



Appropriations Requests Guide Fiscal Year 2027

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Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández strives to make sure that the federal government invests in the programs and policies that create opportunities for New Mexico's 3rd Congressional District and our nation. She welcomes constituents and other stakeholders to submit appropriations requests in the following categories:

PROGRAMMATIC AND LANGUAGE REQUESTS:

1. Programmatic request: a request to fund a specific program in the appropriations bill at a specified level.
 - a. Example: Provide \$1,000,000,000 for the USDA ReConnect program.
2. Language request: a request to include specific bill or report language that does not direct funding to a particular entity but encourages, urges, or directs some type of action by an agency.
 - a. Example: The Committee encourages USDA to study the impact of expanded broadband on rural communities' economic prosperity.

To submit a programmatic or language request, please complete this [FORM](#) by March 9, 2026.

COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING:

3. Community Project Funding (CPF) request: a funding request for a specific governmental entity or non-profit organization to carry out a specific community project. For-profit entities are not eligible for funding.
 - a. Example: Provide \$500,000 for a specific entity in City, State.

CPF requests may only be made for the accounts listed in this guide and must meet the specified eligibility and/or matching requirements. **This is a highly competitive process as our office can only select 20 requests for submission to the Appropriations Committee.** The Committee will ultimately decide which projects move forward.

The deadline to submit CPF requests to our office has been extended to March 12, 2026.

Please note that this limited timeline is due to external deadlines that our office does not control.

Please submit your requests using these forms, which are also available at <https://fernandez.house.gov/approps>:

- [Ag., Rural Devel., Food & Drug Admin](#)
- [Commerce, Justice and Science](#)
- [Energy and Water Development](#)
- [Homeland Security](#)
- [Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies](#)
- [Health and Human Services](#)
- [Military Construction & Veterans Affairs](#)
- [Transportation, Housing and Urban Development](#)

You may send any supplemental materials, including letters of community support, or questions to NM03Requests@mail.house.gov. Letters of community support are required to submit.

General CPF Guidelines:

For FY27, CPF is available to only governmental or certain non-profit organizations as described under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Non-profit eligibility varies by subcommittee so please read this guidance closely. The range of sizes for CPF awards has historically been between hundreds of thousands of dollars and a few million. If your project is selected, it may receive a lesser amount of funding than originally requested.

Below you'll find a *brief* summary of each account from which funding may be requested. Our office highly recommends reviewing the requirements for each account on the related agency's website or with an agency office, which may not be explicitly listed in this guide. Some accounts have strict eligibility and matching requirements that cannot be waived.

Note: This does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but that local officials must have a plan to meet such requirements in order for such a project to be viable.

Requests must be for FY27 and cannot include multi-year funding. However, the period of availability to spend the funds may last longer than one year depending on the account from which it comes.

Members must demonstrate that there is significant community support for the proposed projects. This demonstration is critical to increasing the likelihood that the Appropriations Committee will choose to fund a project. Support may be evidenced by, but not limited to:

- Letters of support from elected officials or other local and state entities;
- Press articles or newspaper editorials highlighting the need for the requested CPF;
- Listing on state intended use plans, community development plans, or other publicly available planning documents;
- Resolutions passed by city councils, Tribal councils, or boards.

All submissions must include a project description, budget describing how funding will be used, and an explanation of why the project is a good use of taxpayer funds, among other details specific to each account. Each project must be tied to a federal authorization law. Memorials, museums, and commemoratives (i.e., projects named for an individual or entity) are not eligible for Community Project Funding. Projects may also be subject to Build America, Buy America, NEPA, and other federal requirements.

All requests selected for submission to the Appropriations Committee will be posted publicly on the Committee website.

After receiving requests from every Member of Congress, the Appropriations Committee will determine which projects receive funding by the full House of Representatives. Funding will only be awarded if approved by both the House and Senate and signed into law by the President.

If your project is signed into law, please note that you will need to apply directly to the agency and complete various documents to confirm the project’s eligibility – though this is not a competitive process. Funding recipients often must complete particular environmental reviews before funding is disbursed. Last, please note that all projects that receive funding may be subject to a future audit by the Government Accountability Office.

Eligible CPF Accounts:

Please note that these descriptions are simply summaries. It is important that interested applicants review additional information about each account on the relevant agency’s website or by contacting the agency office.

