

WEST VIRGINIA





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INTRODUCTION LETTER FROM BRAD D. & ALYS SMITH

West Virginia is a very special place for both of us. Brad is a native West Virginian, born in Kenova, and though he left to pursue his dreams, his home state remains at the center of our hearts. We have long sought an opportunity to give back, in a truly transformative way, to the state that has given us so much.

That's what Ascend West Virginia is all about. It's a program built on the dreams and aspirations of so many. A program designed to allow workers from all across the country to have the flexibility to live and work just steps from the landscape that inspires them.

What once began as a trend for remote work has rapidly transformed into a national movement. Leading Fortune 500 companies from the Silicon Valley to Wall Street, and everywhere in between have shifted to a model that not only allows, but encourages, remote work. The tides are turning to support the things that matter most: mental health, affordability and quality of life. There has never been an opportunity like this for West Virginia.

If you want to go fast go alone, if you want to go far, go together. That's the premise of Ascend West Virginia. It's designed to demonstrate the growth and movement we all feel as West Virginians and that others are already beginning to talk about. We want this program to go far, and we know that the only sure way to make that happen is by working together.

From day one, the vision was to create and cultivate a statewide remote worker program. To do this, we're pleased to bring you our Community Readiness Playbook. This playbook will walk you through the criteria we evaluated in selecting our initial cities and provide insight on immediate steps you can take to succeed in attracting and retaining remote workers in your local community. It's our sincere hope that you find the tools included within helpful as you begin this path for your community.

The opportunity is here, and the time is now. Let's ascend together, West Virginia.



Brad D. Smith



Alys Smith

Cyra mile

WEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY REMOTE WORKER PLAYBOOK 3



REMOTE WORK ON THE RISE



47% of workers

are or will have the ability to work remotely in the future



15.9 million

people have moved since the pandemic began



39% of urban dwellers

said the COVID-19 crisis has prompted them to consider leaving for less crowded places

THE WEST VIRGINIA ADVANTAGE

UNCROWDED PLACES

Largest mountain town has less than 50,000 residents

> WORLD-CLASS OUTDOOR RECREATION

More than 1.5 million public acres with more than 1,500 hiking trails and the greatest density of whitewater

AFFORDABILITY

Cost of living is 16% below the national average

> LOW COST OF DOING BUSINESS

Ranked as 6th most affordable state to do business

A Look at the Average Remote Worker

\$90,000

average annual salary of remote employee

55%

are moving greater than two hours away from their current location

53%

are seeking more affordable housing

14 TO 23 MILLION

are planning to move out of major cities and into less expensive markets

TOP 5 COMMUNITY NEEDS TO SUCCESSFULLY ATTRACT AND RETAIN REMOTE WORKERS



ESSENTIAL ASSETS

Essential assets are foundational factors that serve as the building blocks of strong, remote worker-friendly communities. Communities looking to attract remote workers must have both reliable broadband and a wide array of housing options, including both rentals and forever homes.



OUTDOOR ASSETS

It's no secret that West Virginia is known for its four seasons of outdoor recreation. From hiking trails and whitewater runs to ski slopes and ATVs, the popularity and desire to be near such assets has continued to increase. No longer tied to desks or corporate headquarters, people are moving to places that provide wide open spaces with plenty of room to roam.



COMMUNITY VIBRANCY

While remote workers today may be migrating away from major metropolitan areas, they are seeking a higher quality of life that still provides the modern conveniences they have come to know and enjoy. From diversity of cuisine to the availability of local boutiques and art galleries, the spirit of a community comes alive and transforms visitors into residents.



LIVABILITY

For any remote worker coming to West Virginia, they'll need to better understand how they will fit into a particular community. Those bringing families may look closely at the quality of schools, community programs and availability of healthcare. Others may prioritize cost of living and accessibility to airports and major interstates but it's these factors that help them imagine themselves settling in.



ECONOMIC FACTORS

Remote workers want to move to areas that demonstrate promise and possibility—places that are seeing upticks in workforce participation, new job growth and positive population patterns are often reviewed as more attractive.

> Read on to learn more about programs and funding opportunities available to help your community develop and enhance these areas.

LETTER FROM GOVERNOR JIM JUSTICE

Thank you for your interest in helping us welcome remote workers to the Mountain State! We are blessed to live in paradise with four beautiful seasons, unmatched outdoor recreation and the friendliest folks on earth. With more and more people looking to leave the crowded cities in search of a better way of life, we have a tremendous opportunity to showcase our home state!

As you know, I'm a coach. Just as I see potential in the kids I coach, I see tremendous potential in so many of our local communities. But I also know many of you could use a boost as you work to get to the next level, so we've put together an all-star team to help.

The Ascend West Virginia team has done a lot of research about what remote workers are looking for and how we can work together to prepare communities across the state, so please use this guide as your playbook. It provides a listing of dozens of assistance programs to help you prepare your community. Whether you need help building additional housing or funding to create a new arts program for your downtown, let this be your guide..

At the back of the playbook, you'll find key contacts for each of the programs. We've got a great team, so use these folks as your reference as you build funding applications for your community.

We have an incredible opportunity to move our state forward. It's up to us to get in the game and get started.

Let's get to work, West Virginia.





APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION (ARC)

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

This commission represents a partnership between the federal government and the governors of thirteen (13) states that make up the ARC region. The president appoints a co-chair to represent the federal government and there is a selected governor who represents the thirteen states. The chair and the states must come to an agreement before any kind of budget and grant is set into motion.

ELIGIBILITY

Local governments, state government, or non-profit organizations.

Eligible projects include:

- Creating or retaining jobs or businesses, workforce development
- > Providing foundation for economic development (infrastructure, site development, broadband)
- > Planning grants
- > Capitalizing loan funds
- Business development training

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Economic Development

CYCLES

Applications are received on an annual basis, normally in the fall of each year - based on prior year grant schedule. Dates can vary each year depending on when the federal allocations are received.

