



**Carl Vinson
Institute of Government**
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



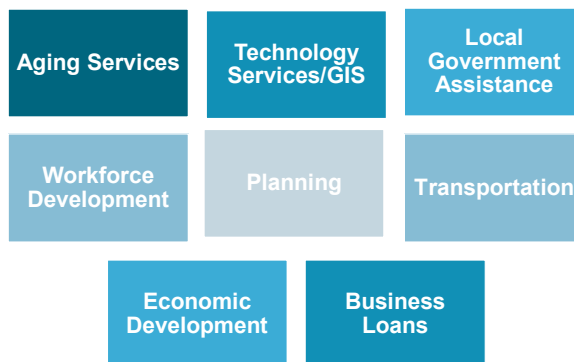
Fundamentals of Grant Writing

Laura M. Mathis
Middle Georgia Regional Commission

Jim Livingston
River Valley Regional Commission

1

Georgia's Regional Commissions



2

Outline for Session

- Grant Myths
- Beyond Writing, it's Grant Preparation
- Tips for Successful Grant Writing
- Top Grant Resources for Local Governments

3

Grant Myths

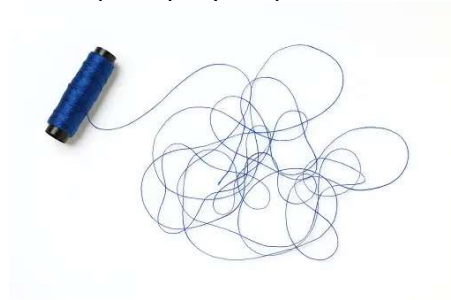
- **Myth #1: We can get a grant for that!**
 - Yes, **but** not everything
 - Operating Expenses and Programming
 - Basic Local Government Operations
- **Myth #2: Grants are free money!**
 - Staff time to research, prepare, administer
 - Match is required (99.9% of the time)
 - Regulatory requirements that you might not otherwise have to do
- **Myth #3: How hard could this be - anyone can write and administer a grant**
 - It's not rocket science or brain surgery but if done incorrectly, could require repayment/ineligible activities.



4

Free Money = Money With Strings

- Grants often increase the administration or operating cost that is not funded by the grant
- May require increased citizen participation/data collection (multiple years)
- Increased requirements for:
 - Procurement
 - Land Acquisition
 - Labor rates for contractors (Davis Bacon)
 - Accounting



5

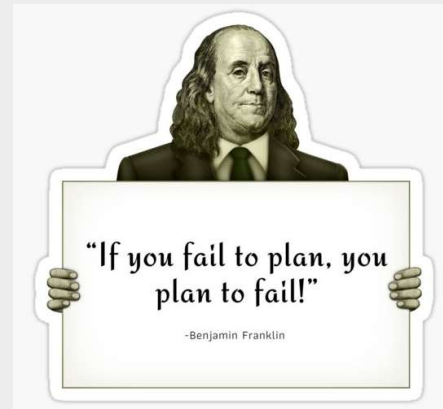
Other “Costs” of Grants

- Continuation/Sustainability Requirements
 - Keep employees for a period of time.
- Increase compliance review by External Auditor and others (OIG)
- Grants impact cash flow—most grants are reimbursable grants
 - Do you have to borrow the funds and wait for reimbursement?
- Subcontractors receiving federal grant funds have to be monitored.
 - How are you doing this?

6

Beyond Writing

Grant preparation involves planning, compliance, analysis/assessments, and public engagement.



7

Before you apply: Are you a qualified local government?

- ✓ Current, DCA-approved Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ Service Delivery Strategy verified by DCA
- ✓ E-Verify Compliance (federal immigration reporting) – report by 12/31 each year
- ✓ Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Compliance – report by 12/31 each year
- ✓ Preparation of annual financial audit and submission to DOAA, DCA and TED
- ✓ Report of Local Government Finances (RLGF)-within 6 months of FYE
- ✓ Report of Government Management Indicators Survey (GOMI) by 6/30

8

How do you know your status?

- Check with City Clerk / City Manager / Finance Director
- Comp Plan/ SDS / E verify/ Sanctuary Policies
- <https://apps.dca.ga.gov/LocalGovStatus/planning.asp>



Local Government Compliance Status: Planning

Local Governments Currently Ineligible for Selected State Assistance Programs and Permits

Page 1: Comprehensive Planning, Service Delivery Strategy

Page 2: State Survey, Local Government Finance, Homeless Tax, Authorities Registration, Authority Finances

The governments in these listings are not in compliance with DCA minimum standards under the Georgia Planning Act, legal requirements related to immigration, or the Service Delivery Strategy law and are therefore ineligible for selected state assistance programs (see program details below the table). This list is continuously updated and is accurate as of the current date. For further information about specific compliance requirements, please contact the person listed below.