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies appropriations measure. Please note, **nonprofit entities are NOT eligible for FY27 CPF Agriculture consideration.** **Eligible accounts include:**

1. **USDA Rural Development, Community Facilities Grants:** Funds may be used to purchase, construct, or improve essential community facilities; to purchase equipment; and pay other related project expenses. Grants generally **cannot** be used to pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring expenses, refinance existing debt, pay interest, build or repair facilities in non-rural areas, or pay for construction costs of facilities that will be used for commercial rental space.

Examples of eligible community facilities include medical or dental clinics, town halls, courthouses, childcare centers, police or fire departments, libraries, telemedicine or distance learning equipment, public works vehicles, and food banks. Projects for recreational purposes, community gardens, and museums are NOT allowed. Preference will be given to public health and safety projects.

These projects must serve a rural area, which is defined as rural areas including cities, villages, townships and towns including Federally Recognized Tribal Lands with no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest U.S. Census Data. The amount of the cost-share varies based on exact population.

This account has strict matching requirements that vary based on the population size as documented in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). This account also has a Credit Elsewhere Test meaning the applicant must certify they cannot finance the project from their own resources and credit is not otherwise available on reasonable terms from non-Federal sources. In-kind contributions and other federal formula or grant resources may not count towards match requirements.

For FY26, the average CPF funding level was about \$1.1 million.

- a. **Best for:** Local and state governments, Federally-recognized Tribes in qualified rural areas
 - b. Learn more about the program, including matching requirements [HERE](#)
2. **USDA Rural Development, Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants:** Funds may be used for audio and video equipment, broadband facilities that support distance learning or telemedicine (not actual broadband), computer hardware or network components/software, and acquisition of instructional programming. The program is intended to serve rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less. All requests are subject to all the regulations governing the program which can be found at 7 CFR Part 1734. The program requires a minimum 15% match that cannot come from another federal source. Salaries of any kind are ineligible under Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants. Also, instructional programming is limited to 10% of the overall grant.

Competitive awards typically range from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000 and the Committee will consider projects in this range. In FY26, the average CPF in this account was \$1.2 million.

- a. **Best for:** Research universities, public or university libraries, state, local, and Tribal governments that provide education or health care through telecommunications
 - b. Learn more about the program [HERE](#)
3. **USDA Rural Development, Water and Waste Disposal Grants:** Funds may be used to finance the acquisition, construction, or improvement of drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage and disposal; sewer collection, transmission, treatment and disposal; solid waste collection, disposal and closure; and storm water collection, transmission, and closure. Eligible entities include rural areas and towns with population of 10,000 or less and Tribal lands in rural areas. Potential recipients will be required to provide a 25% non-federal cost share. For FY26, the average CPF award for this account was nearly \$1.5 million.
- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments
 - b. Learn more about the program [HERE](#) (please note that these will be grant funds, not loans, though the match requirement remains)
4. **USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Buildings and Facilities:** Funds may be used for ARS-owned facilities or for facilities that will enhance ongoing ARS work. Requests can assist in the acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities. ARS owns and operates laboratories and facilities across the United States. Facility requests must be for ARS-owned facilities or for facilities that are already partnering with ARS. Universities seeking new agricultural and/or veterinary facilities or labs are not eligible.
- a. **Best for:** Scientific researchers, local research universities
5. **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations:** Conservation Operations has four major program components: Conservation Technical

Assistance, Soil Survey, Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting, and Plant Materials Centers. Examples of specific objectives include those that reduce soil erosion, improve soil health, enhance water supplies, improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat, and reduce damage caused by floods and other natural disasters. Urban agriculture program projects are not eligible. Purchase of land and/or fixed equipment are not eligible activities.

In FY26, the average CPF in this account was \$1.3 million.

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal organizations, or conservation districts.

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies appropriations measure. Eligible accounts include:

6. **Department of Commerce; National Institute of Standards and Technology; Scientific and Technical Research and Service:** Funding must be for activities consistent with and supportive of NIST’s mission and within its authorities, such as STEM education activities, scientific research, or other activities that support American manufacturing and industry. This account does not fund vehicles or building construction or renovation.
 - a. **Best for:** Non-profit colleges and universities
7. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Zone Management:** Projects support the protection, restoration, and responsible development of our nation’s diverse coastal communities and resources.
 - a. **Best for:** Non-profit colleges and universities
8. **Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG):** Funds may be used for criminal justice purposes to support law enforcement; prosecution and court; prevention and education; corrections and community corrections; drug treatment and enforcement; planning, evaluation, and technology improvement; crime victim and witness initiatives; and mental health programs and related law enforcement and corrections programs such as behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams. Projects must comply with the requirements cited in JAG statutes and be consistent with Justice Department guidance for the program. Here is a link to the [Department’s guidance](#).