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://wvcad.org/infrastructure/appalachian-regional-commission

COMMUNITY NEEDS









COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT **BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)**

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

CDBG is a grant given to states to disburse to local governments (towns, cities and counties) and is distributed through a need-based formula. The primary objective of Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 is to develop sustainable satisfactory communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities (principally for persons of low to moderate income).

ELIGIBILITY

Local governments

Eligible projects include:

- > Public infrastructure projects: Including waterline extensions, replacement of water storage tanks, and wastewater treatment plants, with a cap \$1.5 million
- > Community development projects: Including downtown revitalization, storm drainage improvements, broadband development, and demolition, with a cap of \$500,000
- > Planning projects, such as broadband planning and infrastructure design grants, with a cap of \$100.000 and 10% local match

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Economic Development

CYCLES | Applications are received on an annual basis, normally in May with awards announced in December - based on prior year grant schedule. Dates can vary each year depending on when the federal allocations are received.

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://wvcad.org/sustainability/community-service-block-grant

COMMUNITY NEEDS







CLAUDE WORTHINGTON BENEDUM FOUNDATION ECONOMIC **DEVELOPMENT GRANTS**

FUNDING TYPE | Foundation Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Benedum Foundation's agenda seeks to promote regional planning and cooperation, recognizing that with respect to any endeavor, "region" should mean whatever area is most appropriate to optimize the available opportunity, without reference to historic, geographic, or political boundaries.

ELIGIBILITY

The expected outcomes of the Benedum Foundation's Economic Development grants are the creation and growth of innovative, wealth-producing businesses and high-quality jobs. The Benedum Foundation promotes the economic well-being and quality of life of West Virginia communities.

Specific areas of interest include:

- > Activities that engage diverse groups of citizens in the life of the community
- > Efforts that help communities organize, plan, and implement ambitious but achievable improvement strategies
- > Leadership development
- > Programs that improve the effectiveness and accountability of nonprofit and public organizations
- > Efforts to expand technology access, affordability, and utilization
- > Activities that provide decent, safe, and affordable housing through home construction, repair, financing, and education programs

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation

CYCLES

Applications are accepted throughout the year

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://benedum.org/how-to-apply/application-guidelines

COMMUNITY NEEDS









COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG)

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

CSBG is a federal anti-poverty program administered by the Community Advancement and Development Office. The purpose in West Virginia is to aid a network of 16 Community Action Agencies (CAAs) and other statewide organizations in the reduction of poverty, revitalization of low-income communities, and to provide economic opportunities for low-income families.

CSBG funding supports projects that:

- Lessen poverty in communities
- Address the needs of low-income individuals including the homeless, migrants and the elderly
- > Provide services and activities addressing employment, education, better use of available income, housing, nutrition, emergency services and/or health

ELIGIBILITY

Organizations which were officially designated as Community Action Agencies (CAAs) under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and were specifically designated by the 1981 CSBG Act as eligible entities to receive CSBG funds.

All recipients of CSBG funds submit community action plans and budgets detailing the programs, services, and activities to be conducted using CSBG funding.

With the support of CSBG funding, states and CAAs work together to achieve the following goals for low-income individuals:

- Increased self-sufficiency
 Improved living conditions
- Ownership of and pride in their communities
 Strong family and support systems

Working together, agencies increase their capacity to achieve results. Partnerships among supporters and providers of services play a large role in the successful implementation of CSBG grants.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Economic Development

CYCLES | CSBG grants are awarded on an annual basis and cover the period of two years. The normal grant cycle is October 1 - September 30 - based on prior year grant schedule. Dates can vary each year depending on when the federal allocations are received.

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://wvcad.org/sustainability/community-service-block-grant

COMMUNITY NEEDS







WEST VIRGINIA HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FUND (WVHDF)

FUNDING TYPE | Mortgage Loans

DESCRIPTION

The West Virginia Housing Development Fund was established by the state in 1969, to help increase the supply of residential housing and to provide construction and permanent mortgage financing to public and private sponsors of such housing. WVHDF partners with numerous state based banks, credit unions and mortgage lenders.

ELIGIBILITY

Homeownership

> Program for first-time buyers, offering great rates and closing cost assistance

Movin' Up

Assistance for those looking to buy a larger home in West Virginia, closing cost assistance is available

Refinance Program

> Assistance for those looking to refinance existing home in West Virginia

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Housing Development Fund

CYCLES | Applications are accepted throughout the year

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://www.wvhdf.com

COMMUNITY NEEDS





U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE GRANTS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

USDA's RCDI grants are awarded to help non-profit housing and community development organizations, low-income rural communities and federally recognized tribes support housing, community facilities and community and economic development projects in rural areas. The minimum grant award is \$50,000 and the maximum grant award is \$250,000. Grant funds are limited and are awarded through a competitive process.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants include: Public bodies, non-profit organizations, qualified private (for-profit) organizations. Eligible areas include: Rural and rural areas. Any area other than (i) a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants; and (ii) the urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to such city or town.

RCDI grants may be used for, but are not limited to:

- > Training sub-grantees to conduct:
 - ▶ Home-ownership education
 - Minority business entrepreneur education

Providing technical assistance to sub-grantees on:

- > Strategic plan development
- > Accessing alternative funding sources
- > Board training
- > Developing successful child care facilities
- > Creating training tools, such as videos, workbooks, and reference guides
- > Effective fundraising techniques

ADMINISTERING AGENCY U.S. Department of Agriculture

CYCLES Contact local office at: https://www.rd.usda.gov/wv for project information

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-community-development-initiative-grants

COMMUNITY NEEDS







TOURISM DEVELOPMENT ACT TAX CREDIT (TDA)

FUNDING TYPE Tax Credit

DESCRIPTION

The TDA tax credit program allows increases in property tax based on the improvement associated with qualified economic development and public improvement projects to assist with their long-term financing. Successful applicants may use up to 25% of the qualified investment as a credit against sales tax over a 10-13 period. The credit can be for up to 35% if the project is adjacent to a state or national park or forest or located on a former surface mine.

