

TX-07 GRANTS NEWSLETTER

February 2025

In this month's newsletter we would like to share an important update regarding President Trump's recent executive orders and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) memo that paused federal grant programs.

On Tuesday, January 28, 2025, after a lawsuit challenging the OMB memo enjoined the actions outlined in the memo, the Trump administration rescinded the OMB memo to pause funding. Our district team understands that this news may bring relief to many of you who rely on federal funding for critical programs.

According to the White House, however, President Trump's Executive Order titled "*Unleashing American Energy*," which directs federal agencies to pause the distribution of Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funds, as well as other executive orders, remains in effect.

We recognize that these actions have caused chaos, confusion, and widespread concern across our district. The Congresswoman and our district team have been in conversations with people across our district about these actions. Our team is working diligently to understand the impact of these directives.

Congresswoman Fletcher remains committed to advocating for our communities and ensuring that your voices are heard throughout this process. If you have any questions, concerns, or specific impacts you would like to share, please reach out to us. We would like to hear from you. This will be helpful as we continue to engage with federal agencies.

We are proud to serve you and are here to listen. Please do not hesitate to contact us at 713-353-8680 if we can be of any assistance.

It is our hope that this newsletter remains a valuable resource for funding opportunities, helping ensure our community has the information needed to apply for grants that support key priorities in Texas's Seventh Congressional District.

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New Resources

- The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has recorded a webinar and presentation slides for [Grants for the Arts Projects \(GAP\)](#), which support public engagement, arts education, health promotion, and arts sector capacity improvement. The webinar can be accessed [here](#).
- The Department of Justice (DOJ) will host a webinar on February 4, 2025, to provide an overview of the [Research and Evaluation of Artificial Intelligence for Criminal Justice Purposes funding opportunity](#) to support research and evaluation that advances the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the criminal justice system. You can register for the webinar [here](#).
- The Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) [Regional Telehealth Resource Centers](#) grant program offers webinars hosted by the National Consortium of Telehealth Resource (NCTR) every third Thursday of the month from 1:00 – 2:00 PM CT. For more information, please click [here](#).
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is launching a new interactive tool to help community leaders to track and understand investments made through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. For more information, please click [here](#).
- The Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED) is planning to host an informational webinar for their [Pilot-scale Rapid Operational Validation of key Energy Infrastructure Technologies \(PROVE IT\)](#) grant on February 5, 2025 at 2:30 PM CT to discuss the funding announcement. You can register for the webinar [here](#).

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Active Grant Opportunities

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

The CHIPS and Science Act

- **Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund Grant Program**
 - Description: The Innovation Fund is an NTIA-administered competitive grant program that seeks to accelerate the development, deployment, and adoption of open and interoperable radio access networks (RAN). The NTIA will invest in software solutions to further drive Open RAN adoption.
 - Who can apply?
 - Entities that have received funding from past Innovation Fund grants are eligible to receive funds under this program if the entity otherwise meets the appropriate eligibility requirements defined in the NOFO.
 - Deadline: March 17, 2025

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

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- **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.
- **Regional Resiliency & Vulnerability Assessments for Ocean and Coastal Acidification**
 - Description: The NOAA 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

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

- **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 Deadline, 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 and local governments; public utility or agency; institutions of higher education; forprofit and nonprofit entities; and Tribal governments.
 - Deadline: April 30, 2025
- **Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program**
 - Description: This 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; Tribal governments; and a Federal land management agency that applies jointly with a State or group of States.
 - Deadline: February 24, 2025
- **Community Wildfire Defense**
 - Description: This grant aims to assist at-risk local communities and Tribes with planning and mitigating against the risk created by wildfires. 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; public and state controlled institutions of higher education; 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: February 28, 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
- **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
- **Commercial Driver's License Program Implementation (CDLPI)**
 - Description: This grant aims to provide funding to enhance and support the national CDL program. The program emphasizes the "One Driver, One License, One Record" principle, ensuring drivers have a single driving record and licensing document to promote uniformity and safety nationwide.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, or town governments; public and state-controlled institutions of higher education; private institutions of higher education; small businesses; 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: February 24, 2025

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- **Commercial Motor Vehicle Operator Safety Training Program**
 - Description: This program aims to train future operators in the safe use of commercial motor vehicles.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, and city governments; independent school districts; public and state-controlled institutions of higher education; nonprofit having 501(c)(3) status with the IRS; small businesses; Hispanic serving Institutions, historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), and Tribally controlled colleges and universities (TCUUs); and Native American Tribal governments (Federally Recognized).
 - Deadline: February 25, 2025
- **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
- **Slip-on Tanker Units**
 - Description: This pilot program aims to provide financial assistance to local governments to acquire slip-on tanker units. These units will enable vehicles to quickly transform into fire engines, enhancing fire response capabilities with flexible and efficient equipment.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, township, and special district governments; and independent school districts.
 - Deadline: February 26, 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, or special district governments; and Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized).
 - Deadline: April 3, 2025