Funds may NOT be used, directly or indirectly for: security enhancements or equipment to an NGO that does not work on criminal justice or public safety, vehicles (excluding police cruisers), vessels (excluding police boats), aircraft (excluding police helicopters); luxury items; real estate; or construction projects.

Awarded grants will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#). Allowable costs are those costs consistent with the principles set out in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, and those permitted by the grant program’s authorizing legislation. Historically, the Committee has not funded building construction or

renovation as part of community project funding under this account. The median award in this account for FY22 was \$500,000.

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments and local law enforcement agencies
 - i. Non-profit entities are only eligible if they are a college or university or they focus on law enforcement and will partner with the law enforcement agency in executing the project.

9. **Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) - Technology & Equipment:** Funds may be used for COPS Technology and Equipment (COPS Tech) community project grants for State, local, and tribal law enforcement to develop and acquire effective technologies and interoperable communications that assist in investigating, responding to, and preventing crime, provided that such equipment meets the applicable requirements of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Office of Law Enforcement Standards (OLES). This funding will allow recipients the opportunity to establish and enhance any of a variety of technical equipment and/or programs to encourage the continuation and enhancement of community policing efforts within their jurisdictions. These projects should help improve police effectiveness and the flow of information among law enforcement agencies, local government service providers, and the communities they serve.

Funding for building construction or renovation projects is not an eligible use of funding. Recipients of community project funding under this account may not subgrant to other organizations or agencies.

The median award in this account for FY22 was \$520,000.

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies
 - i. Non-profits are not eligible

10. **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Safety, Security, and Mission Services:** Funds may be used for activities consistent with and supportive of the work of NASA's mission directorates and within the agency's authorities, such as STEM education activities, technology development, and scientific research. Examples of such projects include nanomaterials research, antennae for unmanned aerial vehicles, and minority science initiatives. Funding for building construction or renovation projects and medical research projects will not be considered for community project funding.

The median award in this account for FY22 was \$900,000.

- a. **Best for:** Non-profit colleges and universities

Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies appropriations measure. Eligible accounts include:

11. **U.S. Army Corp of Engineers:** These projects primarily focus on navigation, flood and storm damage reduction, and environmental restoration. In addition, the Committee may allow a limited number of environmental infrastructure (EI) projects to go forward. EI projects include design and construction of water distribution works, storm collection efforts, surface water protection projects, and environmental restoration.

The amount of funding requested should reflect the funding amount that can be realistically utilized in FY27 – otherwise known as the project’s capability for FY27. Projects that have not previously received funding through the Army Corps are less likely to be selected.

Projects will fall under the following accounts:

- a. Investigations
 - b. Construction
 - c. Mississippi River and Tributaries
 - d. Operation and Maintenance
 - e. **Best for:** Local and Tribal governments and water systems, facilitators of authorized projects and their partners
12. **Bureau of Reclamation - Water and Related Resources:** Funds may be used for Indian Water Rights Settlements, Rural Water Systems, and repayment contracts. Only previously authorized projects will be considered for funding. Please note that for Reclamation, projects authorized only under sections 4007, 4009(a), and 4009(c) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements Act for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–322) will not be accepted.
 - a. **Best for:** Local and Tribal governments, facilitators of authorized projects and their partners

Homeland Security

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Homeland Security appropriations measure.

Please review the purpose and eligibility requirements, including any [environmental and historic preservation requirements](#), for these two accounts. Federal funding is available for up to 75 percent of the eligible activity costs. The remaining 25 percent of eligible activity costs must generally be derived from non-federal sources. The non-federal cost-share contribution is calculated based on the total cost of the proposed activity. For example, if the total cost is \$100,000 and the non-federal cost-share is 25 percent, then the non-federal contribution is \$25,000. For PDM grants, small, impoverished communities are eligible for up to a 90 percent

federal cost-share for their mitigation planning and project sub-applications in accordance with the [Stafford Act \(42 U.S.C. § 5133\(a\),\(h\)\(2\)\)](#).

