

Funding available for city & county governments from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development (TNECD).

Project Purpose

To promote economic and community development through projects that align with one of the following national objectives:

- Principally benefit low and/or moderate income people (51% or more)
- Eliminate or prevent slums and/or blight (area must be designated blight by the local governing body)
- Address imminent health and/or safety problems

Eligible Projects

Projects in Tennessee are eligible if they are in the public domain and available for use by a large segment of the community. Projects must fall under one of (4) categories:

- Water (system and line extensions)
- Sewer (system and line extensions)
- Housing rehabilitation
- Community livability (fire truck, ambulance, emergency equipment, emergency operations center, emergency alert systems, fire and ambulance stations, etc.)
- Slum and blighted areas

Available Funding Levels

Matching percentage is determined by HUD for each municipality. Housing projects require NO match.

Project	Eligible Grant Funds	Eligible Grant Funds with Three Star Bonus
Infrastructure Projects	\$500,000	\$525,000
Housing Rehabilitation	\$500,000	\$525,000
Community Livability	\$500,000	\$525,000

Application Timeline

Applications are due in February of each year. Public hearings, surveys, resolutions, and preliminary engineering must begin early in the fall.



Funding available for city and county governments from the Appalachian Regional Commission through the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development.

Project Purpose

To create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life initiatives for the 13 Appalachian States.

Eligible Projects

- The first priority is economic development projects where water, wastewater, rail, etc. are provided to a locating or expanding industry.
- The second priority is for the provision of basic water and wastewater service in rural areas where such services are missing or inadequate.
- A third priority, opportunity projects, is the ability of the governor to respond to unique problems or opportunities that are presented by a community.

Available Funding Levels

Distress counties are eligible for 80%. At-risk counties are eligible for 70%. Transitional counties are eligible for 50%. The local match is based on county ARC status.

Distressed Counties	At-Risk Counties	Transitional Counties
20% Match	30% Match	50% Match

Application Timeline

Pre-applications are due each year in November. Recommended projects are submitted to Washington D.C. by June 30 the following year. Final projects are announced no later than September 30.

INVESTPREP

Funding available through Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) for city and county governments, including semi-governmental economic development entities such as industrial development boards (IDB), as well as non-profit organizations dedicated to local or regional economic development.

Project Purpose

InvestPrep was designed to bring to market new/improved industrial sites and facilities within the TVA territory and position communities to successfully compete for new jobs and investment.

Eligible Projects

Eligible projects include but are not limited to:

- Property related studies, assessments, and surveys
- Clearing
- Grading
- Drainage
- Aesthetic improvements
- Signage

- Fencing
- Berming
- Landscaping
- Non-hazardous structure and debris removal
- Industrial building renovation or construction
- Public utility relocation or construction

Available Funding Levels

Matching percentage is determined yearly by the TVA special opportunities county designations.

Eligible Grant Funds	Matching % for Opportunities	Matching % for non Opportunities Communities
\$500,000	30%	50%

Application Timeline

Applications are due in March or April of each year. Community leadership support meetings, securing of options, and design plans must begin at the first of the year or earlier.

FASTTRACK PROGRAMS

Job Training Assistance Program

- **Benefit** Grant to provide funding to support the training of net new full-time employees for new and expanding companies.
- **Eligibility (Not Comprehensive)** Funding levels are based on the number of net new full-time jobs created, amount of capital invested, wages of new employees and the types of skill and knowledge levels required. TNECD is not able to provide training incentives for any positions filled prior to the execution and approval of a contract.

Infrastructure Development Program

- **Benefit** Grant provided to local governments for public infrastructure needs for new and expanding companies. TNECD will work with the local officials to identify eligible needs for a project, such as water, sewer, rail, gas, electric, roadway, telecommunications or other site improvements.
- **Eligibility (Not Comprehensive)** Grant provided to local governments for public infrastructure needs for new and expanding companies. TNECD will work with the local officials to identify eligible needs for a project, such as water, sewer, rail, gas, electric, roadway, telecommunications or other site improvements.