Ineligible for Incentives Associated with QLG Status	Ineligible for ALL Funding & Permitting
Comprehensive Planning(DCA) Contact DCA's Office of Planning and Environmental Management at perm.dca@dca.ga.gov or 404-675-5273 Governments that adopt DCA-approved comprehensive plans consistent with DCA's Local Planning Requirements (and Capital Improvement Element	Service Delivery Strategy (DCA) Contact DCA's Office of Planning and Environmental Management at perm.dca@dca.ga.gov or 404-675-5273 Georgia's Service Delivery Act (OCGA 36-70-25) promotes efficient, effective delivery of local government services and helps prevent taxpayers from paying to
E-Verify (DOAA) Contact the Department of Audits and Accounts at immhelp@doaa.ga.gov or 404-651-8938 Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 15-10-919(b)(7), governments that fail to provide the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts (DOAA) with sufficient	"Sanctuary" Policies Contact the Department of Audits and Accounts at immhelp@doaa.ga.gov or 404-651-8938 Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 36-60-23, political subdivisions (as defined in that statute) reported to have enacted "sanctuary" policies related to immigration are

Local Government Reporting Compliance (GOMI/RLGF)

- Check with City Clerk / City Manager / Finance Director
- Updated regularly
- <https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/5783/documents/2086>



Local governments – cities, counties, and consolidated governments – listed on this document are not in compliance with state reporting requirements and are barred from receiving state-appropriated funds from the Department of Community Affairs until the specified reports are received. Local governments are required to have the three most recently years' Government Management Indicators Survey (GOMI) and Report of Local Government Finance (RLGF) submitted to the Department of Community Affairs.

Jurisdictions on the following list have not submitted one or more of these six requirements. This list is sorted alphabetically by jurisdiction and lists each missing report with its corresponding fiscal year or year. The RLGF is due 6-months after the end of each jurisdiction's fiscal year, and the GOMI is due June 30th for all jurisdictions.

This PDF document is updated on a weekly basis. If you have any immediate questions regarding a jurisdiction's status or respective compliance requirements please e-mail Research@dca.ga.gov.

List Prepared and Accurate as of May 29, 2023

GOVERNMENT	REGION	FYE	DELINQUENT REPORTS
------------	--------	-----	--------------------

Department of Audits and Accounts

- Check with City Clerk / City Manager / Finance Director
- <https://www.audits2.ga.gov/resources/orgs/local-government/?rcat=submission-resources>

 Local Government Resources 2023 Governmental Accounting & Reporting
Government Accounting & Reporting

Resources - Financial Statement Preparation - Professional Organizations Submissions - Technical Assistance Submissions Portal Deadlines	Submissions Local Government Financial Statements  Request for Proposal for Audit Services Updated 2022 Example word document used to issue a request proposal (RFP) for audit services. List of Noncompliant Organizations  Local Government Noncompliance Memo Dated April 5, 2023 Non-Compliance Memo Dated April 5, 2023
---	--

11

You're Not Ready

- If something is incomplete on the list; do not proceed with applying for grants.
 - Ineligible – even in an emergency
 - Can't prove a track record of financial management
- Realize it could take time to get caught up.
- Get help!
 - Accountants; Auditors; Regional Commissions; CVIOG; GMA



12

Before you apply- Registrations

✓ Login.gov account

- Sign into multiple federal agency websites using just one account, i.e. one username and one password for you to remember.

✓ Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

- A unique nine-character number used to identify your organization. Used to be DUNS.

✓ System for Award Management (SAM)

- A SAM registration is required to work with federal agencies as a contractor and to receive federal grants.
 - ❖ EBIZ Point of Contact (CRITICAL LINK)

✓ Grants.gov

- ❖ EBIZ Point of Contact (CRITICAL LINK)

✓ FEMA Grants Outcomes (GO)

✓ Just Grants (BJA Grants)

✓ Ecivis (DCA portal)

*Trend
Unique Online
Submission
Portals*

13

Recommended Best Practices

- Maintain a secure log of all usernames and passwords for various registrations and grant portals
 - Keep a record of documentation submitted so that it is consistent year over year
- Be mindful of the username, password, phone numbers, etc. that are used for the accounts
 - People leave
- Do not use personal email addresses of elected officials or staff; should be city owned.