ELIGIBILITY

Qualifiers:

- > A minimum of \$1 million in investment
- Must be open to the public a minimum of 100 days a year
- At least 25% of the visitors must be from out of state
- > No more than 50% of a project can be for lodging
- > There is a \$10,000 application fee

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Economic Development

CYCLES | Applications are accepted throughout the year

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://westvirginia.gov/tourism-development-act

COMMUNITY NEEDS







LAND AND WATER **CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF)**

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

The LWCF provides supplemental federal funding for the acquisition and/or development of high-quality, public outdoor recreational areas throughout West Virginia. Proposed projects for LWCF funds should be consistent with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Projects receiving funding priority include: Park renovations, expansions to promote active lifestyles, projects that innovate community cores, attract or retain visitors to an area, develop trailheads or preserve other natural areas to impact community health objectives or those which develop brownfields renewal efforts. Additional priority will be made for projects targeting one or more of the funding priorities that utilize a community coalition or consortium approach towards achieving the project goal. Project consortiums can include, but not be limited to, participation in the West Virginia Department of Economic Development's Main Street Program, Certified Development Community Program, or other programs of the Governor's Office of Healthy Lifestyles, West Virginia Department of Highways, or Northern or Southern West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Centers. Grants are 50/50 reimbursable matching grants.

ELIGIBILITY

Funds are provided to units of local government, independent park boards, commissions, districts and state government.

Eligible activities include but are not limited to the development of outdoor recreation resources related to the following:

- > Land acquisition for park lands
- Development or renovation of the following types of outdoor recreational facilities:

Campgrounds

Picnic areas

Sports and playfields

Golf courses

Swimming facilities

Boating facilities

Fishing facilities

Hunting areas

▶ Trails

Winter sport facilities

Amphitheaters

▶ Lake impoundments

Visitor information centers

Interpretive centers

Support facilities (walks, utilities, bathrooms, etc.)

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Economic Development

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://commerce.wv.gov/boards-commissions/land-and-water-conservation-fund

CYCLES Contact West Virginia Department of Economic Development for submission information



OUTDOOR RECREATION LEGACY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (ORLP)

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

The ORLP is a subset of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The program helps urban communities address outdoor recreation need by supporting projects in cities and urban areas. The program can be used for creating new outdoor recreation spaces, and upgrading existing parks.

ELIGIBILITY

An urban area that has more than 50,000 residents and is one of the United States Census Bureau's urbanized areas.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Economic Development

CYCLES Completed applications are due by July 10 - based on prior year grant schedule.

Dates can vary each year depending on when the federal allocations are received.

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://lwcfcoalition.org/lwcf-programs

COMMUNITY NEEDS





NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (NPS): RIVERS, TRAILS, AND CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE

FUNDING TYPE | Technical Assistance

DESCRIPTION

The NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation assistance program supports community-led natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation projects across the nation. NPS conservation and recreation planning professionals partner with community groups, nonprofit organizations, tribes, and government agencies. This partnership assists local communities in realizing their conservation and outdoor recreation vision and goals by providing a broad range of services and skills. NPS staff share their expertise to help turn a community idea into reality.

ELIGIBILITY

> Project applicants may be state and local agencies, tribes, nonprofit organizations, or citizen groups.

National Parks and other Federal agencies may apply in partnership with other local organizations.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY National Park Service

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by March 1 - based on prior year schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/index.htm

COMMUNITY NEEDS



RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP)

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

The RTP is a subset of Transportation Alternatives grant funds to provide and maintain recreational trails for both motorized and non-motorized trails. The RTP, through a competitive process, provides project funding for pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian facilities, in-line skating, cross country skiing and off-road motorized vehicles. Grants for 2021 are 80% federal funds/20% local funds match.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants include:

- > Non-profit organizations
- > Local governments
- > Regional transportation authorities
- > Transit agencies
- > Natural resource or public land agencies
- > School districts, local education agencies or schools
- > Tribal governments
- > Other local or regional governmental entities with responsibility for or oversight of transportation of recreational trails (other than a metropolitan planning organization or a state agency) that the State determines to be eligible

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Division of Highways

Applicant should complete and submit an Intent-To-Apply (ITA) form by 5:00 p.m. on May 10, 2021. Following DOH approval of ITAs, applicants can begin work on their applications.

Completed applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on June 7, 2021.

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://dohgrants.wv.gov/

COMMUNITY NEEDS



TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP)

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

TAP is a reimbursable program for nontraditional transportation projects and includes funding for competitively selected projects including design and construction of on road and off road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists and users of other nonmotorized forms of transportation. Grants for 2021 are 80% federal funds/20% local funds match.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants include:

- > Local governments
- > Regional transportation authorities
- > Transit agencies
- > Natural resource or public land agencies
- > School districts, local education agencies, or schools
- > Tribal governments
- > Any other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for or oversight of transportation or recreational trails (other than a metropolitan planning organization or a State agency). State natural resource and public land agencies are eligible (23 USC 213(c)(4)(B).

To be eligible, a project must: (1) have a relationship to surface transportation and (2) must be one of the qualifying activities set by law.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Division of Highways

Applicant should complete and submit an Intent-To-Apply (ITA) form by 5:00 p.m. on May 10, 2021. Following DOH approval of ITAs, applicants can begin work on their applications.

Completed applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on June 7, 2021.

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://dohgrants.wv.gov/

COMMUNITY NEEDS





THE OFFICE OF ABANDONED MINE LANDS AND RECLAMATION (AML) PILOT PROGRAM

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation (AML) administers federal funding for economic development projects on abandoned mine lands through its Pilot Program. This program helps projects located on or adjacent to mine sites that ceased operations prior to the signing of the Surface Mine Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA).

