

TX-07 GRANTS NEWSLETTER

April 2025

This monthly newsletter is intended to provide a guide to some of the funding opportunities to help ensure our community has access to the information needed to apply for these grants to address key priorities in Texas' Seventh Congressional District. President Trump's recent executive orders and actions have directed federal agencies to pause all grant programs under the *IIJA*, however, and other grant programs. This pause creates uncertainty about the timing and availability of funding for infrastructure projects, potentially impacting project planning and implementation timelines.

We want to share what we are seeing, and we also want to hear from you about the experiences you have had with grant funding and grant applications. Your insights into federal grant funding are important to us. Please take a moment to [share](#) your priorities, concerns, and how this pause on federal grants impacts you.

New Resources

- The National Science Foundation is hosting a webinar on May 6, 2025, to provide an introduction on America's Seed Fund which focuses on transforming engineering discoveries into products and services with commercial and societal impact. To register, please click [here](#).
- The Department of Transportation recently hosted an informational webinar providing an overview of their Rural and Tribal Assistance Program which you can watch [here](#).
- The National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers is hosting a webinar on April 1, 2025, entitled *Developing a Telemedicine Program* which is designed to give a broad overview of a variety of telemedicine topics. To register, please click [here](#).

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Active Grant Opportunities

The following grants are active and available as of the publication of this newsletter.

The Inflation Reduction Act

- **Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)**
 - Description: This program protects the agricultural viability and related conservation values of eligible land by limiting nonagricultural uses which negatively affect agricultural uses and conservation values, protect grazing uses and related conservation values by restoring or conserving eligible grazing land, and protecting and restoring and enhancing wetlands on eligible land. There are two components of this program. First, Agricultural Land Easements (ALE) help private and tribal landowners, land trusts, and other entities such as state and local governments protect croplands and grasslands on working farms and ranches by limiting non-agricultural uses of the land through conservation easements. Second, Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE) help private and tribal landowners protect, restore, and enhance wetlands which have been previously degraded due to agricultural uses.
 - Who can apply?
 - Eligible partners include Native American Tribes; State and local governments; non-governmental organizations that have farmland, rangeland, or grassland protection programs. Eligible landowners include owners of privately held land, including land that is held by Tribes and Tribal members. All landowners, including required members of landowner-legal entities, must meet adjusted gross income (AGI) limitations and must be compliant with the HEL/WC provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985.
 - Deadline: Year-round

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

- **WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects**
 - Description: This program aims to support projects that study, design, and construct aquatic ecosystem restoration systems that are collaboratively developed, have widespread regional benefits, and result in an improvement to the health of fisheries, wildlife, and aquatic habitat through restoration or improved fish passage.
 - Who can apply?
 - States, Tribal governments, local authorities; irrigation or water districts; the members of which include one or more organizations with water or power delivery authorities.
 - Deadline: April 15, 2025

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- **Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants**
 - Description: NOAA aims to support transformational habitat restoration projects that restore marine, estuarine, coastal, or Great Lakes ecosystems using approaches that enhance community and ecosystem resilience to climate hazards.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, township, or special district governments; independent school districts; public and state controlled institutions of higher education; private institutions of higher education; small businesses; nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; forprofit organizations other than small businesses; Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized) and Native American Tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized Tribal governments).
 - Deadline: April 16, 2025
- **Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program**
 - Description: Funding is available to support the planning and design phase of transportation projects in rural and Tribal communities. These grants can be used to hire staff or expert firms for technical, legal, or financial assistance. The goal is to advance transportation projects that are likely to qualify for select discretionary grant or credit programs offered by the U.S. Department of Transportation.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, township, or special district governments; Native American Tribal Governments.
 - Deadline: April 17, 2025
- **Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant**
 - Description: This grant makes federal funds available for mitigation activities in response to the growing hazards associated with climate change and the need for natural hazard risk mitigation that promote climate adaptation and resilience.
 - Who can apply?
 - County, city, or township governments; and Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized).
 - Deadline: April 18, 2025
- **Carbon Utilization Procurement Grants**
 - Description: UPGants aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by demonstrating that various products can be replaced or supplemented with alternatives derived from anthropogenic carbon oxides. Public procurement incentives for carbon conversion products can stimulate a market for products with lower life-cycle CO2 emissions, calculated on a cradle to gate basis.
 - Who can apply?
 - State and local governments; public utility or agency; institutions of higher education; forprofit and nonprofit entities; and Tribal governments.
 - Deadline: April 30, 2025