14

Before you apply: vision / needs

Know the answers to the following:

- What is your vision for your community?
- What are your needs?
- What problems are you trying to solve?

Resources

- Local Comprehensive Plan
- Recreation Master Plan
- Downtown Plan
- Redevelopment Plan
- Needs Assessments
- Engineering Reports
- Budget
- Town Hall/Community Meetings

15

Before you apply: Analyze!

Protects Against

- Chasing grant dollars that don't fit
- Wasting time and money
- Unsustainable growth/development

Enables you to

- Be flexible and open to new opportunities, but have a short checklist to review to make sure it fits
- Respond when opportunities arise

16

Potential Funding Opportunity? Answer the Yes/No Questions

- Eligible Applicants - is that you?
- Eligible Activities - what you want?
- Ineligible Activities - what you want?
- Match Requirements - do you have?
- Performance Period - can you meet the deadline?

17

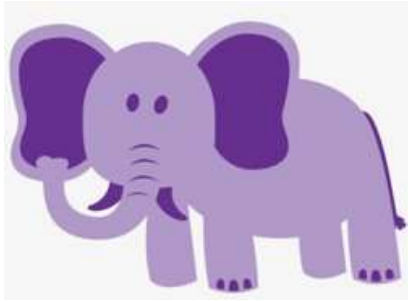
Pepper and Millie – a tale of two Corgi's....



18

Don't Invest Your Time – Be Willing to Walk

The Funding Opportunity



Your Project/ Your Need



19

**When you are ready to apply,
you must do these two things**

20

#1 READ (the application package
in its entirety)

#2 FOLLOW (the instructions)

21

Project Development and Grant Writing Take Time!

• *Identify Key Players*

- Grant Writer
- Grant Administrator (may also be your Grant Writer)
- Architect/Engineer/other technical experts as applicable
- Beneficiaries

• *Action Plan*

- Who is doing what by when?
- Are there pre-application requirements?

22

Allow sufficient time to develop the project and write the application

- Always keep the reviewer in mind. (It's not about you.)
- Allow sufficient time to develop your project and write the application
- Signs of a last-minute application
 - The narrative is usually confusing and choppy.
 - The budget doesn't reconcile.
 - Fatal Flaw: Basic items are missing.
 - Pro Tip: Checklists are critical (create your own/modify to your process).

23

Who Can/Should Write Application?

- Good storyteller – Someone who can paint the picture for the “bureaucrat with a checklist”
- Comfortable with technical language
- Experience with the funding source
 - Know the grant or agency lingo/expectations
 - How to give your application the winning edge

24

Pay attention to the Rating and Selection Processes

- Find out from the funding agency what they think makes a grant proposal competitive.
- How are they selecting projects (Points are common)?
 - Does your project meet the minimum?
 - Are there bonus points you can claim?
- Core criteria for most review processes are:
 - Feasibility
 - Impact
 - Strategy

25

Don't Be Shy: Ask Questions and Pitch Your Project Concept

- After you've reviewed the instructions, if something isn't clear;
 - Ask questions
 - Don't assume
 - Pitch Your Idea
 - Arrange a call with someone from the funding entity or attend the applicant's workshop
 - It will save time for everyone!

26

Review the Program Track Record

- They can't fund what hasn't been requested!
 - The list of eligible activities is often much greater than what has historically been requested.
- Each program has specific Goals and Objectives.
 - Your objectives should be clear, specific, and measurable and should match the funding agency
- Ask if the program rewards innovative proposals.
- Get to know your competition.
- **A take-away:** Are you applying from a pool of similar applications that is "flooded"? How can your application stand out?

27

Budgets: Critical Element

- What do you need funds for?
- What is your source of match? **Prove it!**
 - Go above and beyond minimums, if you can
- What can you leverage?
- Anything budgeted should be discussed.



28

Make a Compelling Argument

- ***“Tell the Story – Sell the Story” Another definite “take away”!***
- First paragraph should be the grabber. Make it a good one.
- Tell the ‘story’ in an interesting way to keep the interest of the reader.
- Use data and language that creates a sense of urgency: “We must do this for the following reasons:”
- Most grant funding is based on review panel consensus.
- You want a champion for your project on the review panel!

29

General Application Tips

- Answer the questions asked.
- Succinct, clear language. Word limits are becoming more common.
- Simple sentence structure. Read it out loud. If you can’t do it in one breath, it’s too complex.
- Carefully use **font** changes to make a **point.**
- Include pictures if allowed and if relevant.