Eligible accounts include:

13. **Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants:** Funds may be used for planning or implementing projects that lessen the impacts of future disasters, such as wildfires and floods. Examples of eligible projects include stormwater projects or buying out properties in flood-prone areas. Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(ignoring eligibility\)](#) will be considered for funding, including the cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements, as applicable. Projects must also comply with a [Benefit-Cost Analysis](#).

For any projects designated for funding in the final FY27 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective State Administrative Agency, or Tribal government responsible for administering mitigation grants in the requestor's state must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that entity will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. **All project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency or Tribal government affirming that it believes the project is eligible.** For FY26 project awards ranged from \$117,000 and \$8,685,000. Projects cannot exceed \$10,000,000.

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments

14. **Emergency Operations Center Grants:** Funds may be used to improve emergency preparedness by supporting secure, strategically located emergency operations centers. EOCs are central points from which leadership controls and directs operations during an emergency. Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for the Emergency Operations Center Grant Program, including the cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements, as applicable, will be considered for funding.

For any projects designated for funding in the final FY27 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state agency or Tribal government responsible for administering mitigation grants in the requestor's state must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that entity will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. **All project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency or Tribal government affirming that it believes the project is eligible.** CPF funding in FY 2026 ranged between \$130,000 and \$2,606,000 for individual EOC grants. It cannot exceed \$3,000,000.

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations measure. Eligible accounts include:

15. Environmental Protection Agency - State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG):

Funds may be used to fund local wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects. This includes construction of and modifications to municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. Ongoing operations and maintenance is not eligible. Similar to past practice, the Committee will limit STAG infrastructure grants only to projects that are publicly owned or owned by a non-profit entity, and that are otherwise eligible for the funding from that state's Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan programs. Privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for infrastructure grants, even if they are otherwise eligible for assistance under a SRF program.

Projects for the direct benefit of resorts, golf courses, athletic fields, park amenities, gardens, and similar projects are not eligible. Projects solely for flood control, including construction or rehabilitation of dams, are not eligible. Projects for the sole purpose of irrigation are only eligible if the project uses reclaimed water from wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water. Projects for the sole purpose of fire protection or suppression are not eligible. The cost of road repairs is eligible in limited circumstances to the extent that such repairs are required to undertake the CPF water quality improvement project. Drinking water infrastructure projects must serve the public health needs of the existing population.

Projects must comply with Build America, Buy America, Davis Bacon, environmental reviews, and other EPA regulations. Costs must be incurred after October 1, 2026.

There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant. The Committee will look favorably upon requests for projects that are listed on a state's most recent Intended Use Plan. In FY26, projects received around \$1,000,000.

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments and nonprofit owners of sewer and drinking water infrastructure. Non-profit entities must be a university or provide water or wastewater utility services.
- b. **More information:**
 - i. [EPA's Overview of Clean Water State Revolving Fund Eligibilities](#)
 - ii. [EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Eligibility Handbook](#)

Health and Human Services

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations measure. Eligible accounts include:

16. **Health Facilities Construction and Equipment:** Funds may be used for the limited-scope construction, renovation, or capital equipment purchase for facilities for health, mental health, or substance use disorder services, training of health professionals, or medical research. In addition to construction and renovation, this funding can be used to acquire capital equipment, such as lab equipment, x-ray machines, or telehealth and information technology. Equipment-only funding requests not involving construction are also permissible. Generally, any equipment having a useful life of more than one year and a unit cost of at least \$5,000 will be eligible as capital equipment. In addition, equipment with lower costs may also be eligible, if it is treated as an item of capital expense under the recipient institution's pre-existing, written accounting policies. Equipment expenses for health information systems and electronic medical records systems are permitted expenditures.

Funds *cannot* be used for:

- a. Equipment expenses for software licensees or operating fees
 - b. Expendable supplies such as pharmaceuticals, lab chemicals, or office paper
 - c. Acquiring land or purchasing existing buildings, or to pay salaries or other operating costs
 - d. General feasibility studies
- b. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments; non-profit entities that are certified rural health clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers, designated Critical Access Hospitals, or hospitals located in areas that [meet HRSA's definition of rural](#).
- a. Entities that perform abortions, develop items intended to procure abortions, conduct research using embryonic stem cells or human germline gene modification, and facilitate gender-affirming care are not eligible due to restrictions by the House Appropriations Committee.

