

Round 14
Competitive
Program
Applications
due July 31,
2025.

Sullivan County

CFA Alert

For Municipalities, Small
Businesses, and Not-for-Profits

May 2025

Prepared by

SULLIVAN COUNTY

GRANTS ADMINISTRATION

100 NORTH STREET, MONTICELLO, NY



What is the CFA?

In 2011, Governor Cuomo created the ten Regional Economic Development Councils (REDC) and the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to improve New York State's economic growth. The CFA is a web-based application designed to streamline the application process for grants available through New York State agencies and authorities.

Before 2011, applicants were required to navigate multiple applications and agencies to apply for state resources. Presently, a single CFA can be submitted for one or multiple sources of funding. While applying for funding from one state agency, you may qualify for funding sources from other agencies.

Since its inception, the REDC Initiative has awarded over \$8.2 billion to more than 10,400 projects.

Who can apply for CFA grants?

The following are eligible applicants for CFS grants:

- Counties
- Municipalities
- For-profit businesses
- Not-for-profit corporations
- Business improvement districts
- Local development corporations
- Public benefit corporations
- Economic development organizations
- Research and academic institutions
- Incubators
- Technology parks
- Regional planning units
- Councils
- Tourist attractions
- Community facilities



Regional Economic Development Themes:

- **Innovation, Collaboration, and Industry Growth** to continue to invest in existing and new industries that advance each regions strategies and target sectors.
- **Housing & Community Development** to invest in housing, community development and placemaking projects to create and sustain thriving communities.
- **Equitable Growth** to break down barriers to economic opportunities through projects that foster equitable entrepreneurship and accessible career pathways for all.
- **Workforce Development** to support the needs and demands of employers across the State.

What programs are included in the CFA?

The CFA includes economic and community development programs administered by a variety of State agencies and authorities, including Empire State Development (ESD), Department of State (DOS), Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the Department of Labor (DOL), and many more.

Programs fall under several categories, including:

- Direct assistance to business and other organizations
- Community development
- Waterfront revitalization
- Energy
- Housing
- Child Care
- Education/workforce development
- Low-cost financing



*All CFA grants are subject to the New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, which requires, where applicable, the establishment of 30 percent minority-and women-owned business enterprises (MWBE) contract goals.

How do I apply?

- First, discern if your organization is grant ready.
- Clearly lay out the scope and details of your proposed project.
- Prepare a project budget. (Be prepared to adhere to State procurement guidelines.)
- Consider program(s) to which you are applying.
- Obtain any necessary authorizations required by your organization.

A step-by-step guide to using the application is available on the CFA website, <https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/> but note, all applications will be submitted by the County Manager or Legislative Chairman.

Round 14 competitive program applications will be due by 4 pm on July 31, 2025. There will be another round of program applications around the same time next year. "Open Enrollment" programs are not subject to the July 31 deadline. Refer to the **2025 Available Resources Guide** for information.



Available Resources in 2025

Programs Subject to July 31, 2025 4:00 PM deadline:



Empire State Development: Up to \$68 million

- Regional Council Capital Funds
- Strategic Planning & Feasibility Studies
- Market New York (working capital)
- Pro Housing Supply Funds

Homes and Community Renewal: Up to \$24.2 million

- New York Main Street Program
- New York State Community Development Block Grant Program - Public Infrastructure

Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation: Up to \$29 million

- Environmental Protection Fund Grants Program for Parks, Preservation and Heritage (EPF)
- Recreational Trails Program

Department of State: Up to \$17.975 million

- Local Waterfront Revitalization Program
- Brownfield Opportunity Area Program
- Smart Growth Community Planning Program

New York State Canal Corporation: Up to \$1 million

- Canalway Grants Program

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority: Up to \$25 million

- Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Carbon Challenge
- Building Cleaner Communities Competition

Department of Environmental Conservation: Up to \$100 million*

- Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program*
- Climate Smart Communities Grant Program*
- Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Planning and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Mapping Grant Program*

Open Enrollment Programs:

Open Enrollment programs will continue to accept applications on an ongoing basis and are not subject to the July 31st deadline.

Empire State Development: Up to \$75 million

- Excelsior Jobs Program

Homes & Community Renewal: Up to \$20 million

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Open Round

New York State Power Authority: Up to 33.9 Megawatts

- Megawatts for the ReCharge NY Program

For detailed information, refer to the 2024 Available Resources Guide.

NYS Economic Development Programs & Initiatives

Some Highlights...