30

Make it easy on the reviewer

- Organize your material into a logical coherent presentation.
 - Follow their instructions in the order they give them.
- Use supporting documentation to your advantage.
 - Include it if it's relevant
 - You don't get points for how much your application weighs
- Present a relevant, realistic, comprehensive solution.
 - Tell them how your project meets the program/agency goals

31

AFTER GRANT AWARD: Congratulations! Now What?

- Get and stay organized!
- **READ** and **FOLLOW** instructions.
- Develop a master schedule for the project.
 - Milestones, Deliverables, Quarterly Reporting, Financial Reporting
 - Responsible Parties
 - Include inspection/monitoring visits, close-out process, recordkeeping requirements
- The *other* Golden Rule: He who has the gold rules.
- Grantors want you to be successful – they developed the program and funded you so build relationships that help you help them.
- Maintain eligibility.

32

Competition is Stiff: What to do if your grant isn't funded

- Don't be discouraged!
- Most funding agencies will provide critiques or scoring sheets.
 - If you re-apply, don't automatically re-submit the same exact application. (Hint: It wasn't funded the first time)
 - Requirements Change
 - New Data
 - Missing Elements
- Maintain a positive relationship with the funding agency.

33

Grant Resources- Where to find opportunities

- Regional Commissions, GMA and ACCG newsletters and websites
 - <https://www.gacities.com/Resources/Grants-and-Award-Opportunities.aspx>
 - https://atlantaregional.org/infrastructure-investment-jobs-act-resource-database/?relevant_region=all
- DCA **Economic Development Finance Packet** is a comprehensive listing of state, federal, and local programs that are designed to promote economic development and business enhancement in Georgia
- Specific agency websites (FEMA, DOJ, DCA, DNR, GDOT)
- Grants.gov website (federal grants)
- Leading Funding Sources
 - Infrastructure and Community Development
 - Economic Development
 - Public Safety
 - Recreation

34

INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Water, Sewer, Streets and Drainage, Public Facilities



35

35

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

- CDBG funds are provided to the State of Georgia by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are regulated by federal statutes.
- Annual Competition (**typical April deadline**) for all non-entitlement communities.
- Entitlement Communities receive CDBG funds directly from HUD:
 - Cities of Albany, Atlanta, Brookhaven, Brunswick, Dalton, Gainesville, Hinesville, Marietta, Rome, Roswell, Sandy Springs City, Savannah, Smyrna City, South Fulton, Valdosta, and Warner Robbins.
 - Counties of Cherokee County, Clayton County, Cobb County, DeKalb County, Fulton County, Gwinnett County, and Henry County.
 - The Consolidated Governments of Athens/Clarke County, Augusta/Richmond County, Columbus Consolidated Government, and Macon/Bibb County.



36

36

Georgia's CDBG Annual Program

- Administered by DCA
- Grant award amounts
 - Maximum award
 - \$1 million (single activity)
 - \$1.25 million (multi-activity)
 - \$2 million (regional cooperation)
- Match requirements
 - Grants up to \$300,000 - no match required
 - Grants of \$300,001 to \$750,000 - 5% local match required
 - Grants of more than \$750,001 - 10% local match required
 - Grants over \$1,000,001- 15% local match required
- Annual Competition: **very competitive**
 - Typically, 100 applications are received; 50-60 funded
 - Highest impact for CDBG investment; go beyond the minimums



37

CDBG Eligible Activities

- 70% of beneficiaries must be LMI
 - Water and Sewer
 - Storm drainage
 - Street improvements
 - Fire protection (fire hydrants)
- 100% of beneficiaries must be LMI
 - Housing demolition, rehabilitation or reconstruction
- Limited Clientele Facilities- presumes 100% LMI
 - Senior Centers
 - Health Department
 - Boys & Girls Clubs
 - Head Start Programs
 - Developmental Health

**MUST Benefit
Low-to Moderate-
Income Persons**

38

CDBG –How to learn more

- Applicant's Workshop - held in December each year
- Recipient's Workshop/DCA Fall Conference – held in September/ October each year
- DCA website: <https://www.dca.ga.gov/community-economic-development/funding-programs/community-development-block-grants-cdbg> or google Georgia DCA CDBG
- Contact your Regional Commission

39

CDBG – It's about the people



40

CDBG – Redevelopment Fund (RDF)