Military Construction

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies appropriations measure.

Department of Defense Military Construction Accounts: All requests, including for design and minor construction, must be included on an unfunded requirements/unfunded priorities list (UFR/UPL) submitted to Congress by a military service, combatant command, or the Office of the Under Secretary for Research and Engineering, or have an existing active authorization from a prior National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Projects suggested by an installation or unit commander not included on the documents above will not be accepted. Each project request must be for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 funds only and cannot be for multiyear funding.

Each project requested must be shovel ready with 35 percent design complete and must be positioned to have funding obligated in FY27. It must have been submitted to the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) for inclusion in the FY2 National Defense Authorization Act or previously authorized. There must also be a DD Form 1391, which is DoD's justification for military construction projects.

Eligible DOD accounts include:

17. Construction –Active Components: CPF from this account may be used for both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for active components. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than \$9,000,000. Eligible projects include construction, installation, equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, and facilities for the following accounts: (1) Army; (2) Navy and Marine Corps; (3) Air Force; (4) Space Force; and (5) Defense-Wide Agencies (Special Operations Command (SOCOM), Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), etc.).

- a. **Best for:** Facilitators of Active Components (Army, Navy and Marine Corps, Air Force, and Defense-Wide Agencies) projects that have been submitted to Congress by a military service, combatant command, or the Office of the Under Secretary for Research and Engineering, or have an existing active authorization from a prior National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

18. Construction –Reserve Components: Funds may be used for construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for Reserve Components. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than \$9,000,000. Some National Guard projects require a state funding match. Eligible projects include construction, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for training and administration for the following accounts: (1) Army National Guard; (2) Air National Guard; (3) Army Reserve; (4) Navy Reserve; and (5) Air Force Reserve.

- a. **Best for:** Facilitators of Reserve Components (Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, and Air Force Reserve) projects that have been submitted to Congress by a military service, combatant command, or the Office of the Under Secretary for Research and Engineering, or have an existing active authorization from a prior National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations measure. Eligible accounts include:

19. **Department of Transportation – Highway Infrastructure Projects:** Highway Infrastructure Projects are capital projects, like a street widening and resurfacing, eligible under title 23 of the United States Code. Eligible projects are described under Section 133 of title 23, United States Code, as amended by title III of division A of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Tribal and territorial capital projects authorized under Chapters 1 and 2 of title 23, United States Code, are also eligible. Projects cannot fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include general operating expenses and planning activities required under sections 134 and 135 of title 23, United States Code. All projects must be:
- a. Capital projects or project-specific design for a capital project.
 - b. Supported by the state or Tribal government that would administer the project. Inclusion on a Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) would satisfy this requirement.
 - c. Requested by state, local, or Tribal entities.
 - d. **Best For:** State and Tribal governments and local transportation agencies

Applicants should be aware that Highway Infrastructure Projects have a non-federal cost share calculated on a sliding scale. The cost-share requirements are defined in statute and vary based on activity, location, and other factors. Additionally, most projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act.

20. **Department of Transportation – Transit Infrastructure Projects:** Transit capital projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49 of the United States Code. Transit Infrastructure Projects are public transportation capital projects, such as electric bus and charging infrastructure, eligible under chapter 53 of title 49 of the United States Code. Eligible capital projects are described under Section 5302(4) of title 49, United States Code, and Section 5339(b)(1) and (c)(1)(B) of title 49, United States Code. All projects must be:
- a. Transit capital projects or project-specific planning* for a transit capital project.
 - b. Supported by the state, local governmental authority, or Tribal government that would administer the project. Inclusion on a Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) would satisfy this requirement.
 - c. Sponsored by designated or direct recipients, states, local, or Tribal governmental authorities.
 - d. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments and metropolitan planning organizations and local transportation agencies

Public transportation or transit is defined as regular, continuing shared-ride surface transportation that is open to the general public or open to a segment of the general public defined by age, disability, or low income. It does not include intercity passenger rail transportation, intercity bus service, charter bus service, school bus service, sightseeing service, courtesy shuttle service for patrons of one or more specific establishments, or intra-terminal or intra-facility shuttle services. The subcommittee will not fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include but are not limited to general operating expenses, joint development projects, and planning activities authorized under sections 5303, 5304, and 5305 of title 49, United States Code. Capital Investment Grant projects are not eligible.

