities, center equity, advance artful lives, and lay the groundwork for long-term systems change.

A full grant program description can be found under [Grant Program Details](#). For detailed instructions on how to apply, see [Application Instructions](#). Grants range from \$25,000-\$150,000. Apply by **Thursday, August 15**.

Brownfields Job Training Grants: The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR) is soliciting applications from eligible entities for [Brownfields Job Training Grants](#) to recruit, train, and place unemployed and under-employed residents of areas affected by the presence of brownfield sites. Eligible entities can include state and local governments, Tribes, and nonprofit organizations. The application submission deadline is **Thursday, August 15**. See the [FY 2025 Brownfields Job Training Grant Guidelines and Application Resources webpage](#) for more information.

Green Resiliency Grant Program: Applications are now being accepted for the [inaugural round of a Green Resiliency Grant \(GRG\) program](#). The new program will provide grants to flood-prone communities and help them undertake innovative green infrastructure projects such as green roofs, green streets and permeable pavement. GRG is being administered by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC). Applications are due by **Friday, August 16**.

USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Cooperative Agreements: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is accepting applications for Composting and Food Waste Reduction (CFWR) pilot projects. The cooperative agreements, using remaining funds from the American Rescue Plan Act, are jointly administered by USDA's Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). These cooperative agreements support projects led by local governments, schools or other eligible entities that generate compost, increase access to compost for agricultural producers, reduce reliance on and limit the use of fertilizer, improve soil quality, encourage waste management and permaculture business development, increase rainwater absorption, reduce municipal food waste, and divert food waste from landfills.

USDA's Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (OUAIP) will accept applications on [Grants.gov](#) until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on **Wednesday, September 4**. Projects must be

two years in duration with an estimated start date of June 1, 2025. [Click here to learn more about the program and funding opportunity.](#)

U.S. DOT Safe Streets and Roads for All Grants

The USDOT's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2024 Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) is open for applications. The SS4A program funds regional and local initiatives through grants to prevent deaths and serious injuries on our nation's roadways.

The FY24 SS4A NOFO had multiple application deadlines depending on the grant type; the Planning and Demonstration Grant is the last program that remains open. These applications must be received by **Thursday, August 29, 2024 at 5:00 PM ET**. Unsuccessful Implementation Grant applicants may apply for a Planning and Demonstration Grant application in that final application round. For more information, please visit the [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\) website](#).

NYSERDA's Inflation Reduction Act Guide for Municipalities & Not-For-Profits

Tax-exempt organizations can receive IRA tax credits as direct payments for eligible clean energy projects. [Click here to learn more in NYSERDA's new guide.](#)

Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is accepting applications for its Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program. The SMART Grants Program was made possible by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. As part of the President's Investing in America agenda, the program will fund up to \$500 million in grants over five years for demonstration projects focused on advanced smart community technologies and systems that improve transportation safety and efficiency.

The funding opportunity is open to public sector entities seeking to carry out transportation projects that demonstrate at least one of the following technology areas:

- Coordinated automation
- Connected vehicles
- Sensors
- Systems integration
- Delivery/logistics
- Innovative aviation
- Smart grid

- Traffic signals

Successful projects will create sustainable partnerships across sectors and levels of government, engaging industry, labor, academia, and nonprofits to better meet community transportation needs.

The notice of funding opportunity can be found on the [SMART Grants Program website](#). It will also be posted on [grants.gov](#) later this week. Applications must be submitted by **5:00 PM EDT on Friday, July 12, 2024** to the [Valid Eval Submission website](#).

U.S. EPA Environmental Justice Community Change Grants

The EPA is providing a total \$2 billion for Environmental Justice Community Change Grants. Each award will be between \$10-20 million or \$1-3 million depending on the project. Applications are now open (learn more [here](#)) and will remain so until **Thursday, November 21**.