ELIGIBILITY

The grant funding, provided by the federal government, is being administered by AML and all funding must be approved by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation, and Enforcement (OSMRE). Any project will be considered, but the main focus is to get projects that have already been started, across the finish line.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Environmental Projection

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by July 31 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://dep.wv.gov/dlr/aml/Pages/AML-Pilot-Program.aspx

COMMUNITY NEEDS



NATIONAL COAL HERITAGE AREA (NCHA) GRANT

FUNDING TYPE | National Coal Heritage Area through a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service

DESCRIPTION

NCHA grants are designed to support community efforts to preserve, interpret and promote the coal mining heritage of southern West Virginia. Projects must be implemented within the following counties: Boone, Cabell, Fayette, Lincoln, Logan, McDowell, Mercer, Mingo, Raleigh, Summers, Wayne, Wyoming and the Paint Creek and Cabin Creek watersheds in Kanawha. The National Coal Heritage Area management plan identifies interpretive themes for the area, which include: business of coal mining; working in coal; the company town; mining technology; and crisis and renewal. Projects are funded at a dollar for dollar match.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants include:

- Legally established nonprofit organizations and institutions
- Public and governmental organizations including county and municipal governments
- > State agencies
- > Economic development authorities
- > Educational institutions

Each project must address at least one of the interpretive themes identified in the National Coal Heritage Area management plan. The most recent of the interpretive themes included, interpretation and heritage programming, historic preservation and resource stewardship, archives and historical records collection, greenways, public parks and non-motorized trails, educational activities and events. Previous projects have included, preservation of archival materials, preservation of historic structures, creation of museum exhibits and creation and production of brochures and marketing materials.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | National Coal Heritage Area Authority - Oak Hill, WV

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by March 19 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://coalheritage.org

Ask for our guidebook to downtown beautification

COMMUNITY NEEDS



OUTDOOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION FUND (OHCF)

FUNDING TYPE | State Grant

DESCRIPTION

The West Virginia Outdoor Heritage Conservation Fund (OHCF) operates two grant programs:

Small Grant Program (\$5,000-\$25,000) - Eligible grant activities include:

- Due diligence to acquire an interest in real property for conservation purposes, including baseline documentation, environmental hazards assessment, title examination, survey, and appraisal
- > Stewardship as defined as the necessary monitoring, maintenance, and enforcement of interests in real property for conservation purposes. This includes the stewardship and/or legal defense fund to monitor and protect interest in real property over time

Large Grant Program (Over \$25,000) - Eligible grant activities include:

- > Capital expenses and transactional costs associated with the purchase of interests in real property for conservation purposes
- > Closing costs

The purpose of having two grant programs is to ensure that important funding needs of eligible applicants are met and that OHCF grants leverage non-state dollars.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants include:

- Nonprofit corporations registered with the West Virginia Secretary of State that have as a primary part of their mission to acquire interests in real property for conservation purposes
- > West Virginia Division of Forestry
- > West Virginia Division of Natural Resources

The OHCF encourages partnerships to leverage resources for land and water conservation. An eligible applicant may work with organizations that are not eligible applicants to conserve interests in real property. All partners involved in a project must be named on the grant application. In addition, the organizations(s) that will hold the interest in real property or conduct the stewardship must be identified on the application.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY

The OHCF's work is guided by an 11-member Board of Trustees, drawn from land trusts; sporting groups; the Division of Forestry, and the Division of Natural Resources.

CYCLES

Applications for small and large grants are accepted beginning February 1 and ending April 2 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://commerce.wv.gov/boards-commissions/outdoor-heritage-conservation-fund



SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA TOURISM INITIATIVE

FUNDING TYPE | Loan and Technical Assistance

DESCRIPTION

The Natural Capital Investment Fund (NCIFund) and the Hatfield-McCoy Regional Recreation Authority (Hatfield-McCoy) have partnered to help this effort by providing business loans and entrepreneurial training to tourism businesses in the region. The opportunity for business expansion and new start-ups around the Hatfield McCoy trails has never been greater. NCIFund and Hatfield-McCoy want to help individuals and companies capitalize on this opportunity.

ELIGIBILITY

The initiative centers around the 1,000 (and growing) miles of the off-highway vehicle Hatfield McCoy-Trail System, one of the largest in the world, established by Hatfield-McCoy. By supporting a strong tourism infrastructure, the initiative helps coal-impacted communities take advantage of their natural beauty, connect more people to nature, and bring in valuable tourism dollars to the region and the state.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Financial and technical assistance available in the following areas:

- > Real estate acquisition, including development of rental cabins and lodging facilities
- Business acquisition or expansion
- > Business plan development
- Accounting assistance
- > Market assessment
- Equipment financing and working capital
- Marketing and branding
- > Hiring new staff to serve a growing market
- Lending
- > Energy efficiency/renewable energy projects

Eligible counties include: Boone, Kanawha, Lincoln, Logan, McDowell, Mingo, Wayne, Wyoming

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | Natural Capital Investment Fund, a US Treasury-certified CDFI

CYCLES | Loans and technical assistance are available throughout the year

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://www.ncifund.org/what-we-do/strategic-initiatives

COMMUNITY NEEDS



U.S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY FACILITIES DIRECT LOAN AND GRANT PROGRAM

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • Interest Loan and/or Grant

A combination of the two above, as well as a loan guarantee program. These may be combined with commercial financing to finance one project if all eligibility and feasibility requirements are met.

DESCRIPTION

This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible borrowers include:

> Public bodies > Community-based non-profit corporations > Federally-recognized Tribes

Eligible areas include:

Rural areas including cities, villages, townships and towns including Federally Recognized Tribal Lands with no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest U.S. Census Data are eligible for this program.

Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment and pay related project expenses.

Examples of essential community facilities include:

- > 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 child care 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

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | USDA

CYCLES | Paper grant applications are due by March 29 - based on prior year grant schedule. Electronic grant applications are due by Midnight Eastern time on March 22 via Grants.gov - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program









GOVERNOR'S GUARANTEED WORKFORCE PROGRAM

FUNDING TYPE | Workforce Training

DESCRIPTION

This flexible, customized training program under the West Virginia Department of Commerce offers assistance to eligible companies and businesses by providing funding that directly supports the transfer of knowledge and skills.

ELIGIBILITY

> Companies must create a minimum of 10 net new jobs within a 12-month period.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Economic Development

CYCLES | Contact West Virginia Department of Economic Development for program information

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://westvirginia.gov/incentives-and-programs/workforce-programs

COMMUNITY NEEDS







MAIN STREET WEST VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA ON TRAC

FUNDING TYPE | Training • Technical Assistance • Support

DESCRIPTION

Main Street West Virginia and West Virginia ON TRAC are downtown revitalization programs that follow the National Main Street Center's community-based approach to preservation and development. A subsidiary of The National Trust for Historic Preservation, Main Street is a successful community development model used in thousands of communities across the country.

ON TRAC is a West Virginia created program for pre-Main Street communities to learn the basics of the Main Street Approach. A community must participate in ON TRAC for at least 2 years before being eligible for Main Street certification.

ELIGIBILITY

West Virginia Development Office staff provide training, technical assistance, and ongoing support to designated West Virginia communities in implementing transformation strategies using the Main Street four point Approach:

- Economic vitality focuses on economic and financial tools to assist new and existing business, catalyze property development, and create supportive environments for entrepreneurs to drive local economies.
- > Design supports a community's transformation by enhancing the physical and visual assets that set the commercial district apart.
- > Promotion positions the downtown or commercial district as the center of the community and hub of economic activity, while creating a positive image that showcases a community's unique characteristics.
- > Oragnization involves creating a strong foundation for a sustainable revitalization effort, including cultivating partnerships, community involvement, and resources for the district. Local Main Street organizations follow the Main Street National Accreditation Standards and are certified every year. There are 13 certified Main Street organizations in West Virginia.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Economic Development

Local Main Street organizations follow the Main Street national accreditation standards and are certified every year. A community must participate in West Virginia ON TRAC for at least 2 years before being eligible for Main Street certification. Applications for West Virginia ON

TRAC and Main Street West Virginia are accepted every 3 - 4 years.

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://wvcad.org/index.php?p=infrastructure/main-street-wv-and-ontrac









NATURAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND (NCIFUND)

FUNDING TYPE | Loan • Technical Assistance • Strategic Initiative Grants

DESCRIPTION

NCIFund lends to businesses, agricultural enterprises, and non-profits so they can grow, create jobs, and contribute to environmental and human health in underserved communities.

ELIGIBILITY

NCIFund lends up to \$1 M to WV companies -- startups and established businesses -- that have an opportunity to grow. The Fund specializes in delivering flexible capital to businesses that are unable to access capital from traditional sources. In addition to loan services, NCIFund recognizes that small enterprises often need more than just capital to grow. So NCIFund provides customers with business advisory services, so they can make the best use of loans they receive from NCIFund (or other lenders).

NCIFund also has strategic initiatives that combine lending with targeted business advisory services, partnerships, and grant funding to deliver specialized help to particular regions or borrowers, so they can overcome barriers to growing responsible businesses and creating jobs. Current initiatives include: Southern WV Tourism; REDI (Main Street Redevelopment); E3 (Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy); Local Foods; and Mon Forest Business Initiative.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | Natural Capital Investment Fund, a US Treasury-certified CDFI

CYCLES | Applications are accepted throughout the year

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://www.ncifund.org

COMMUNITY NEEDS





WEST VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (WVEDA)

FUNDING TYPE | Loan Program

DESCRIPTION

The West Virginia Economic Development Authority can provide up to 45 percent in financing to qualifying businesses for fixed assets by providing low-interest, direct loans to expanding state businesses and firms locating in West Virginia. Loan term is generally 15 years for real estate intensive projects and five to 10 years for equipment projects.

ELIGIBILITY

Loan proceeds may be used for the acquisition of land, buildings and equipment. Working capital loans and the refinancing of existing debt are not eligible.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | WVEDA

CYCLES | Applications are accepted throughout the year

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wveda.org

COMMUNITY NEEDS







SAVING HISTORICAL PLACES GRANT

FUNDING TYPE | Nonprofit • Private Donations Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Saving Historical Places grant is available to provide funding to help nonprofit organizations and individuals save historical buildings in their communities.

The purpose of this grant is to respond to emergency stabilization issues in historic buildings and jump-start historic preservation projects by providing funds for pre-development costs. For those wanting to save historical buildings in their communities, one of the first steps is understanding what it will take to rehabilitate the building and if the goal they have for the building is feasible. Grant requests may range from \$500 to \$8,000. Match is not required. Grant funds can be used as match for federal grants.

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for this grant, properties must be listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Saving Historical Places Grant applications will be accepted for emergency stabilization, and planning and pre-development costs, including, but not limited to:

- > Emergency stabilization construction costs to save the building
- > Feasibility studies
- > Architectural and engineering fees for purposes such as architectural or engineering drawings or historic structures reports
- > Legal fees for purposes such as title/deed research and transfer of ownership
- > Consultant fees for historic tax credit applications
- Consultant fees to complete a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | Preservation Alliance of West Virginia

CYCLES | Applications are accepted throughout the year

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://www.pawv.org/savingplacesgrant.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



WEST VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (WVEDA) **DIRECT LENDING PROGRAM**

FUNDING TYPE | Loan Program

DESCRIPTION

WVEDA offers direct loan financing for breweries to support the acquisition of land, buildings, and fixed equipment. For brew pubs (including retail beer/food), the WVEDA can provide direct loans for the production equipment only, and/or consider providing loan insurance to support commercial bank lending for the retail aspects of that type of business.