Additionally, most projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act.

** For capital projects, eligible planning expenses are limited to pre-construction activities such as final design, engineering, location surveying, mapping, and acquiring right of way (ROWs).*

21. **Department of Transportation - Airport Improvement Program (AIP):** Funds may be used for enhancing airport safety, capacity, and security, and addressing environmental issues. All projects must be:
- a. AIP eligible in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 47100 et seq. or Section 767(a) of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (49 U.S.C. 44706 note), and FAA policy and guidance
 - b. Included in the FAA's National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS).
 - c. Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials.
 - d. Administered by an airport and/or airport sponsor.

Projects must comply with federal requirements such as Buy America and the National Environmental Policy Act. The potential grantee should confirm with their FAA Airport District Office to ensure that projects are in compliance and eligible.

For large and medium primary hub airports, the grant covers 75 percent of eligible costs (or 80 percent for noise program implementation). For small primary, reliever, and general aviation airports, the grant covers a range of 90 percent of eligible costs, based on statutory requirements.

22. **Department of Transportation – Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements:** Rail infrastructure projects are capital projects eligible under the CRISI program authorized in section 22907 of title 49, United States Code. CRISI provides grants to assist in financing the cost of improving passenger and freight rail transportation systems. All projects must be:
- a. Rail capital projects, systems planning for a rail capital project, or project development for a rail capital project (e.g. NEPA and preliminary engineering);

- b. Supported by the state, local governmental authority, or Tribal government that would administer the project; and
- c. Sponsored by public entities or Tribal entities.

Administrative activities, including general operating expenses, rail-related research, and workforce activities, are not eligible for funding.

23. Department of Transportation – Port Infrastructure Development Program:

Eligible projects must meet criteria under Section 54301 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by title XXXV of division C of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025. This program has a statutory non-federal matching requirement, with potential exceptions for small and rural area ports. Applicants should review 46 USC sections 54301(a)(8) and 54301(b) for more information on these cost-share requirements before submitting requests for funding. For-profit recipients are not eligible.

Additionally, these projects must comply with federal requirements such as Buy America and the National Environmental Policy Act.

24. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) - Economic Development Initiative (EDI):

Funds may be used for economic and community development activities that meet certain criteria under the Community Development Grant Program. For example, they may be used to improve water infrastructure, streetscapes, housing and neighborhood revitalization, workforce training centers, and youth and senior centers. Each project will fit under the following authorizations:

- a. 42 USC 5305(a)(1) – the acquisition of real property (including air rights, water rights, and other interests therein) which is (A) blighted, deteriorated, deteriorating, undeveloped, or inappropriately developed from the standpoint of sound community development and growth; (B) appropriate for rehabilitation or conservation activities; (C) appropriate for the preservation or restoration of historic sites, the beautification of urban land, the conservation of open spaces, natural resources, and scenic areas, the provision of recreational opportunities, or the guidance of urban development; (D) to be used for the provision of public works, facilities, and improvements eligible for assistance under this chapter; or (E) to be used for other public purposes;
- b. 42 USC 5305(a)(2) – the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or installation (including design features and improvements with respect to such construction, reconstruction, or installation that promote energy efficiency) of public works, facilities (except for buildings for the general conduct of government), and site or other improvements;
- c. 42 USC 5305(a)(4) – clearance, demolition, removal, reconstruction, and rehabilitation (including rehabilitation which promotes energy efficiency) of buildings and improvements (including interim assistance, and financing public or private acquisition for reconstruction or rehabilitation, and reconstruction or rehabilitation, of privately owned properties, and including the renovation of closed school buildings); and

- d. 42 USC 5305(a)(5) – special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers which restrict the mobility and accessibility of elderly and handicapped persons.

Certain projects are not eligible for funding including: museums, commemoratives, and memorials; swimming pools, water parks, golf courses; health care facilities; entertainment venues; courthouses and town halls. While projects to improve private property will be allowed, they will be viewed less favorably by the Appropriations Committee.

EDI projects are subject to NEPA and Build America Buy America (BABA) requirements. If the project will be under construction (or complete) at the time of enactment, it will likely not be able to meet environmental review or BABA requirements.

- e. **Best for:** States, local and Tribal governments and agencies, local and Tribal housing authorities, public water districts, public redevelopment authorities, public colleges and universities including TCUs and community colleges.