Economic Development Fund

- **Benefit** Grant provided to local communities to reimburse a company for eligible expenditures not covered by infrastructure or job training grants. The grant can help offset expenses such as relocation, temporary office space, capital improvements and retrofitting.
- **Eligibility (Not Comprehensive)** Only used in exceptional cases where a company's impact, such as net new full-time jobs and capital investment, is significant in a community. These funds are available subject to terms of the Accountability Agreement executed by the state, community and company. TNECD is not able to provide incentives prior to the execution and approval of a contract.

TRANSPORTATION

Applications must be submitted by local governments (cities or counties) or state natural resource or public land agencies.

Project Purpose

To improve access and provide a better quality of life for people in Tennessee.

Eligible Projects

- Pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Safe routes for non-drivers
- Conversion of abandoned railway corridors to trails
- Scenic turnouts and overlooks
- Outdoor advertising management
- Historic preservation and rehab of historic transportation facilities
- Vegetation management
- Archaeological activities
- Storm water mitigation
- Wildlife management

Available Funding Levels

There are no minimum or maximum award amounts. However, the average TA project award is approximately \$350,000. In order to be cost effective, projects should exceed \$250,000/\$300,000 and rarely will any single phase be awarded in excess of \$1million.

Eligible Grant Funds	Matching Percentage
No minimum or maximum award amounts	80% /20% Match TDOT funds construction only - hard cash match

Application Timeline

Grant cycle historically opens late summer/ends first week of November.

Funding available for cities located outside Metropolitan Planning Boundaries through Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT).

Project Purpose

TDOT's CTPG program provides resources that assist Tennessee communities develop transportation and land use plans for preparation of future transportation, land use and growth management issues.

Eligible Projects

Eligible planning documents include:

- Corridor studies
- Complete street plans
- Pedestrian and bicycle master plans
- Road diet analysis
- Transportation systems management and operations

Available Funding Levels

Eligible Grant Funds	Matching Percentage
Up to \$125,000 total project cost	90% State matching funds 10% Local matching funds

Application Timeline

Applications are due in mid-to-late January. CTPG applications must be recommended and approved through the RPO process to be submitted to TDOT. Only two (2) applications per RPO will be selected to submit to TDOT.

Project Purpose

The purpose of Tennessee's Short Line Railroad Preservation Grant Program is to preserve rail service to local communities and expand rail connectivity to sites along existing rail corridors. The focus of the program is on facilitating the efficient and economical movement of freight within Tennessee by strengthening the network of short-line railroads in the state.

Eligible Projects

- Capital projects on track that actively serves rail customers located on the line
- Engineering work associated with capital projects (up to 10% of total project cost)
- Non-engineering construction administration by a third party contractor (up to 2% of construction cost, procured in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-56-211)
- Annual audit (Note: In the past, some Authorities have been referenced within a county audit. TDOT requires either an audit specifically of the Authority itself or a letter from the Comptroller indicating that the county audit satisfies the statutory requirement related to Authority audits)
- Administrative duties related to construction tasks, such as reconciliation of rock tickets.
- Railroad-highway at-grade crossings to be repaired must be public crossings that have been rated in "Fair" or "Poor" condition by TDOT rail inspectors

Local Match

Projects will have a ninety percent (90%) State/ten percent (10%) Local funding split. The required ten percent (10%) Local cash match can come from the Authority, the Operator, and/or participating local governments.

Eligible Grant Funds

Varies on a case per case basis and year by year basis

MULTIMODAL ACCESS

Project Purpose

To support the transportation needs of transit users, pedestrians and bicyclists through infrastructure projects that address existing gaps along state routes and access at transit hubs.

Eligible Projects

Eligible projects must be on or within 1/4 mile of a state route and provide direct access to the state route.

- Pedestrian crossings
- Shoulders for bicycles
- Sidewalks
- Bicycle lanes
- ADA improvements
- 10' wide multi-use paths
- Pedestrian scale lighting as part of larger project
- Bus shelters

- Road diets or traffic-calming redesign
- Separated bicycle facilities
- Park & Ride lots for carpooling or transit
- Bus turnouts
- Utility relocation (eligible as project component)

Available Funding Levels

Project	Eligible Grant Funds	Matching Requirement
Not to exceed \$1,250,000	Request up to \$1,125,000	90% State matching funds 10% Local matching funds

Application Timeline

Applications are due mid-to-late January, annually. Only two (2) applications per RPO will be selected to submit to TDOT.

