

SOME GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach – Grant Writing 101

Community Development Block Grant Programs

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) administers the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program in all of Iowa's incorporated cities and counties. The main goal of the program is to "develop viable communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environments and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income."

IEDA's programs provide the ability to fund a variety of projects including:

- Career Links Employment Transportation
- Community Facilities and Services Projects
- Comprehensive Neighborhood Revitalization Planning Fund
- Downtown Revitalization Fund
- Housing-Upper Story Conversion
- Opportunities and Threats Fund
- Water and Sewer

Eligible communities must have less than 50,000 residents. The grant amount depends on the size of the community. For additional information, visit: <https://www.iowaeda.com/cdbg/>

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS/FACILITIES

Iowa Community Catalyst Grant Program

The Community Catalyst Building Remediation Program assists communities with the redevelopment, rehabilitation or deconstruction of buildings to stimulate economic growth or reinvestment in the community. Maximum grant: \$100,000. Limited number of \$5,000 planning grants available. For more information, contact Jim Thompson at jim.thompson@iowaEDA.com or 515-348-6183; or visit website: www.iowaeda.com/downtown-resource-center/community-catalyst/

Derelict Building Program (DNR)

The Derelict Building Program is available for Iowa towns of 5,000 or fewer residents' to address neglected commercial or public structures that have sat vacant for at least 6 months.

FY26 application deadline is Friday, February 28, 2025 for applicants who are seeking funding assistance with conducting asbestos inspections, asbestos abatement, structural engineering

analysis, phase I and phase II site assessments, building deconstruction and building renovation expenses.

For more information, visit: <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Land-Quality/Waste-Planning-Recycling/Derelict-Building-Program>

Destination Iowa

Destination Iowa is a \$100 million investment to bolster the quality of life in Iowa's communities and attract visitors and new residents to the state. The new effort will provide grants to help communities move forward on transformational, shovel-ready attractions. Cities, counties, nonprofits and other organizations can apply for Destination Iowa grants from four separate funds: Economically Significant Development, Outdoor Recreation, Tourism Attraction and Creative Placemaking. For more information, visit: <https://www.iowaeda.com/destination-iowa/>

Paint Iowa Beautiful

Through a partnership with Diamond Vogel Paint of Orange City, Iowa groups can receive paint for community enhancement projects. More than 5,000 gallons of paint have been donated to community groups through the Paint Iowa Beautiful program. For more information visit: <http://www.keeptowabeautiful.com/grants/paint-iowa-beautiful>

Enhance Iowa -- Community Attraction and Tourism grants

The Enhance Iowa board funds projects that will provide recreational, cultural, entertainment and educational attractions. Projects must be open to the general public and be primarily vertical infrastructure. At quarterly meetings, applications are considered by the board. Eligible CAT grant applicants are cities, counties or non-profit organizations. The program For more information, visit: <https://www.iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/EnhanceIowa>

State Historical Society of Iowa Grants

<https://iowahistory.slideroom.com/#/login>

CHILD CARE

Child Care

State of Iowa website with funding opportunities for childcare facilities, staffing and studies: <https://iowaccrr.org/providers/links/funding/>

Rural Child Care Planning Program

The Rural Child Care Planning program seeks to support the use of data and analysis by rural communities to determine the specific needs and solutions for child care in their area.

<https://www.iowaeda.com/center-for-rural-revitalization/child-care-study/>

RECREATION

Wellmark Foundation Special Projects

The Wellmark Foundation's mission is to fund initiatives that positively impact the health of Iowans and South Dakotans. Their current areas of focus are maternal and infant health, mental and behavioral health, rural community health, and healthy aging. . For more info, visit:

<https://www.wellmark.com/foundation>.

Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation mini-grants (up to \$1,000)

Mini Grant opportunity for communities/organizations with population of 10,000 or less

<https://iapro.org/foundation/> (look for link under Highlights of Current Projects and Activities)

Land and Water Conservation Fund -- DNR

<https://www.iowadnr.gov/About-DNR/Grants-Other-Funding/Land-Water-Conservation-Fund>

State and Federal Recreational Trails grants

https://iowadot.gov/systems_planning/Grant-Programs/-Federal-and-State-Recreational-Trails

REAP City Parks and Open Spaces grants (DNR)

<https://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/REAP/REAP-Funding-at-Work/City-Parks-Open-Spaces>

CULTURAL/TOURISM

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs grants

Each year, the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs invests grant funding into projects, organizations

and communities that enhance quality of life in Iowa through arts, history and culture. For more information, visit: <https://history.iowa.gov/about-us/about/grants>

Travel Iowa Tourism Grants

<https://industrypartners.traveliowa.com/iowa-tourism-grants/>

HOUSING

Iowa Rural Housing Assessment Grant (IEDA)

In partnership with Iowa State University (ISU) Extension and Outreach's Rural Housing Readiness Assessment workshops, program funding will empower communities to assess the current development environment and enact changes resulting in the creation of policies and procedures attractive to potential developers.

<https://www.iowaeda.com/center-for-rural-revitalization/housing-assessment/>

Community Development Block Grant – Housing Rehabilitation

The upper story housing conversion program provides assistance for the conversion of existing downtown building space into new residential units. The maximum award under this program is \$600,000 - \$550,000 inclusive of project and administrative costs and an optional additional amount of \$50,000 for Green Streets Criteria. More information at: <https://www.iowaeda.com/cdbg/housing-rehabilitation/>

TRANSPORTATION

Iowa Traffic Safety Improvement Program (DOT)

<https://iowadot.gov/traffic/traffic-and-safety-programs/tsip/tsip-program>

Iowa's Transportation Alternatives Programs (DOT)

https://iowadot.gov/systems_planning/grant-programs/transportation-alternatives

Guide to Iowa Transportation Grants

https://iowadot.gov/pol_leg_services/Funding-Guide.pdf

EMERGENCY SERVICES

FEMA Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant Program

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters>

Byrne Justice Assistance Grants

<https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/current>

Automated External Defibrillator grants

<http://www.aedgrant.com>

WASTE

Iowa Solid Waste Alternatives Program (DNR)

<https://www.iowadnr.gov/swap>

USDA Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant program

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program>

MISCELLANEOUS

Iowa Rural Innovation Grant

The Rural Innovation Grant program seeks to support creative ideas that address current issues and challenges faced by rural communities associated with the themes of community investment, growth, and connection. Funding options are available for Rural Grocery, Rural Food Processors, and Economic Gardening. More information is available at: <https://www.iowaeda.com/center-for-rural-revitalization/rural-innovation-grant/>

Iowa Living Roadways Community Visioning Program

The Community Visioning Program is an effort between Trees Forever, a private-sector landscape architect, and Iowa State University that integrates landscape planning and design with sustainable community action to assist cities in making meaningful decisions about the local landscape. The program empowers local leaders through a planning process that results in a transportation enhancement plan reflecting the values and identity of the community. Communities selected for the program must commit \$2,000 toward project implementation. For additional information visit: <https://www.communityvisioning.org/>

Walmart Spark Good Local Grant Program

Through the Community Grant Program, Walmart associates support the needs of their communities by providing grants to local organizations. Applications may be submitted at any time during this funding cycle. Awarded grants range from \$250 to \$5,000. For more information visit: <https://walmart.org/how-we-give/local-community-grants>

T-Mobile Hometown Grants Program

T-Mobile Hometown Grants will fund up to \$50,000 for shovel-ready projects that foster local connections, like technology upgrades, outdoor spaces, the arts, and community centers. <https://www.t-mobile.com/brand/hometown-grants>