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- **NEW** [High Priority-Commercial Motor Vehicle \(HP-CMV\) Program](#)
 - Description: This funding opportunity aims to enhance CMV safety by analyzing safety programs, focusing on high-risk crash corridors, promoting safe hazardous material movement, demonstrating new technologies, supporting systems management, and increasing public awareness.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, township, or special district government; nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; private institutions of higher education; public and state controlled institutions of higher education; and Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized).
 - Deadline: March 7, 2025

- **NEW** [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

- **NEW** [Pilot-Scale Rapid Operational Validation of Key Energy Infrastructure Technologies \(PROVE IT\)](#)
 - Description: This program supports small businesses conducting research and development to validate pilot-scale units in real-world operational environments before commercialization. The program focuses on testing components or subsystems as part of a fully integrated system in industrial-relevant conditions. Successful proposals should address significant adoption challenges and demonstrate potential for major industry impact.
 - Who can apply?
 - To be eligible for the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program, a small business must be a for-profit entity, with a majority of its equity (more than 50%) owned by U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
 - Deadline:
 - Fiscal Year 2025 Planning Application Due, March 7, 2025
 - Fiscal Year 2025 Full Application Due, June 2, 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.

- **NEW** [Technical Assistance Grants \(TAG\)](#)
 - Description: This grant provides funding to entities for technical assistance involving engineering or analysis of pipeline safety issues. TAG's purpose is to support the growth of a strong transportation network through opportunities to provide quality public participation in the safe operation of pipelines.
 - Who can apply?
 - County, city, township, and similar governmental subdivisions, or consortiums of such subdivisions, and groups of individuals; and entities related to the safety and associated environmental mitigation of pipeline facilities in local communities, Tribal governments, and parishes.
 - Deadline: March 3, 2025

- **NEW** [Pipeline Emergency Response Grant \(PERG\)](#)
 - Description: This program provides training for individuals with a legal responsibility to respond to pipeline incidents, focusing on the safe transportation of hazardous gases and liquids through pipelines in high-consequence areas. The goal is to equip responders with the skills and knowledge needed to protect communities from the impacts of pipeline accidents or incidents involving hazardous materials transportation.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, or township governments.
 - Deadline: March 3, 2025

- **NEW** [Child Welfare and Domestic Violence Agency Collaborations to Support Families](#)
 - Description: The purpose of this funding opportunity is to improve community response to incidents of domestic violence where a child is present. The goal of the program is to improve collaboration between child welfare and domestic violence agencies to ensure that families affected by domestic violence, with or at risk of involvement with the child welfare system, have timely access to trauma-informed, individualized services and resources that improve their safety and well-being.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, special district, or township governments; independent school districts; public, state, and private controlled institutions of higher education; public/Tribal housing authorities; small businesses; nonprofits other than institutions of higher education; forprofit organizations other than small businesses; and Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized).
 - Deadline: March 3, 2025

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- **NEW** [Research and Evaluation of Artificial Intelligence for Criminal Justice Purposes](#)
 - Description: This opportunity supports research that advances the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the criminal justice system. The goal is to improve the fairness, accuracy, and effectiveness of criminal justice processes through AI applications in crime prevention, public safety, and justice system decision-making.
 - Who can apply?
 - State, county, city, township, or special district governments; nonprofits other than institutions of higher education; private, public, and state controlled institutions of higher education; forprofit organizations other than small businesses; small businesses; and Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized).
 - Deadline: March 4, 2025

- **NEW** [Assistance for Local Emergency Response Training \(ALERT\) Grant](#)
 - Description: This grant seeks to fund projects that promote hazmat response training for volunteer or remote emergency responders. Properly planned and maintained training ensures emergency responders' ability to protect the community and environment from the effects of accidents involving the transportation of hazardous material.
 - Who can apply?
 - Public and state controlled institutions of higher education; private institutions of higher education; and nonprofits other than institutions of higher education.
 - Deadline: March 16, 2025

- **NEW** [Statewide Family Network](#)
 - Description: The purpose of this program is to provide resources to enhance the capacity of statewide mental health family-controlled organizations to support, train, and mentor family members/primary caregivers who are raising children, youth, and young adults with serious emotional disturbance (SED) and/or co-occurring disorders (COD).
 - Who can apply?
 - Domestic public and private nonprofit entities.
 - Deadline: March 17, 2025

- **NEW** [Hazardous Materials Instructor Training Grant \(HMIT\)](#)
 - Description: This grant is a train-the-trainer program that facilitates the training of hazmat instructors who then conduct training in Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) for hazmat employees.
 - Who can apply?
 - Nonprofits other than institutions of higher education.
 - Deadline: March 17, 2025

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- **NEW** [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; Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized).
 - Deadline: April 14, 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 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 DOE 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 USDOT anticipates posting this funding opportunity in Spring of 2025.
- **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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- **NEW** 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 pipe prone to leakage of methane, create related good-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.
- **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. The Department of Health and Human Services anticipates posting this funding opportunity soon.

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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 by keywords to identify relevant programs that will open throughout the next five years.
- [Inflation Reduction Act Program Guide](#): Search by keyword 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 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.

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE

2004 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2571

HOUSTON OFFICE

3700 Buffalo Speedway
Suite 610
Houston, TX 77098
Phone: (713) 353-8680
Fax: (713) 353-8677

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