SOLID WASTE GRANTS

Funding available through Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) for all counties and cities in the state of Tennessee, and nonprofit recycling organizations working with local government.

Project Purpose

To protect health and improve environmental quality for all Tennesseans through responsive and effective oversight of waste management activities.

Eligible Projects

Projects to provide equipment, training, education, and facilities to more efficiently manage the region's solid waste.

Grant Opportunities

Grants vary annually and are released in the late spring of each year. Including the desired project in the Annual Progress Report (APR) due annually on March 31, is a prerequisite to any of the following grant applications:

- Composting
- Convenience center
- Recycling equipment
- Used oil recycling
- Waste reduction

Available Funding Levels

Eligible Grant Funds	Matching Percentage
From \$25,000 up to \$2.5 million	10% - 50% Match depending on County

Application Timeline

Grants are released late spring with applications due in the fall, with prerequisite of APR project inclusion by March 31. Grant recipients are announced by late winter.



Federal and State funding available for city and county governments administered through Recreational Educational Services of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

Project Purpose

For the purchase of land for parks, natural areas, greenways, and recreation facilities. Funds may also be used for trail development and capital projects in parks, natural areas and greenways. At least 60 percent of the funds allocated will go to municipal governments.

Eligible Projects

Projects in Tennessee must be on publicly owned land or publicly controlled land for at least 25 years. Grant funds can be used for land acquisition, indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and trail development. Land acquisition must occur within one (1) year of the contract date and must be developed for the purpose identified in the application within three (3) years of acquisition.

Eligible Primary Facilities

- Athletic fields
- Play courts and playgrounds
- Picnic areas
- Trails
- Historical or archaeological sites
- Fishing piers
- Boat ramps and docks
- Boardwalks and riverwalks
- Observation towers
- Recreation buildings & structures

Support Facilities (up to 50% of total project cost)

- Parking lots
- Restrooms
- Bathhouses
- Access roads
- Landscaping
- Lighting
- Fencing
- Signs
- Ramps

Available Funding Levels

Eligible Grant Funds	Matching Percentage
Up to \$500,000	50% State matching funds 50% Local matching funds

Application Timeline

Grant cycles open every two (2) years (2022, 2024, etc.). Applications are due late spring, but preparation may begin anytime. Projects that reflect advanced planning and sustainability are more competitive.



Federally funded, state administered grant program for local, state, and federal government agencies and state-chartered non-profit agencies with 501(c)(3) status that have a written agreement with a government agency for trail management.

Project Purpose

Provides grant funding for land acquisition for trails, trails maintenance and restoration /rehabilitation, trail construction and trailhead support facilities.

Eligible Projects

Projects in Tennessee must be on publicly owned land. Grant funds can be used for:

- Land acquisition
- Hard surface and natural surface trail developments
- Construction, maintenance, and restoration of trail damaged by use
- Development of trailside support facilities
- Educational and safety trail trainings
- Trailhead facilities

Eligible Grant Funds	Matching Percentage
Up to \$200,000	80% State matching funds 20% Local matching funds

Application Timeline

Grant cycles open every two (2) years (2022, 2024, etc.). Applications are due late spring, but preparation may begin anytime. Projects that reflect advanced planning and sustainability are more competitive.

HOME PROGRAM

Funding available for city and county governments from HUD through the Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA).

Eligible Projects

The HOME Program applies to owner-occupied homes in need of rehabilitation. Ultimately, the goal of the program is to bring housing units into compliance with local, state code, UPCS and THDA Design Standards. Some exclusions apply.

Available Funding Levels

Project	Eligible Grant Funds
Home Rehabilitation	\$750,000 per County

Application Timeline

Applications are due in March of each year. Public hearings and resolutions and must begin early in the fall.

TN DOWNTOWNS

Funding available through ECD-TN Main Street Programs for cities located in active Three-Star counties. Funds can be housed through local government or a designated non-profit that will organize a five-person steering committee.

Project Purpose

To help communities utilize the Main Street Four-Point Approach of organization, promotion, design, and economic restructuring to enhance downtown revitalization.