ELIGIBILITY

This loan program is for applicants seeking a minimum WVEDA participation of \$50,000 and a maximum of \$10,000,000 and cannot be used in conjunction with other WVEDA direct programs.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY West Virginia Economic Development Authority

CYCLES | Loan applicants are requested to submit pre-application information to allow WVEDA to determine project eligibility

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://eda.wv.gov

COMMUNITY NEEDS



SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATIVE RESEARCH (SBIR) AND SMALL BUSINESS **TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER (STTR) ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION INVESTMENT FUND**

FUNDING TYPE | State Grant

DESCRIPTION

In order to foster job creation and economic development in the state and to stimulate SBIR and STTR activity in West Virginia, the SBIR Entrepreneurship and Innovation Investment Fund provides grants to eligible small businesses to support the preparation of competitive proposals, and to match funds received through SBIR/STTR Phase I and Phase II awards.

ELIGIBILITY

> Small West Virginia-based companies or entrepreneurs that have targeted a specific solicitation from one of the participating federal agencies.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Small Business Development Center

CYCLES Applications are accepted during the periods of: January 1-31, May 1-31, and September 1-30 each year

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://wvsbdc.com/entrepreneurship-and-innovation-investment-fund

COMMUNITY NEEDS







WEST VIRGINIA HOSPITALITY AND EDUCATION TRAINING (WVHEAT)

FUNDING TYPE | Training Program

DESCRIPTION

WVHEAT supports workforce development for the West Virginia hospitality industry by assisting West Virginia's youth in obtaining a marketable skill or post-secondary education plan prior to graduation from high school. Additionally, WVHEAT has developed and offers professionally delivered training programs statewide to hospitality industry employers and organizations.

ELIGIBILITY

- > High school students who have a state approved program in their county
- > Hospitality industry employers, organizations and employees
- > Adults interested in culinary arts

ADMINISTERING AGENCY

> West Virginia Department of Education

CYCLES | Education and training services are available throughout the year

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://wvde.state.wv.us/wvheat

COMMUNITY NEEDS



ARTS IN EDUCATION - SCHOOL-BASED AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL-BASED PROJECTS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Arts in Education - School-Based and Out-of-School-Based projects provides support for curriculum-based, hands-on projects that involve K-12 students and teachers in the arts during daily instruction or outside of regular school hours. Projects are funded up to 50 percent of eligible costs.

ELIGIBILITY

West Virginia schools and nonprofit 501(c)3 arts organizations in good standing with the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by March 1 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



ARTS IN EDUCATION - ARTS **EXPOSURE PROJECTS**

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Arts in Education: Arts Exposure grant program supports professional arts experiences for young people by funding first-hand performing, literary, and visual art touring experiences that serve PK-12 students. Projects are funded up to 50 percent of eligible costs.

ELIGIBILITY

West Virginia schools, nonprofit 501(c)3 arts organizations, both touring and presenting, as well individual artists and artist collectives in good standing with the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by March 1 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



ARTS IN EDUCATION - MINI-GRANTS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

Arts in Education - Mini Grants provide support for schools, nonprofit community arts organizations and other nonprofit sponsors that do not present a season of events for the presentation of West Virginia artists in arts education projects. Projects are funded up to 100 percent of eligible costs, not to exceed \$1,000.

ELIGIBILITY

West Virginia schools and nonprofit 501(c)3 arts organizations in good standing with the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES

Completed applications are due within two separate grant periods - based on prior year grant schedule; applications must be received at least 6 weeks prior to project date

1st Grant Period: Applications must be submitted between May 15 and November 15 for projects taking place between July 1 and December 31.

2nd Grant Period: Applications must be submitted between November 15 and May 15 for projects taking place between January 1 and June 30.

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



ARTS PARTNERS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Arts Partners program provides general operating support for long-standing, stable arts organizations to further the general purpose or work of an organization rather than for a specific purpose or project. Projects are funded from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

ELIGIBILITY

> Qualifying organizations with annual operating budgets of at least \$100,000.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES | Applicant should complete and submit a letter of intent for new applicants by October 1, followed by pre-application by November 1. Completed applications are due by March 1 based on prior year grant schedule.

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



CERTIFIED ARTS COMMUNITIES

FUNDING TYPE | Community Designation

DESCRIPTION

A special designation for communities that have realized the benefits of cooperation among arts and humanities groups, business leaders and jurisdictional agencies.

ELIGIBILITY

West Virginia communities that demonstrate collaborations between arts, humanities and heritage tourism groups, business leaders and governing bodies.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES | Applications are accepted throughout the year

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



COMMUNITY ARTS PROJECT SUPPORT

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Community Arts Project Support program provides funding for projects in all disciplines that offer arts programming to the public. Sub-categories include presenting artists, performing arts, visual arts, media arts, and folk/traditional arts. Projects are funded up to 50 percent of eligible costs.

ELIGIBILITY

West Virginia schools and nonprofit 501(c)3 arts organizations in good standing with the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by March 1 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



COMMUNITY ARTS PROJECT SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Community Arts Project Support Organizational Development program provides support for longrange planning, re-granting programs, staffing support and community cultural assessments in West Virginia communities. Projects are funded up to 50 percent of eligible costs.

ELIGIBILITY

West Virginia schools and nonprofit 501(c)3 arts organizations in good standing with the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by March 1 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



CULTURAL FACILITIES AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources program provides support for the acquisition, construction and renovation of arts venues, accessibility improvements and capital purchases of durable equipment. Projects are funded up to 50 percent of eligible costs for requests of between \$2,500 and \$500,000.