- Set aside of CDBG Funding
- Walks and talks like a CDBG grant but
 - Focus is on elimination of slum and blight and job creation
 - No application deadline
 - DCA works in partnership with community on application

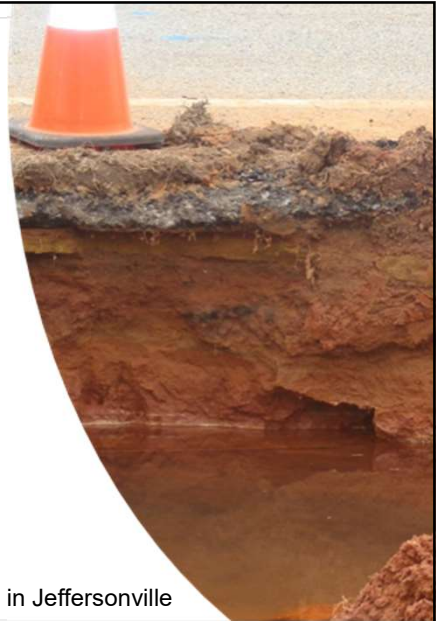


Peach Regional Hospital closed in 2013. Building was not salvageable. RDF funds demolished building; construction of hotel/conference center underway.

41

Immediate Threat and Danger (ITAD)

- Urgent and unique
- Should typically involve a **State or federally declared disaster area**
- Condition must be of recent origin - developed or become critical within 18 months
- Serious and immediate threat to **health or welfare** of the community
- Other financial resources are not available
- Can reimburse for completed emergency repairs
- 50% of project cost up to \$50,000
- Local Government has to provide at least 10% of the project cost



Hwy 80 in Jeffersonville

42

RAISE-BUILD-TIGER GRANTS

- Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Transportation Discretionary Grant program provides a unique opportunity for the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) to invest in road, rail, transit and port projects that promise to achieve national objectives.
- Application deadline is Feb 28
 - \$1 million rural minimum (no match required)
 - \$5 million urban minimum (20% match required)

<https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/infrastructure/tiger/>

43

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

- Georgia Department of Transportation
- Program for areas of the state with populations less than or equal to 200,000\
- Eligible activities:
 - Pedestrian and bicycle facilities, including non-motorized paths (including engineering costs)
 - Streetscape Improvements (including engineering costs)
 - Safe Routes to School Program



More Information

<https://www.dot.ga.gov/GDOT/Pages/TAP.aspx>

44

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

- \$1 million minimum grant
- 20% **cash** match required of total project cost

Requirements:

- The project is financially feasible
- Capacity of providing required matching funds, completing the project and planning for its ongoing maintenance of required items
- The Local Public Agency must be adequately staffed and suitably equipped to undertake and satisfactorily complete the project
- The Local Public Agency must provide a full-time employee to be in responsible charge of the project
- The Local Public Agency must be Local Administered Project (LAP) certified by GDOT according to Departmental policies and Federal Highway Administration Guidelines

Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB)

- Invest in projects that:
 - Demonstrate a high degree of **local commitment** (e.g., matching funds, inclusion in local, regional and/or state plans)
 - Address critical local and state transportation needs including **economic development** and **mobility**
 - Include **innovative** transportation solutions
 - Are **close to the start** of, at, or under construction
 - Demonstrate a high degree of **feasibility**
- The more priorities you meet, the more competitive you are
- Projects addressing few criteria are better candidates for loans

Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB)

- Provides grants and low-interest loans on a competitive basis (75% awards are grants)
 - Loans: minimum \$25,000; 5 years, GEFA Interest Rates
- Eligibility:
 - Local governments (city, county, regional commission), community improvement districts, state government entities (two or more may apply together)
 - Projects must be motor fuel tax eligible
- Deadline January 25, 2024

More information

www.srta.ga.gov/gtib

47

Safe Streets For All (SS4A)

- US DOT (BIL created new program)
- Funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. Over \$3 billion is still available for future funding rounds.
- Eligible Applicants
 - Counties, cities, towns, transit agencies, and other special districts that are political subdivisions of a State.
 - Metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs).
 - Federally recognized Tribal governments.

