

TX-07 GRANTS NEWSLETTER

December 2024

The 117th Congress passed and President Biden signed into law transformative legislation, including the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, the *Inflation Reduction Act*, the *CHIPS and Science Act*, the *PACT Act*, the *Bipartisan Safer Communities Act*, and more. Together with Congressional appropriations, these represent investments and opportunities for our communities and our future.

This monthly newsletter provides a guide to some of the funding opportunities that these landmark laws have made possible and other opportunities for federal funding and resources.

New Resources

- The Department of Transportation (DOT) is now accepting applications for the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Discretionary Grant Program. To help you prepare, DOT has developed a presentation designed to support your application process. This presentation also highlights key changes from FY2022-2023, offering valuable insights for review. For more information, please click [here](#).
- The Department of Transportation (DOT) is now accepting applications for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program. This program provides critical funding for infrastructure projects that promote sustainability, improve equity, and drive economic growth. DOT will host webinars to help you prepare for your application submission. For more information, please click [here](#).
- The Department of Commerce's CHIPS for America hosted a webinar for the CHIPS AI/AE for Rapid, Industry-informed Sustainable Semiconductor Materials and Processes (CARISSMA) Notice of Funding Opportunity. The webinar will provide an overview of the program, application process and additional resources. For more information, please click [here](#).

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Active Grant Opportunities

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

The CHIPS and Science Act

- **National Advanced Packaging Manufacturing Program (NAPMP)**
 - Description: The NAPMP aims to drive US leadership in advanced packaging by providing technology and developing a skilled workforce. With CHIPS manufacturing incentives, NAPMP funded activities will establish a profitable domestic industry, enabling innovative designs and architectures through advanced-node chips and a diverse workforce.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, local, and Tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, for-profit organizations, and domestic accredited institutions of higher education.
 - Deadline: December 20, 2024
- **NEW CHIPS AI/AE for Rapid, Industry-informed Sustainable Semiconductor Materials and Processes (CARISSMA) Competition**
 - Description: CARISSMA seeks applications for industry-informed, university-based artificial intelligence-powered autonomous experimentation (AI/AE) collaborations. This includes research and development, education and workforce development, and related activities relevant to sustainable semiconductor materials and processes. Successful applications will support next-generation domestic semiconductor manufacturing, accelerate material discovery, and develop new researchers.
 - Who can apply?
 - Domestic accredited institutions of higher education and domestic nonprofit or forprofit organizations that manage consortia of accredited institutions of higher education. Eligible applicants may submit only one concept paper and, if invited, one full application. Eligible subrecipients include accredited institutions of higher education, forprofit or nonprofit organizations; State, local, territorial, and Tribal governments.
 - Deadline: January 13, 2025

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The Inflation Reduction Act

- **Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)**
 - Description: This funding opportunity through the REAP program offers grants, loans, and grant-loan combinations to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses reduce energy costs and consumption, supporting the country's critical energy needs.
 - Who can apply?
 - Agricultural producers – An entity directly engaged in production of agricultural products where at least 50 percent of their gross income comes from agricultural operations.
 - Small businesses in an eligible rural area.
 - Deadline: RES/EEI and Energy Efficient Equipment and Systems (EEE) guaranteed loan applications.
 - Continuous application cycle.

- **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 American Indian Tribes, State and local governments, and 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

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- **Regional Resiliency & Vulnerability Assessments for Ocean and Coastal Acidification**
 - Description: The NOAA Ocean Acidification Program is seeking proposals for regional projects to synthesize ocean and coastal acidification information, focusing on the impact on human communities. This program aims to identify partners, assess needs, and develop tools for management, adaptation, and resilience, ultimately enhancing decision-making and economic stability.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, local and Tribal governments, institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, commercial organizations, and authorized Federal agencies.
 - Deadline: March 5, 2025
- **NEW High-Assay Low-Enriched Uranium (HALEU) Transportation Package**
 - Description: The objective of this HALEU is to research, develop, and acquire NRC certification for HALEU transportation packages focused on front-end transportation packaging needs to support a sustainable supply chain.
 - Who can apply?
 - State governments, city or township governments, county governments, special district governments, nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, public and state controlled institutions of higher education, forprofit organizations other than small businesses, small businesses, native american tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments), Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized), private institutions of higher education, nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education.
 - Deadline: January 21, 2025

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

- **Bridge Investment Program, Planning and Bridge Program**
 - Description: The Bridge Investment Program is a competitive, discretionary program that 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 Tribes.
 - Deadline:
 - Fiscal Year 2026 Planning Application, October 1, 2025
 - Fiscal Year 2026 Application Deadline, November 1, 2025