Eligible Projects

Include but not limited to façade projects such as:

- Awnings and paint
- Windows
- Doors
- Lighting
- Landscaping
- Benches
- Trash cans
- Crosswalks
- Signage
- Way finding
- Economic vitality

Available Funding Levels

Two programs with a \$15,000 reimbursable grant with no match. Membership with the National Main Street Center is required for \$350. First year is for education and vision planning through monthly meetings and seminars. The second year, the grant is awarded, and façade improvements take place.

Application Timeline

Applications are due in April, bi-yearly. Letter of intent is due by April 1. Application is due by April 30.

State funding available for city governments that are registered TN Downtowns or Main Street Communities.

Project Purpose

For the revitalization of downtowns by providing funds to rehabilitate and enhance the façades of downtown buildings.

Eligible Projects

Projects in TN must be a registered TN Downtown or Main Street Community through the Main Street Program. Eligible projects must be performed to the exterior of downtown buildings. Examples include:

- Awnings
- Painting
- Brick/masonry repair, tuckpointing
- Windows
- Doors
- Signs
- Lighting
- Removal of architectural barriers
- 50% can be used for rear of buildings as long as it is used as an entrance

Available Funding Levels

Eligible Grant Funds	Matching Percentage
\$100,000	Determined by HUD for each municipality

Application Timeline

Applications are due in late summer each year. Application preparation, including public hearings and resolutions, needs to begin early in the year.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Project Purpose

The Tennessee Historical Commission offers federally-funded historic preservation grants for projects such as archaeological surveys, design guidelines for historic districts, and restoration of historic buildings that are listed in the National Register and have a public use.

Eligible Projects

- Archaeological surveys
- Design guidelines for historic districts
- Restoration of historic buildings that are listed in the National Register and have a public use
- The grants reimburse up to 60% of the costs of approved project work. The remaining 40% must be provided by the grantee as matching funds.
- All entities are eligible; priority is given to government and non-profit agencies

Available Funding Levels

The grants are matching grants and will reimburse up to 60% of the costs of approved project work. The remaining 40% must be provided by the grantee as matching funds.

Eligible Grant Funds	Matching Percentage
No minimum or maximum	60% Grant funds
award amounts	40% Grantee

Application Timeline

The Tennessee Historical Commission begins accepting applications in early November. Preparation may begin in the late summer or early fall. Applications are due in late January.



Investment Programs

The U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration offers a series of grant programs designed to promote job creation and retention.

- **Public Works** Empowers distressed communities to revitalize, expand, and upgrade their physical infrastructure to attract new industry, encourage business expansion, diversify local economies and generate or retain long-term, private sector jobs and investment.
- **Economic Adjustment Assistance Program -** Assists state and local interests in designing and implementing strategies to adjust or bring about change to an economy. The program focuses on areas that have experienced or are under threat of serious structural damage to the underlying economic base.
- Local Technical Assistance Helps fill the knowledge and information gaps that may prevent leaders in the public and nonprofit sectors in distressed areas from making optimal decisions on local economic development issues. The Local Technical Assistance program strengthens the capacity of local or State organizations, institutions of higher education, and other eligible recipients to undertake and promote effective economic development programs through projects such as feasibility studies and impact analyses.

All EDA investments are designed to help realize economic goals and objectives outlined in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The five (5) primary goals identified to address crucial needs in the Upper Cumberland over the next five (5) years (2022-2027) are as follows:

- Utility infrastructure
- Tourism
- Workforce development
- Industrial recruitment
- Entrepreneurial development

Application Timeline

Grant applications are accepted anytime throughout the year on a revolving time-line and begin with a pre-proposal.



Funding Opportunities

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development administers a large variety of grant and loan programs including but not limited to the funding opportunities below.