48

SS4A

• Planning and Demonstration Grants

- Develop an Action Plan
- Conduct supplemental safety planning to enhance an Action Plan
- Carry out demonstration activities to inform the development of, or an update to, an Action Plan
- \$100,000 to \$10 million (80% grant funded, 20% match required)

• Implementation Grants

- implement projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan to address a roadway safety problem. Projects and strategies can be infrastructure, behavioral, and/or operational activities. Implementation Grants may also include demonstration activities, supplemental planning, and project-level planning, design, and development.
- \$2,500,000 to \$25 million (80% grant funded, 20% match required)

USDA WATER/WASTEWATER GRANTS/LOANS

- Provides funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and stormwater drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas.
- Rural areas and towns with fewer than 10,000 people.
- Type of funding: long-term, low-interest loans. If funds are available, grants may be combined with a loan to keep user costs reasonable, if necessary.



More Information

www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program/ga

USDA Community Facilities (Loans and Grants)

- Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities and purchase equipment for
 - Health care facilities, such as hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics, nursing homes or assisted living facilities
 - Public facilities, such as town halls, courthouses, airport hangars or street improvements
 - Community support services, such as childcare centers, community centers, fairgrounds or transitional housing
 - Public safety services, such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles or equipment
 - Educational services, such as museums, libraries or private schools
 - Utility services, such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment
 - Local food systems, such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs or greenhouses

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY (GEFA)

Low-interest financing for drinking water, reservoir and water supply, water quality, stormwater and solid waste infrastructure. Cities, Counties and Water/Sewer Authorities can apply.

The Georgia Fund (State funds)

- Water and sewer lines
- Treatment plants, pumping stations, wells, water storage tanks, water meters
- New subtitle D landfills, landfill expansions and closures, and landfill methane gas collection systems
- Energy-efficiency and renewable energy projects at water and wastewater treatment plants, landfills, and municipal solid waste facilities.

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY (GEFA)

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) (federal funds)

- Water quality, water conservation, and wastewater treatment projects, such as constructing new wastewater treatment plants
- Repairing and replacing sewer lines and stormwater control projects
- Implementing water conservation projects and programs
- Nonpoint source pollution control projects
- Energy-efficiency and renewable energy projects at wastewater treatment facilities.

53

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY (GEFA)

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) (federal funds)

- Various public health-related water supply projects
- Projects that address compliance-related problems, such as correcting water system deficiencies including water quality, capacity, pressure, and water loss
- Water conservation projects and programs
- Energy-efficiency and renewable energy projects at water treatment facilities

54

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION (ARC)

- A regional economic development partnership of federal, state, and local government established by Congress in 1965
- Provides financial investment and technical assistance to eligible applicants in support of community and economic development in Georgia's 37-county Appalachian region in the areas of
 - Economic Opportunities
 - Ready Workforce
 - Critical Infrastructure
 - Natural and Cultural Assets
 - Leadership and Community Capacity

More information

www.arc.gov or Your Regional Commission

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION (ARC) COUNTIES

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| • Banks, Barrow, Bartow | • Jackson |
| • Carroll, Catoosa, Chattooga,
Cherokee | • Lumpkin |
| • Dade, Dawson, Douglas | • Madison, Murray |
| • Elbert | • Paulding, Pickens, Polk |
| • Fannin, Floyd, Forsyth, Franklin | • Rabun |
| • Gilmer, Gordon, Gwinnett | • Stephens |
| • Habersham, Hall, Haralson,
Hart, Heard | • Towns |
| | • Union |
| | • Walker, White, Whitfield |

SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION

- The Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC) is a federal-state partnership authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill to promote and encourage economic development in areas of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and all of Florida.
- SCRC invests in projects that support basic infrastructure, business development, natural resources, and workforce/labor development.
- SCRC's mission is to help create jobs, build communities, and improve the lives of those who reside in the 408 counties of the seven-state region.
- The rest of the state not covered by ARC.
- New grant program. <https://scrc.gov/>

57

Housing

CHIP, CDBG, OneGeorgia, and USDA

58

Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP)

- A federally- funded program designed to provide safe, decent, and affordable housing in Georgia by granting funds to city and county governments, public housing authorities, and nonprofits.
- Administered by DCA.
- Eligible Activities (beneficiary is low to moderate income person)
 - rehabilitate owner-occupied homes
 - build and renovate affordable single-family homes for sale to eligible homebuyers.
- Maximum Grant Award \$400,000 (rehab); \$600,000 (new construction)
- Match Required
- Average impact 4-7 houses per grant award
- <https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/rental-housing-development/home-investment-partnership-program-home-1>

59

CDBG -Housing

- A set aside of the CDBG Program; administered by DCA
- Annual Competition (see previous slides)
- Eligible Activities
 - Housing Rehabilitation will utilize CDBG funds to finance the rehabilitation of public or private residential property, including the conversion of non-residential properties (in downtown commercial districts, etc.) for housing.
 - Reconstruction of housing provided that it is (a) owner-occupied, and (b) the house proposed for reconstruction is "not feasible" for rehabilitation. The reconstructed unit must be built on the same parcel of land as the unit it replaces.