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- **Carbon Utilization Procurement Grants**
 - Description: UPGrants 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, local government, public utility or agency, institutions of higher education, forprofit and nonprofit entities, and Tribal governments.
 - Deadline: April 30, 2025
- **Consumer Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Program**
 - Description: The Recycling Education and Outreach Grant will fund projects aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions by minimizing food waste, expanding compost markets, increasing public awareness of residential food waste composting programs, boosting collection rates, and reducing contamination.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, local government, Indian Tribe, a nonprofit organization; or a public-private partnership.
 - Deadline: December 20, 2024
- **Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects (Small Storage Program)**
 - Description: The Small Storage Program aims to improve water storage for future generations by supporting stakeholder efforts to stretch scarce water supplies. Funding will help design and construct small storage facilities, improve municipal and irrigation water supplies, enhance groundwater management, and enhance water quality.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city or township governments, special districts, Native American Tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments), Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized), and nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS other than institutions of higher education.
 - Deadline: December 12, 2024
- **Clean School Bus Rebates Program**
 - Description: The Clean School Bus Program aims to transition school buses to clean energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality for students, bus drivers, school staff, and the communities they serve.
 - Who can apply?
 - Local or State governmental entities responsible for providing school bus service to one or more public school systems; or to purchase, lease, license, or contract for service of school buses;
 - A public charter school district responsible for the purchase, lease, license, or contract for service of school buses for that charter school;
 - Regional Education Service Agency or Joint Transportation Agency.
 - Deadline: January 9, 2025

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- **Generation III+ Small Modular Reactor Pathway to Deployment**
 - Description: This funding opportunity aims to support projects that will create a credible and sustainable pathway to fleet-level deployment of Gen III+ SMRs. Gen III+ SMRs can provide around-the-clock electricity or process heat to meet the increasing demand for clean, reliable, firm electricity generation, or process heat required by U.S. industries.
 - Who can apply?
 - A commercial electric utility, an end-user/off-taker who has teamed with a utility, a project development company who has teamed with a utility, or an incorporated consortium that includes a utility. The lead applicant's team must include a Gen III+ SMR technology vendor and an engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contractor. If these entities are still being finalized during selection, DOE will prioritize team finalization as early as possible and will tailor milestones as appropriate. Gen III+ SMR technology vendors, fuel manufacturers, supply chain vendors, EPC contractors, and other domestic nuclear industry entities are eligible to participate in multiple applications under this solicitation.
 - Deadline: January 17, 2025
- **NEW Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program**
 - Description: The PROTECT Grant program provides funding to ensure surface transportation resilience to natural hazards including climate change, sea level rise, flooding, extreme weather events, and other natural disasters through support of planning activities, resilience improvements, community resilience and evacuation routes, as well as at-risk coastal infrastructure.
 - Who can apply?
 - A State or political subdivision of a State, metropolitan planning organization, unit of local government, special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function, including a port authority, Indian Tribe, and a Federal land management agency that applies jointly with a State or group of States.
 - Deadline: February 24, 2025
- **NEW Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Program**
 - Description: The RAISE grant aims to invest in surface transportation that will have a significant local or regional impact, consistent with the Department of Transportation strategic goals to improve safety, strengthen economic and global competitiveness, and sustainability.
 - Who can apply?
 - States and the District of Columbia, a unit of local government, public agency or publicly chartered authority established by one or more States, a special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function, including a port authority, A Federally recognized Indian Tribe or a consortium of such Indian Tribes, transit agency, multi-State or multijurisdictional group of entities that are separately eligible.
 - Deadline: January 30, 2025

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- **NEW** [Community Wildfire Defense](#)
 - Description: The Community Wildfire Defense Grant aims to assist at-risk local communities and Indian Tribes with planning and mitigating against the risk created by wildfire. The Act prioritizes at-risk communities in an area identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential, are low-income, and/or have been impacted by a severe disaster.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, township or special district governments, Native American Tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized Tribal governments), public and state controlled institutions of higher education, Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized), 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.
 - Deadline: February 28, 2025

- **NEW** [Regional Infrastructure Accelerator \(RIA\) Program](#)
 - Description: RIA grants help entities develop infrastructure priorities and financing strategies for accelerated project development under the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Credit Program. They support RIAs serving defined geographic areas, serving qualified entities, and demonstrating RIA effectiveness.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, multi-State, county, municipalities, metropolitan planning organizations, regional transportation planning organizations, and Tribal governments.
 - Deadline: January 9, 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.*

Upcoming Notices and Funding Opportunities

- Reducing Truck Emissions at Port Facilities
 - Description: The Department of Transportation 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 December of 2024.
- 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 DOE anticipates posting this funding opportunity soon.
- **NEW** 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 wheelchair. The FTA anticipates posting this funding opportunity soon.
- **NEW** Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP)
 - Description: PIDP 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. The Department of Transportation anticipates posting this funding opportunity in December of 2024.

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General Resources

- [Grants.gov](#): This is the most complete list of federal grant opportunities. It is searchable and updated frequently. Grants.gov also has a [Grants Learning Center](#).
- [Department of Transportation Competitive Grant Funding Matrix](#): Look through program descriptions on the chart to identify programs for which you have relevant projects.
- [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Program Guide](#): Search keywords to identify relevant programs which will open throughout the next five years.
- [Inflation Reduction Act Program Guide](#): Search keywords to identify relevant programs and tax credits.
- [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.
- [Infrastructure and Clean Energy Technical Assistance Guide](#): This guide provides comprehensive information about more than 100 federal technical assistance programs that can support efforts to win Federal funding and deploy it in communities across the country.
- [Department of Labor Grants](#): DOL has published its new grant platform which aim to connect, protect, train, support, and empower workers and job seekers.

Should you have any questions, please contact District Director Dottie Hall at Dottie.Hall@mail.house.gov or (713) 353-8680.

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