As part of the State's economic development strategy, it has deployed multiple rounds of investment through the Regional Councils to shovel-ready projects. There are several other State-related economic development initiatives that complement the work of the Councils and a wide variety of funding that is coordinated with strategic plans created by the REDCs to ensure that available funding is matched with the needs and priorities of each region. Here are some highlights. For a complete listing and details, see the **REDC Guidebook 2025**.

New York Forward - Advances the renaissance of the downtowns in New York's smaller and rural communities.

Pro-Housing Community Program - Rewards municipalities actively working to unlock their housing potential and encourage others to follow suit.

FAST NY - Provides grants to develop sites statewide to jumpstart New York's shovel readiness and increase its attractiveness to large employers, including high-tech manufacturing, particularly semiconductor manufacturing, interstate distribution and logistics businesses.

NYS Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) - Supports the resurgence of small businesses through the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI). With this funding, ESD has developed a suite of capital access programs to help New York State small businesses access capital.

Office of Strategic Workforce Development - Supports workforce development training for underserved populations within seven established priority sectors (advanced manufacturing, biotech/life sciences, cleantech/renewable energy, construction, electronics and OPI, film and TV production, software/digital media) and other regionally significant industries.

NEW - POWER UP (Promote Opportunity with Electric Readiness for Underdeveloped Properties) - Funds the development of electric capacity to create power ready sites and attract new businesses to the State.

NEW - Food and Fiber Small-Scale Processing Grant Program - Fuels the supply of diverse products for New York's local purchasing programs with a focus on creating food and fiber products for institutional and retail markets.

NEW - Child Care Construction Grants - Provides capital grants for childcare centers, counties, and municipalities. Also advances funding to help family childcare programs cover small renovations and repairs.

NEW - NY BRICKS (Building Recreational Infrastructure for Communities, Kids and Seniors) - Through NY BRICKS, municipalities and nonprofit organizations will be able to apply for grants for community center projects (design and construction/renovation of community centers as well as land acquisition.) High-impact projects located within or predominantly serving low-income or other disadvantaged communities will be prioritized for funding. Priority will also be given to projects that offer key community services such as childcare, eldercare, and mental health counseling.

NEW - NY PLAYS (Places for Learning, Activity and Youth Socialization) - Advances funding for playground development and maintenance for both construction of new playgrounds and renovation of existing playgrounds.

NY SWIMS - Provides capital dollars towards pool projects. This round will open access both to municipalities and to nonprofit community organizations, to help reach more families.

New Grant Programs for this Round

NEW!

Promote Opportunity with Electric Readiness for Underdeveloped Properties (POWER UP) - New York State is attracting investment in new manufacturing and high-tech development faster than existing energy system planning and funding mechanisms can accommodate, and we need more power-ready sites-a key factor in where companies decide to locate. Funds the proactive development of electric capacity to create power ready sites and attract new businesses to the State.

Food and Fiber Small-Scale Processing Grant Program - Building on New York's supply chain and processing expansions in recent years, Governor Hochul has established the Food and Fiber Small-Scale Processing Grant Program to further fuel the supply of diverse products for New York's many local purchasing programs. Focuses on creating food and fiber products for institutional and retail markets. It will provide capital funding to continue to equip the State to meet the demands of local sourcing initiatives, such as Farm-to-School/NYS 30% Initiative, Nourish NY and Executive Order 32, through processing facilities located in New York.

Child Care Construction Grants - To facilitate childcare providers' ability to expand enrollment capacity and serve additional children, \$100 million in capital grants will be available for childcare centers, counties, and municipalities. These funds will help ensure childcare deserts continue to be addressed through the opening of new childcare programs or through providing funds for necessary repairs and renovations at existing programs. Until now, childcare capital programs have been reserved for childcare centers, but in this year's Executive Budget, \$10 million in funding will be advanced to help family childcare programs cover small renovations and repairs that are necessary to provide safe, high-quality childcare. OCFS will administer these grants and provide technical assistance to help family childcare providers undertake projects.

New York State's Recreation Infrastructure - The NY BRICKS (Building Recreational Infrastructure for Communities, Kids and Seniors) will help municipalities and nonprofit organizations undertake high impact community center projects that promote physical health, mental wellbeing, and community connections. Municipalities and nonprofit organizations will be able to apply for grants of up to \$15 million each for community center projects, which can be used to fund land acquisition and the design and construction/renovation of community centers. The program will prioritize high-impact investments located within or serving low-income or other disadvantaged communities. Priority will also be given to projects that offer key community services such as childcare, eldercare, and mental health counseling.