60

OneGeorgia Equity– Rural Workforce Housing

Amount	\$25 M	\$10 M
Financing Type	Grants	Loans
Activity	Land Development (infrastructure)	Development of affordable for-sale, single-family housing with sale prices between \$125,000- \$290,000 Development of single- or multi-family rental housing with a per unit cost of between \$125,000- \$290,000 for 2 or more-bedroom units with affordable rents for at least 10 years.
Recipient	Development Authorities	Community Applications with Lender + Builder
	\$250,000- \$2,500,000	\$250,000- \$1,000,00

<https://www.dca.ga.gov/community-economic-development/funding-programs/onegeorgia-authority/equity-fund-rural-workforce>

61

61

USDA Housing



- **Single Family Housing Repair Loans and Grants:** Also known as the Section 504 Home Repair program; this program provides loans to very-low-income homeowners to repair, improve or modernize their homes, or grants to elderly very-low-income homeowners to remove health and safety hazards.
<http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-repair-loans-grants>
- **Multi-Family Housing Direct Loans:** This program provides competitive financing for affordable multi-family rental housing for low-income, elderly, or disabled individuals and families in eligible areas.
<http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/multi-family-housing-direct-loans>
- **Housing Preservation Grants:** Provides grants to sponsoring organizations for the repair or rehabilitation of housing occupied by low and very-low-income people.
<http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/housing-preservation-grants>
- **Rural Housing Site Loans:** Provide two types of loans to purchase and develop housing sites for low- and moderate-income families: Section 523 loans are used to acquire and develop sites only for housing to be constructed by the Self-Help method; Section 524 loans are made to acquire and develop sites for low- or moderate-income families, with no restriction as to the method of construction.
<http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-housing-site-loans>
- **Single Family Housing Direct Home Loans:** Also known as the Section 502 Direct Loan Program; this program assists low- and very-low-income applicants obtain decent, safe and sanitary housing in eligible rural areas by providing payment assistance, a type of subsidy that reduces the mortgage payment for a short time. The amount of assistance is determined by the adjusted family income.
<http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-direct-home-loans>

62

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT AND JOB CREATION



63

63

Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works Construction

- Funding for public infrastructure associated with private investment and job creation
 - Traditional economic development – manufacturing, warehouse/distribution
 - Not commercial/retail investment
 - Not capacity building
 - Awards range from \$500,000 to \$1 million depending on private investment
- Typical activities include
 - Water and sewer infrastructure (lines, tanks, treatment facilities, pump stations)
 - Roads
 - Natural Gas



64

64

- Academy Sports
 - Twiggs County
 - \$115 million; 850 jobs
 - Multiple Funding Sources
 - EDA, OneGeorgia, CDBG-EIP



65

CDBG – Employment Incentive Program (EIP)

- Set aside of CDBG Funding
- Walks and talks like a CDBG grant but
 - Focus is on private investment and job creation
 - No application deadline
 - DCA works in partnership with community on application

Eligible Activities

- Direct loans to businesses for fixed asset financing to create local RLF
- Public infrastructure grants (water/sewer, roads, rail spurs, etc.)
- Public facility grants (workforce development centers, childcare, etc.)

66

ONE GEORGIA EQUITY AND EDGE

- Administered by DCA
 - State funds (Tobacco settlement investment)
 - No federal requirements like CDBG or EDA
- **EQUITY program**
 - Capacity building “level the playing field”
- **EDGE program**
 - Legitimate competition outside of Georgia “edge out the competition”



67

OneGeorgia Equity

- Eligible applicants
 - Local governments (municipalities and counties), development authorities, and joint or multi-county development authorities
 - 8 counties in metro-Atlanta, not eligible-all others either directly or conditionally eligible
- Application Deadline: 4:00 PM on the 2nd Friday of January, April, July and October of each year.
- Award amounts
 - One county –\$200,000
 - Two counties –\$300,000
 - Three or more counties - \$500,000 - Can go up to \$1,000,000 per project if regional

68

OneGeorgia Equity

- Grants for Infrastructure to support non-competitive capacity building development, workforce development, downtown revitalization, tourism initiatives, and feasibility studies.
- Loans
 - Loan funds for business growth are made at 3% interest at 5-7 years for machinery and equipment and 20 years for real estate.
 - Loan funds for speculative buildings are made at 0% with a 5-year deferment or until the building is sold.