ELIGIBILITY

West Virginia schools and nonprofit 501(c)3 arts organizations in good standing with the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES | Applicant should complete and submit a letter of intent by February 1. Completed applications are due by April 1 - based on prior year grant schedule.

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



CULTURAL FACILITIES AND CAPITAL RESOURCES FAST TRACK

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources Fast Track provides emergency support for the acquisition, construction and renovation of arts venues, accessibility improvements and capital purchases of durable equipment. Projects are funded up to 50 percent of eligible costs for requests of between \$2,000 and \$10,000.

ELIGIBILITY

West Virginia schools and nonprofit 501(c)3 arts organizations in good standing with the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES | Applications are accepted throughout the year

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



COMMUNITY ARTS MINI GRANTS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

Community Arts Mini Grants provide support for projects that present artists in performances, workshops, and other projects with a specific arts focus. Projects are funded up to 100% of eligible costs, not to exceed \$1,000.

ELIGIBILITY

> Any individual, 501(c)3 organization, municipal or county government agency who wishes to provide arts experiences in the community. Individuals must be at least 18 years of age and a legal resident of West Virginia for at least one year.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES

Completed applications are due within two separate grant periods - based on prior year grant schedule; applications must be received at least 6 weeks prior to project date.

1st Grant Period: Applications must be submitted between May 15 and November 15 for projects taking place between July 1 and December 31.

2nd Grant Period: Applications must be submitted between November 15 and May 15 for projects taking place between January 1 and June 30.

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ARTISTS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

Professional Development for Artists provides support for professional and emerging artists to expand or improve their work or share their expertise. Projects are funded up to 75 percent of eligible costs for the first year, not to exceed \$2,500, and up to 50 percent of eligible costs for subsequent years, not to exceed \$2,500.

ELIGIBILITY

> At least 18 years of age and a legal resident of West Virginia for at least one year.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by February 1 and October 1 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT **OPPORTUNITIES FOR ARTISTS**

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Organizations Providing Professional Development Opportunities for Artists program provides support for art organizations that meet the needs of underserved artists by offering programs that help them expand or improve their work. Projects are funded up to 50 percent of eligible costs, not to exceed \$5,000.

ELIGIBILITY

West Virginia nonprofit 501(c)3 arts organizations in good standing with the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES Completed applications are due by February 1 and October 1 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



RURAL YOUTH ENGAGEMENT THROUGH PUBLIC ART GRANT

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Rural Youth Engagement through Public Art grant provides up to \$5,000 in support for public art projects in rural areas that engage local youth in the planning and/or implementation of the project. Projects are funded up to \$5,000, not to exceed \$5,000.

ELIGIBILITY

> Schools - 501(c)(3) WV youth or arts organizations - Local governments

ADMINISTERING AGENCY West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES | Completed applications are due April 1 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



TRAINING AND TRAVEL

FUNDING TYPE | Federal • State Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Training and Travel program provides travel support to artists, arts administrators and arts educators for conferences, workshops, seminars, and showcases outside of West Virginia. Projects are funded up to 50 percent of eligible costs.

ELIGIBILITY

> Artists who are at least 18 years of age and a legal resident of West Virginia for at least one year and West Virginia nonprofit 501(c)3 arts organizations in good standing with the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History

CYCLES

Completed applications are due at least 6 weeks before the event - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://www.wvculture.org/arts/grants.html

COMMUNITY NEEDS



RECYCLING AND LITTER **GRANT PROGRAM**

FUNDING TYPE | State Grant

DESCRIPTION

The Litter Control Grant is a matching fund that assists with community cleanup and litter enforcement projects. The maximum amount of funding for a litter control grant is \$5,000.

ELIGIBILITY

> The funds are available to municipalities and county government agencies with community cleanup and litter enforcement projects.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

CYCLES | Completed applications must be postmarked by no later than May 31

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://dep.wv.gov/environmental-advocate/reap/grantprograms

The REAP - Recycling Section staff of the Department of Environmental Protection is available for assistance at any time prior to the application deadline. The Recycling Section staff can be reached at (800) 322-5530 during regular business hours.

COMMUNITY NEEDS





STREAM PARTNERS PROGRAM (SPP)

FUNDING TYPE | State Grant

DESCRIPTION

Four of West Virginia agencies, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, the West Virginia Conservation Agency, the West Virginia Division of Forestry, and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, partner to provide grants up to \$5,000 to citizens' groups who want to improve, restore, protect, study, or celebrate the state's rivers and streams. The Legislature appropriates an annual \$100,000 from general revenue funds to be distributed as \$5,000 seed grants.

ELIGIBILITY

A Stream Partner is a community-based organization comprised of local citizens, industry, environmental groups, sportsmen, government, landowners and more. These stakeholders come together to improve the quality of life in and around their streams and throughout the watershed. Watershed groups are encouraged to multiply the benefit of this resource by finding partners within their own communities who will contribute to the work.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection - Division of Water and Waste Management

CYCLES Completed applications are due by September 15 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://dep.wv.gov/WWE/getinvolved/WSA_Support/Pages/StreamPartners.aspx

COMMUNITY NEEDS



WEST VIRGINIA NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENT PROGRAM (NIP)

FUNDING TYPE | Tax Credit Program

DESCRIPTION

The NIP is a tax credit program of \$3 million each year, which allows 501(c)3 designated charitable organizations to apply for tax credit vouchers. When awarded, the organization can distribute the vouchers to business and individuals who contribute a minimum of \$500 to organizations, receiving up to 50% in tax credit, allowing the donor or corporation to reduce their West Virginia tax liability no more than 50%.

ELIGIBILITY

The applicant must be registered with the Secretary of State as a 501(c)3, have a letter from the IRS stating they are non-profit, serve citizens in the state of West Virginia, have a local board, submit various financial documentation and attend a mandatory workshop to apply by June 30 each year.