Playgrounds -Research has demonstrated that increased exposure to nature and outdoor play areas, including playgrounds, result in improved emotional health for children and in one study conducted during COVID, children with access to playgrounds were found to have 20 percent lower rates of certain mental health issues such as anxiety and depression than those with more limited access to play spaces. Unfortunately, many children in New York, especially those in underserved communities, lack access to safe and well-maintained playgrounds. And too many playgrounds fail to cater towards children with varying needs. To address this issue, Governor Hochul will create NY PLAYS-Places for Learning, Activity and Youth Socialization. This program will advance new competitive grant funding for playground development and maintenance projects statewide, which will support both construction of new playgrounds and renovation of existing playgrounds.

Strategic Focus Areas for the ESD Grants Program

Projects supporting the strategic focus areas below may be eligible for an increased project award through the ESD Grants program.

- **Innovative Public-Private Partnerships:** Projects that support innovative public-private partnerships which leverage unique regional assets to advance a region's economic development strategies. Innovative public-private partnerships are intended for higher education institutions with a focus on innovation and research partnerships.
- **Projects located in severely distressed communities:** Support projects in economically distressed communities to encourage investment and spur economic growth in these communities. Strong projects in this focus area should be able to demonstrate a community and economic benefit as a result of the project or demonstrate the populations that will benefit from the project.
- **Childcare Projects:** Focusing on projects that will improve access to quality childcare and build additional capacity in the number of childcare offerings available will help strengthen the state's economy and address challenges that affect the business community.

For additional information, see the REDC Guidebook 2025

What is the review process for CFA ?

Applications are reviewed by the Regional Council and State Agency. Regional Council endorsement counts for 20 percent of the total review, while the State agency's review counts for 80 percent of the total application score. Each region's strategic plan and progress report are available on the region's webpage, which can be found at www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov.

STATEWIDE ENDORSEMENT STANDARDS

For each CFA, the Regional Council reviewer will determine the degree to which the application implements the regional strategic plan and assign the corresponding number of points as a score.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN	DEGREE	POINTS
The proposal is identified as a priority project by the Regional Council.	Priority	20
The proposal is identified in the plan and has regional benefits.	Very Strong	15
The proposal advances the plan and has local benefits.	Strong	10
The proposal is consistent with the plan and has project level benefits.	Moderate	5
The proposal has limited relationship to the plan.	Weak	0

How are awards announced?

Awards are based on the State agency's review and the Regional Council's endorsement. Each award is subject to final approval by the funding agency, and every agency has in place an approval and disbursement process, which may require applicants to sign contracts or letters of commitment and submit supporting documents, such as verifications of eligibility, tax status, and municipal resolutions.

**2025 CFA Guidebook &
Available Resources**
www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov



PREVIOUS AWARDS TO SULLIVAN COUNTY THROUGH CFA

Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, DEC Award - \$100,000

For the development of a plan to support active transportation to connect common destinations within population centers.

Sullivan County Organic Waste Management Plan, DEC Award-\$77,500

To contract with a consulting engineering firm to conduct an organics composting feasibility study with preliminary siting and conceptual design. The resulting Organics Management Plan outlines the best method and means for the County to implement organics waste management, and will also be a component of the County's required Solid Waste Management Plan.

Hamlet of Kohlertown Flood Risk Reduction Project, DEC Award - \$934,084

To construct an overflow pipeline to alleviate repetitive flooding in the hamlet of Kohlertown. Excessive storm water flow to a tributary of the East Branch of the Callicoon Creek causes flooding of residences, businesses, and several roads in the in the area.

Sullivan County O&W Rail Trail, ESD Award Amount-\$22,500

To advance work being done to complete the 50-mile stretch of the OW Rail Trail that traverses the County to create a continuous trail that links to businesses and amenities and to increase visitation to the area.

Sullivan County O&W Rail Trail Project, Parks Award -\$127,000

To advance work being done to complete the 50-mile stretch of the O&W Rail Trail that traverses the County from Summitville to Livingston Manor. Funds used to analyze completed and undeveloped segments and develop a regional plan with cost estimates for repairs, upgrades and new segments.

Sullivan County Microenterprise Assistance Program, HCR (CDBG) Award-\$200,000

For the establishment of the Sullivan County Microenterprise Assistance Program.

2024 AWARDS TO SULLIVAN COUNTY BUSINESSES, NOT-FOR-PROFITS & MUNICIPALITIES

Town of Fallsburg-Pleasant Valley Culvert Project - \$186,794

Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Inc. - Berry Brook Reconnection Project - \$864,864

Town of Fallsburg - Town of Fallsburg Wastewater Treatment Improvements - \$10,000,000

Livingston Legacy Holdings, Inc. - Livingston Legacy Holdings Project - \$2,000,000 (two awards)

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts - Campground Marketing Project - \$60,000

New Hope Community, Inc. - Hope Farm Expansion Project - \$51,800

Village of Liberty - North Main Street Watermain Replacement - \$1,487,053

For a complete list of awards throughout the Mid-Hudson Region and across New York State, visit
<https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/2023-awards>.