69

OneGeorgia Edge

- One RURAL Georgia community competing with at least one community outside Georgia for new investment and job creation
- Georgia Department of Economic Development recommends DCA invest in the project as part of Georgia's incentive package
- Funding amount depends on investment and job creation
- Eligible Activities include but aren't limited to:
 - Land acquisition and site development
 - public infrastructure improvements
 - publicly owned machinery and equipment
 - publicly owned/privately leased fixed assets and machinery and equipment.
- Applicant is typically Development Authority; can be local government
- ***You don't just apply for Edge funds - you get invited to apply.***

70

Regional Economic Business Assistance (REBA)

- One Georgia community competing with at least one community outside Georgia for new investment and job creation- NOT limited to rural
- Georgia Department of Economic Development recommends DCA invest in the project as part of Georgia's incentive package
- Funding amount depends on investment and job creation
- Eligible activities include but aren't limited to:
 - land acquisition and site development
 - public infrastructure improvements
 - publicly owned machinery and equipment
 - publicly owned/privately leased fixed assets and machinery and equipment.
- Applicant is typically Development Authority; can be local government
- ***You don't just apply for REBA funds - you get invited to apply.***

71

PUBLIC SAFETY

FEMA and Department of Justice

72

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **COPS Hiring: Covers portion of salary for hiring new officers**
 - Requires commitment to retain position
- **Bulletproof Vest: Purchase of body armor**
 - Requires adoption of “mandatory wear policy”
- **Body-Worn Camera: Purchase of body-worn cameras and systems**
 - Requires policies on record retention/use of video
- **Bryne JAG (allocation and open competition)**
 - Funding necessary to support a range of program areas including law enforcement, prosecution, indigent defense, courts, crime prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning, evaluation, technology improvement, crime victim and witness initiatives, mental health programs, and related law enforcement and corrections programs, including behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams.

73

Fire Grants

AFG

- Personal Protective Equipment
- Fire Fighting Equipment
- Vehicles
- Training
- Match Requirements:

SAFER

- Hiring new fire fighters
- Recruitment and retention of new volunteer fire fighters
- Cost share for salary and benefits
 - Over 3-year period % of federal funding declines

FP&S

- Community Risk Reduction
- Code Enforcement/Awareness
- Fire and Arson Investigation
- National/State/Regional Programs and Studies.

All grants use <https://go.fema.gov/> for applications and administration.

74



RECREATION




75

75

RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT (RTP)

- Administered by Georgia Department of Natural Resources; funding from FHWA.
- Eligible Activities: **trail** construction, **trail** maintenance, and **trail** education.
 - hiking, bicycling, in-line skating, equestrian use, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, off-road motorcycling, all-terrain vehicle riding, four-wheel driving, or using other off-road motorized vehicles.
- Eligible Applicants: Local governments.
- Award Amount: \$25,000 to \$200,000.
- 20% match required (can be in-kind or cash).

Pre-apps due November 1




76

76

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

- Administered by Georgia Department of Natural Resources; funding from Department of the Interior
- Eligible Activities: Acquisition and development of outdoor recreation facilities
- Eligible Applicants: Local governments
- Commitment that land use will remain outdoor recreation in perpetuity
- Award Amount: \$25,000 to \$500,000
- 50% match required (can be in-kind or cash)

every other year cycle- 2026 is next round



77

77

Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program

- Administered by Georgia Department of Natural Resources; new funding from the state.
- Eligible Activities: Acquisitions of property, to include conservation easements; Local stewardship funding for maintenance, restoration or improvement projects; Combination projects that involve both the acquisition of land, lease, or conservation easement purchase, AND a maintenance, restoration or improvement project.
- Eligible Applicants: Local governments, recreation authorities, NGOs, state agencies.
- Award Amount: \$500,000 to \$3,000,000.
- 25% match required (can be in-kind or cash).
- Reimbursement Grant.

Pre-Applications due mid-October



78

78

RECAP

- KNOW WHAT YOU WANT/YOUR VISION/YOUR PLAN
- BE PREPARED – QLG, REGISTRATIONS, AUDITS, REPORTING
- **READ AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS**
- MAKE SURE YOU'RE GIVING THEM WHAT THEY WANT
- BE WILLING TO PASS
 - IF IT DOESN'T FIT OR
 - YOU'RE NOT READY
- INVEST IN YOUR OWN PROJECT