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- [Port Infrastructure Development Program \(PIDP\)](#)
 - Description: This grants support efforts by ports and industry stakeholders to improve port and related freight infrastructure to meet the country's freight transportation needs and ensure our port infrastructure can meet anticipated growth in freight volumes. The PIDP provides funding to ports in both urban and rural areas for planning and capital projects.
 - Who can apply?
 - States; political subdivision of a state or local government; public agency or publicly chartered authority established by one or more states; special purpose district with a transportation function; Tribal governments; and a multistate or multijurisdictional group of entities.
 - Deadline: April 30, 2025
- [Bridge Investment Program, Planning and Bridge Program](#)
 - Description: This grant program aims to reduce the overall number of bridges in poor condition and keep bridges in fair condition from deteriorating further. The program expands applicant eligibility which allows all levels of government to apply as direct recipients making it easier for local projects to advance the needs of the community.
 - Who can apply?
 - States and federal land management agencies; metropolitan planning organizations; local governments; and Tribal governments.
 - Deadlines:
 - Fiscal Year 2026 Planning Application Due, October 1, 2025
 - Fiscal Year 2026 Application Due, November 1, 2025

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Other Federal Grants for Diverse Needs

The following grants are active and available as of the publication of this newsletter.

- **Regional Telehealth Resource Centers**
 - Description: This funding allows recipients to provide expert and customized telehealth technical assistance across the country. These telehealth resource centers will provide training and support, disseminate information and research findings, promote effective collaboration, and foster the use of telehealth for underserved or rural areas.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, special district or township governments; independent school districts; small businesses; forprofit organizations; nonprofits other than institutions of higher education; and Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized).
 - Deadline: April 14, 2025
- **NEW Strengthening America Infrastructure**
 - Description: This National Science Foundation program seeks to stimulate human-centered, use-inspired, fundamental and potentially transformative research aimed at strengthening America's infrastructure. Successful projects will combine expertise in social, behavioral, or economic sciences with other fields to drive groundbreaking research applied to strengthening a specific focal infrastructure.
 - Who can apply?
 - Institutions of higher education; nonprofits other than institutions of higher education; forprofit organizations; and Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized).
 - Deadline: April 17, 2025
- **NEW Head Start**
 - Description: This program supports school readiness of young children from low-income families by providing comprehensive early childhood education, health, and family services.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, and township governments; independent school districts; private, public and state controlled institutions of higher education; small businesses; public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities; nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; forprofit organizations other than small businesses; and Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized).
 - Deadline: April 29, 2025

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- **NEW** [Fire Science Innovations through Research and Education \(FIRE\)](#)
 - Description: The FIRE program supports multidisciplinary research and education focused on wildland fire. Proposals should address innovative approaches in areas like data collection, modeling, community adaptation, and infrastructure vulnerability related to wildland fire. Collaboration among diverse groups, including academics, industry, and local communities, is encouraged to advance research.
 - Who can apply?
 - Unrestricted.
 - Deadline: September 5, 2025
- **NEW** [The Coastal Program](#)
 - Description: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program is a community-based program that helps coastal areas with technical and financial support to address complex conservation challenges of priority coastal ecosystems. The program protects at-risk species by improving habitats, enhancing connectivity for wildlife migration, and building resilient ecosystems through collaborative conservation efforts.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, township and special district governments; independent school districts; public and state controlled institutions of higher education; private institutions of higher education; public housing authorities/Tribal housing authorities; small businesses; individuals; nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized); and Native American Tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized Tribal governments)
 - Deadline: September 30, 2025
- [Partners for Fish and Wildlife \(PFW\)](#)
 - Description: This is a voluntary program that fosters partnerships to support both communities and the conservation of fish, wildlife, and their habitats. Through cooperative agreements with private landowners, the program offers technical assistance and financial support to restore and protect vital habitats, benefiting federal trust resources.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, township, or special district governments; independent school districts; private, public and state controlled institutions of higher education; public housing authorities/Tribal housing authorities; small businesses; nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized) and organizations; and individuals.
 - Deadline: September 30, 2025

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The following grants and funding opportunities are upcoming and are not yet accepting applications. As more details become available for each of these programs, our team will be sure to include them in upcoming issues of this newsletter. *Please note that these dates are target announcement dates, and therefore subject to change. Please also note some of these programs may be subject to change due to the current Administration's Executive Orders.*