THE IMPORTANCE OF PROJECT PLANNING

The project drives the funding, the funding doesn't drive the plan. While it can be tempting to try to fit a "good idea" to a grant opportunity, it is not best practice. *"The first rule in grantseeking is that you don't write a grant request without first completing a comprehensive planning process that involves the grant applicant or organization's key stakeholders."* (Dr. Beverly A. Browning, *Grant Writing for Dummies*)

The ***Project Needs Assessment Questionnaire*** below may serve as a very basic tool to help stakeholders brainstorm, identify key ideas, and to form a basis for fleshing out a more detailed plan. It is your first step toward developing a highly detailed grant proposal.

PLANNING PROJECT NEEDS ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What is the problem? Who is affected, where, what is the issue, and why is it an issue?
2. What is the solution? You can frame your answer by describing your proposed project.
3. Do you have the data? Can you justify need, or is additional research required?
4. What is in the way? What are the obstacles preventing you from implementing the solution? (Obstacles can be related to capacity, financial resources, sustainability, lack of technical knowledge, etc.)
5. What information is lacking? What information do you need in order to fully flesh out a plan? What are your "unanswered questions" related to your project that might require the input of experts/model agencies, etc.?

Local Regional

Workshop:

June 4, 2025

10 am-12 pm

SUNY Orange - Middletown



Register here!

HELPFUL RESOURCES

You can find the following resources at:

<https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/>

CFA Web Portal (CFA Application)

Webinars (Programs and Eligibility Requirements)

CFA Resource Manual (Program Details and Contact Information)

CFA Application Manual (Step-by-Step Guide for Application Process)

QR Code to
Access CFA
Resources



**New to
grants?**

- The Sullivan County Department of Grants Administration has posted a Grants Orientation Webinar. Visit: <https://sullivanny.gov/Departments/grants>
- SUNY Sullivan, in collaboration with ed2go, offers a grantwriting course, "A to Z Grantwriting." Visit: <https://www.ed2go.com/sullivan/online-courses/grant-writing-a-to-z/>



Are you grant ready?

Interested in applying for grant funding? Before you begin, make sure you are "grant ready" by gathering important information you will need on hand.

Organizational Information

- o History (Narrative)
- o Year Established
- o Articles of Incorporation & By-Laws
- o EIN Number
- o Address, Phone, Web Address
- o Mission/Values Statement
- o Service Area/Target Population
- o Current Program/Services Description

Governance

- o Organizational Structure/Chart
- o Board of Directors (affiliations and contact info)
- o Strategic Plan/Business Plan
- o Executive Director/CEO Bio

Tax Documentation

- o Tax exemption status letter
- o IRS Form 990
- o W-9

Technical Requirements

- Required for federal grants
- o UEI (Unique Entity Identifier or SAM, formerly DUNS number)
- o SAM Registration
- o Grants.gov Registration

Financial Information

- o Annual Operating Budget
- o Year-End Financial Statements
- o Audit, if applicable
- o Sources of Funding

Program or Project Information

- o Program/Project Description
- o Target Population
- o Staffing Structure/Organizational Chart
- o Year Established
- o Program/Project Budget
- o Measurable Outcomes (number served, current outcomes)
- o Success Story Narratives

Other Documentation:

- o Annual Report
- o Letters of Support
- o Collaborating Partners (with Memorandums of Agreement)
- o Policies and Procedures
- o History of Grants/Funding Received or Denied
- o News Articles/Photographs/Video Clips/Media
- o Staff Information
- o Cost Estimates and Vendor Information (equipment)

For additional resources, visit the
Sullivan County Grants Administration
website:

<https://sullivanny.us/Departments/grants>



Grant Workshop

Presented by the Department of Grants Administration

Money may not grow on trees...

...but you can explore the world of grants for your non-profit, small business, or municipality. Workshop will include a high-level introduction to grants & a summary review of resources available through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA).

Monday, June 9th, 2025
9-11 am or 6:30-8:30 pm

Legislative Hearing Room
2nd Floor, Sullivan County Government Center
100 North Street, Monticello, NY

Pre-registration requested.

Register online at:

www.sullivanny.gov/Departments/grants

For additional information, please contact the Sullivan County Planning Division at 845-807-0527.