Who can apply:

- A partnership between at least two community-based non-profit organizations (CBOs).
- A partnership between a CBO and one or any combination of the following: a Federally-Recognized Tribe; a local government; or an institution of higher education.

Eligible activities:

- Climate resiliency & adaptation
- Mitigating climate & health risks from urban heat islands, extreme heat, wood heater emissions, & wildfire events
- Community-led air & other (including water & waste) pollution monitoring, prevention, & remediation
- Investments in low- & zero-emission & resilient technologies & related infrastructure
- Workforce development that supports the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions & other air pollutants
- Reducing indoor toxins & indoor air pollution
- Facilitating the engagement of disadvantaged communities in State & Federal advisory groups, workshops, rulemakings, & other public processes

Additional Resources:

[Community Change Grants FAQs \(PDF\)](#)

[Community Change Grants Informational Video \(English\)](#)

The Environmental Protection Network has created suggested 6-step application guides for Track I and Track II, with checklists, templates, and additional resources. They encourage all interested applicants and potential partners to begin by filling out their [Partner and Assistance Survey](#) so that you can use the responses (publicly available [here](#)) to find partners and share information.

U.S. EPA Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA)

The federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law dedicates \$9 billion for investments in communities whose drinking water is impacted by PFAS and other emerging contaminants. EPA's free Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) services support communities to identify water challenges, develop plans, build capacity, and develop application materials to access water infrastructure funding. [Click here to learn more about these resources.](#)

Assistance from the New York Department of State Office of Planning, Development and Community Infrastructure

The New York Department of State Office of Planning, Development and Community Infrastructure can assist local governments through various grant programs and initiatives. They provide comprehensive information and resources on a wide variety of funding opportunities within New York that foster sustainable community development. Their team can guide you to resources that promote community revitalization, strengthen infrastructure, advance environmental stewardship, and create a hub for residents that stimulates local and regional economies.

Learn more about:

1. Brownfield Redevelopment Grants
2. Downtown or Waterfront Revitalization
3. Community Initiatives
4. Resiliency Planning
5. Coastal Natural Resource Protection
6. Community Planning and Zoning

Contact them for a community development consultation by calling (518) 474-6000 or via email at opd@dos.ny.gov.

Funding Available for Electric School Bus Charging Infrastructure

NYSERDA is now accepting applications from school districts and school bus operators seeking help funding their electric school bus charging infrastructure. Funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis, and the level of funding provided is based on the number of electric buses a school district or bus operator has purchased or is currently purchasing. Amounts start

at \$25,000 per bus to cover hardware, customer-side electrical site upgrades, installation costs, and battery storage. Districts designated as [priority districts](#) can receive an additional \$10,000 per bus. Priority districts are defined as high-need school districts by the New York State Education Department or those that serve [disadvantaged communities](#) as defined by the New York State Climate Justice Working Group.

As part of the process, applicants can receive up to an additional \$30,000 per bus if they choose the option to complete a Fleet Electrification Plan which provides a comprehensive evaluation of existing fleet operations, analysis of current site electrical capabilities, and will serve as an action plan for electrifying the applicant's entire fleet by 2035. [Click here to register and start an application.](#)

Environmental Facilities Corporation Community Assistance Teams

New York State's Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) offers ongoing consultations to municipalities seeking to improve their water infrastructure. EFC's Community Assistance Teams evaluate community needs and connect municipalities to funding opportunities. [Click here for more information and to request a meeting.](#)

ConnectALL Opportunities

Empire State Development's ConnectALL has opened the [New York State Broadband Challenge Portal](#) for residents, local governments, nonprofits, and Internet Service Providers to help fine tune which locations could be eligible for [new broadband service grants](#). Through the Challenge Portal, participants can run speed tests, and then share the results to suggest eligibility. Internet Service Providers, government entities, and nonprofit organizations can use the Challenge Portal to register for the formal challenge process. For more information on the challenge process, [visit the ConnectALL website.](#)

Not-for-profit organizations that facilitate greater use of internet service by vulnerable populations are strongly encouraged to register as challengers to validate their connectivity data. Local governments and community organizations can direct members of their communities to submit public comments on their internet service using the Challenge Portal.