- **Community Facilities Loans and Grants -** The objective is to improve, develop, or finance essential community facilities for rural communities. Uses include to construct, enlarge, or otherwise improve essential community facilities, such as public safety, fire and rescue, telecommunications, schools, libraries, hospitals, other healthcare facilities, etc. This may include furnishings, fixtures, and other required equipment.
- **Rural Community Development Initiative -** The objective is to facilitate housing, community facility and community and economic development projects. Uses include technical assistance grants of \$50,000 to \$300,000 to develop the capacity and ability of the awardees to carry out needed projects.
- **Business and Industry Loan Guarantees -** The objective is to create jobs/stimulate rural economies by providing financial backing for rural businesses. Uses include real estate, buildings, equipment, supplies, working capital, and some debt refinancing.
- **Rural Business Enterprise Grants** The objective is to finance and facilitate the development of small and emerging private business enterprises. Uses include refinancing, land acquisition, revolving funds, construction, equipment, access streets and roads, utility and service extensions, and rural distance learning networks.
- Rural Energy for America Program (reap) Loan Guarantees The objective is to provide assistance for energy efficiency improvements or purchase of a renewable energy system for operations. Uses include energy efficiency improvements, renewable energy systems, land acquisition and working capital.

Application Timeline

Applications may be submitted during quarterly deadlines and range in size by county.

EPA BROWNFIELDS

Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants

Funding available for city and county governments to assess, clean up and/or redevelop underutilized properties while protecting public health and the environment. These funds will expand the ability of communities to recycle vacant and abandoned properties for new, productive reuses.

Project Purpose

Since its inception in 1995, EPA's Brownfields Program has grown into a proven, results-oriented program that has changed the way contaminated property is perceived, addressed, and managed. EPA's Brownfields Program is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields.

Eligible Projects

- **Brownfields Assessment Grants** provide funding for Brownfields inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and community outreach
- **Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grants** provide funding to capitalize loans that are used to clean up brownfields
- **Brownfields Cleanup Grants** provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant

Project	Available Funding Level
Brownfields assessment grants	Up to \$350,000 per site
Brownfields revolving loan fund grants	Amount is variable
Brownfields cleanup grants	Up to \$200,000 per site 20% Cost share requirement

Application Timeline

Applications are due in November or December each year. Brownfields project proposals require extensive planning and preparation prior to submission.



TNECD is investing in site development grants. This grant opportunity will improve many of TNECD's nationally recognized Select Tennessee certified sites and prepare other sites to achieve certification. Funding for Cities, Counties and Industrial Development Boards through the TN Department of Economic and Community Development.

Project Purpose

To establish quality industrial property throughout the state ultimately leading to sites meeting the nationally recognized Select Tennessee Certified Sites program criteria.

Eligible Projects

Property that has been visited by Austin Consulting through the Property Evaluation Program or the SelectTN Certification process or properties visited by KPMG through TVA's InvestPrep Program are eligible to apply for a wide array of projects including but not limited to:

- Construction Activities (access roadways, utility line construction/relocation, rail lines, traffic signalization, grading)
- Property-Related Activities (purchase of property, right-of-way, easements, legal fees, tree/vegetation clearing, grubbing, grading, drainage improvements, detention/retention ponds)
- Due Diligence (limited to \$100,000)

Matching percentage is based upon community Tier level. Tier 1 = 50/50, Tier 2 = 70/30, Tier 3 = 90/10, Tier 4 = 95/5.

Project	Available Funding Level
High Impact Grant	\$2,000,000 Maximum
Site Development Grant	\$1,000,000 Maximum
Due Diligence Grant	\$100,000 Maximum

Application Timeline

Typically two (2) rounds of applications are accepted each year in the spring and fall. Project identification and scope development should begin several months prior to the application period.



Administering Agency

US Small Business Administration (SBA) is a United States government agency that provides support to entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Services

The SBDC provides no-cost advice, consulting, and educational opportunities to help business owners. Counselors provide innovative and client-focused business solutions to strategically grow, sustain, and maximize business success.

- Customized Counseling
 - o Business plan development
 - Financial planning assistance
 - Marketing plan development
 - Government contracting guidance
 - Business growth plan
- Educational courses
- Expansive online video library
- Access to Capital
- Project based interns

Appointments

Visit tsbdc.org/center/cookeville to book a free counseling session or to learn more.

REGIONAL PARTNERS

TN Economic & Community Development (TNECD)

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TN Small Business Development Center

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Economic Development Association (EDA)

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