Upcoming Notices and Funding Opportunities

- **Reducing Truck Emissions at Port Facilities**
 - Description: The Department of Transportation (DOT) will provide funding to reduce truck idling and emissions at ports, including through the advancement of port electrification. The DOT anticipates this new funding opportunity will be available for application through a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to be released in Spring of 2025.
- **Electric Drive Vehicle Battery Improving Economics, Recovery and Reuse, and State of Health**
 - Description: The Electric Drive Vehicle Battery Recycling and Second-Life Applications Program focuses on the research, development, and demonstration of second life uses for electric vehicle batteries after they have powered electric vehicles, as well as technologies and processes for their recycling and final disposal. The Department of Energy anticipates posting this funding opportunity soon.
- **All Stations Accessibility Program**
 - Description: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will provide funding to assist in the financing of capital projects to repair, improve, modify, retrofit, or relocate facility infrastructure to make all public areas of the station accessible to people with disabilities, including those who use wheelchairs. The FTA anticipates posting this funding opportunity in Spring of 2025.
- **Safe Streets for All Program (SS4A)**
 - Description: The Safe Streets and Roads for All program provides funding for regional, local, and Tribal initiatives aimed at preventing roadway deaths and injuries. This program supports the Department of Transportation's goal of zero roadway deaths through a Safe System Approach. The DOT anticipates posting this funding opportunity soon.
- **Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Grants; Low or No Emissions (Bus) Grants**
 - Description: The FTA seeks to provide funding to state and local governments to purchase, lease, replace, or rehabilitate zero-emission and low-emission transit buses, as well as to acquire, construct, or lease supporting facilities. These programs support technological advancements and innovations to modernize transit systems, including modifications for low or no-emission vehicles and infrastructure. The FTA anticipates posting this funding opportunity in Spring of 2025.

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- **Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization (NGDISM)**
 - Description: Through the NGDISM grant, the Department of Transportation (DOT) will provide funding to repair, rehabilitate, or replace natural gas distribution pipeline systems or portions thereof, or to acquire equipment to either reduce incidents and fatalities or avoid economic losses. This program aims to reduce the risk profile of existing pipeline systems with pipes prone to leakage of methane, create related well-paying jobs, promote economic growth, and benefit disadvantaged rural communities with the safe provision of natural gas. The DOT anticipates posting this funding opportunity in Spring of 2025.
- **National Digital Newspaper Program**
 - Description: This program creates a national digital resource of historically significant newspapers published between 1690 and 1963 from all 56 states and U.S. jurisdictions. The Library of Congress (LOC) maintains this freely accessible, searchable online database. The National Endowment for the Humanities anticipates posting this funding opportunity in Fall of 2025.
- **Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (NEC)**
 - The FSP Program offers federal funding to improve U.S. passenger rail infrastructure, addressing State of Good Repair backlogs, enhancing performance, and expanding intercity rail services, including privately operated services. It prioritizes sustaining long-distance routes to maintain national connectivity. The FTA anticipates posting this funding opportunity in Spring of 2025
- **Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI)**
 - The purpose of the CRISI Program is to invest in a wide range of projects within the United States to improve railroad safety, efficiency, and reliability; mitigate congestion at both intercity passenger rail and freight rail chokepoints to support more efficient travel and goods movement; enhance multi-modal connections; and lead to new or substantially improved Intercity Passenger Rail Transportation corridors. The FTA anticipates posting this funding opportunity in Spring of 2025
- **NEW National Training and Technical Assistance Partner (NTTAP)**
 - This program provides training and technical assistance focused on behavioral health and delivers high-impact T/TA to help health centers deliver comprehensive health services, address emergent public health issues and needs as they relate to behavioral health care, improve operational effectiveness, efficiency, and quality, and reduce health disparities. HRSA anticipates posting this notice of funding opportunity in Spring 2025.

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General Resources

- [Grants.gov](#): This is the most complete list of federal grant opportunities. It is searchable and updated frequently.
- [Department of Transportation Competitive Grant Funding Matrix](#): Look through program descriptions on the chart to identify programs for which you have relevant projects.
- [Department of Transportation Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Program Guide](#): Search by keywords to identify relevant programs that will open throughout the next five years.
- [Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations Funding Opportunity Exchange](#): OCED has a number of funding opportunities for clean energy projects through the IRA and IIJA. The page is similar to the DOT funding matrix with grant information.
- [Department of Labor Grants](#): DOL has published its new grant platform to connect, protect, train, support, and empower workers and job seekers.

Should you have any questions, please contact our Grants Manager, Grace Kuperman, at Grace.Kuperman@mail.house.gov or (713) 353-8680.

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