Owners of affordable housing properties can also apply for the [Affordable Housing Connectivity Program](#), which provides no-cost broadband upgrades for eligible buildings, by completing a Building Conditions Self-Assessment survey. [Click here to access the survey.](#)

Grants Action News

Every month, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie's office produces a newsletter, [Grants Action News](#), that contains a round-up of state, federal and private grants and scholarships along with details on how to access them. [Here](#) is a link to the June 2024 edition. This month, it contains opportunities for not-for-profits, local governments, public housing authorities, artists, and

college students. To get this newsletter sent directly to your inbox, email grants@nyassembly.gov.

Rebate and Low-Cost Financing Opportunities for Municipalities & Small Businesses

Biden-Harris Climate Capital Guidebook: The Biden-Harris Administration has released a new [Climate Capital Guidebook](#), which highlights current federal funding opportunities—including grants, loans, loan guarantees, and cooperative agreements—for small- and medium-sized companies, both startups and established, focusing on clean energy technologies and other climate solutions. This resource includes programs funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act, as well as those funded by annual appropriations. Highlighted programs have funding available through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Small Business Administration, Export-Import Bank of the United States, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of the Interior, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency, and the U.S. Department of Defense.

This Guidebook complements existing resources—including the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Guidebook](#), the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Tribal Playbook](#), the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Rural Playbook](#), and the [Inflation Reduction Act Guidebook](#)—which detail funding opportunities made possible through the President’s Investing in America agenda. [Click here to access the guide](#).

\$750,000 Available to New York Municipalities Under Zero-emission Vehicle Rebate Program: The DEC has recently announced the next round of its [Municipal Zero-emission Vehicle \(ZEV\) Rebate Program](#). A total of \$750,000 is available from DEC for municipalities to apply for funding on a first-come, first-served basis through **Friday, September 27** or until funds are exhausted, whichever occurs first. Rebates are available to municipalities across the State that purchase – or lease for a minimum of 36 months—an eligible vehicle placed into municipal service at a dealership in New York State between Sept. 30, 2022, and Sept. 27, 2024. All electric, plug-in hybrid, and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles are eligible for rebates.

[More details can be found in the Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#) posted on the DEC website. Applications are available through the [NYS Statewide Financial System Grants Management System](#). DEC encourages municipalities that are designated as disadvantaged communities under the [Climate Justice Working Group’s criteria](#) to apply.

Environmental Protection Agency WIFIA Program: The WIFIA program is a bank operated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that provides low-cost, flexible loans for water infrastructure projects across the country. WIFIA loans support a wide variety of drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater projects. Eligible borrowers include public entities, private entities, and public-private partnerships. WIFIA loans can support a broad range of project costs, including project planning and design, construction, land and equipment acquisition, and more. Prospective borrowers can apply for and receive a single WIFIA loan or bundle multiple WIFIA loans under a single application for nearly any stage of project completion, including design-only

loans. The WIFIA program has funding available on an ongoing basis and can provide technical assistance to prospective borrowers (particularly disadvantaged and small communities) that need support to complete their [Letter of Interest \(LOI\) package](#). Click here for the [application process and materials](#) as well as office hours. You can also contact wifia@epa.gov to ask questions or request a one-on-one meeting. Click here to get [monthly updates on WIFIA program news and updates](#).

New York State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI): SSBCI provides funds to support programs for small businesses, including socially and economically disadvantaged individual (SEDI) owned businesses and very small businesses (VSB), to recover from the economic effects of COVID-19 and allow them opportunity to succeed in the post-pandemic economy. SSBCI offers several programs designed to support small businesses in accessing the capital they need to grow and succeed. Visit the SSBCI website at esd.ny.gov/ssbci to learn more about available programs.