Projects generally eligible for program participation include but are not limited to the following:

> Health clinics

> Educational programs

> Preservation/revitalization activities

> Children's shelters

> Senior citizens' centers

> Scholarship programs

> Transportation programs

> Counseling services

> Homeless shelters

> Housing programs

Domestic violence shelters

> Meal delivery programs

Community foundations

> Hospice care

> Day care centers

Services for the disabled

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Department of Economic Development

CYCLES Completed applications are due by June 30 - based on prior year grant schedule

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

https://wvcad.org/sustainability/neighborhood-investment-program

COMMUNITY NEEDS





MAJOR GRANTS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

This program is designed to support major humanities projects including, but not limited to, lectures, school projects, symposiums, panel discussions, reading and discussion series, exhibits, reenactments, and conferences. Applicants should allow twelve weeks between the deadline and the start of the project. Projects are funded up to \$20,000 and require a dollar-for-dollar match.

ELIGIBILITY

Nonprofit organizations that offer humanities-centered public programming for West Virginia audiences.

Eligible projects have included:

- > Humanities programming at the Contemporary American Theater Festival in Shepherdstown
- > A permanent exhibit at the Weston State Hospital
- > Archeology digs in Wood and Greenbrier counties
- > The Ohio River Festival of Books
- > Wayside exhibits at historic locations along the Kanawha Valley Rivers to Ridges Trail.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Humanities Council

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by February 1 and September 1 - based on prior year grant schedule. Before beginning the application process, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Grants Administrator Erin Riebe at 304.346.8500 or riebe@wvhumanities.org

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://wvhumanities.org/grants

COMMUNITY NEEDS



MINI GRANTS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

This program is designed to support small humanities projects, single events, lectures, small museum exhibits, brochures, consultation needs, and planning for more complex projects. Applicants should allow six weeks between the deadline and the start of the project. Projects are funded up to \$1,500 and require a dollar-fordollar match.

ELIGIBILITY

Nonprofit organizations that offer humanities-centered public programming for West Virginia audiences.

Eligible projects have included:

- > Workshops by West Virginia authors at Daniels Elementary School in Raleigh County
- > Permanent exhibits at the Entler Hotel museum in Shepherdstown
- > A Wayne County quilt trail

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Humanities Council

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by February 1, April 2, June 1 and October 1 - based on prior year grant schedule. Before beginning the application process, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Grants Administrator Erin Riebe at 304.346.8500 or riebe@wvhumanities.org

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://wvhumanities.org/grants

COMMUNITY NEEDS



FELLOWSHIPS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

Fellowships provide opportunities for individuals to pursue advanced study and research that will enhance their capacities as teachers, scholars, or interpreters of the humanities. Fellowships allow the individual to devote time to investigation, reflection, and writing. No cost share is required. Applicants should allow twelve weeks between the deadline and the start of the project. Fellowships are funded at \$3,000.

ELIGIBILITY

Fellowships are open to West Virginia teachers, college faculty, and independent scholars who want to complete independent research projects. Collaborative research proposals will also be considered.

To be eligible for a fellowship, the applicant must:

- > Demonstrate evidence of interest and accomplishment in a field of the humanities
- > Reside or be employed in West Virginia
- Not have received a West Virginia Humanities Council Fellowship grant within the preceding two years
- > Not be seeking support for work leading toward a degree or to fund routine preparations for teaching

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Humanities Council

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by February 1 - based on prior year grant schedule. Before beginning the application process, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Grants Administrator Erin Riebe at 304.346.8500 or riebe@wvhumanities.org

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://wvhumanities.org/grants

COMMUNITY NEEDS



MEDIA GRANTS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

This program supports the planning, scripting, and production of audio or video materials, websites or a newspaper series on a humanities topic. Applicants should allow twelve weeks between the deadline and the start of the project. Projects are funded up to \$20,000 and require a dollar-for-dollar match.

ELIGIBILITY

Nonprofit organizations that offer humanities-centered public programming for West Virginia audiences.

Eligible projects have included:

- > The award-winning interactive documentary *Hollow*
- > The Burning Springs documentary about West Virginia's oil and gas industry
- > The *Traveling 219* website

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Humanities Council

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by September 1 - based on prior year grant schedule. Before beginning the application process, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Grants Administrator Erin Riebe at 304.346.8500 or riebe@wvhumanities.org

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://wvhumanities.org/grants

COMMUNITY NEEDS



PUBLICATION GRANTS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

Publication grants are designed to increase the quality and quantity of books published on West Virginia topics in the humanities and by West Virginia authors on any subject in the humanities. Applicants should allow twelve weeks between the deadline and the start of the project. Projects are funded up to \$20,000 and require a dollarfor-dollar match.

ELIGIBILITY

Publication grants are available only to recognized nonprofit presses and academic presses, and support only the production phase of a completed nonfiction manuscript.

These books may be text or photos or a combination of both. In the case of books of photography, the photographs must be documentary in character.

Eligible projects have included:

> New Deal: Photographs of West Virginia 1934 - 1943

ADMINISTERING AGENCY West Virginia Humanities Council

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by September 1 - based on prior year grant schedule. Before beginning the application process, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Grants Administrator Erin Riebe at 304.346.8500 or riebe@wvhumanities.org

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://wvhumanities.org/grants

COMMUNITY NEEDS



TEACHER INSTITUTES

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

Teacher Institute grants are available to colleges, universities and the West Virginia Department of Education to develop summer seminars on humanities topics for secondary and elementary teachers. Applicants should allow twelve weeks between the deadline and the start of the project. Projects are funded up to \$25,000 and require a dollar-for-dollar match.

ELIGIBILITY

The seminar must offer at least three graduate-level staff development or professional development hours that are eligible to be used toward renewal of a teaching certificate and advance salary classification. The tuition or fees for degree-credit or continuing education hours offered must be waived or offered at a reduced rate from the standard fees.

Eligible projects have focused on:

- > Writing
- > An exploration of music and cultures from around the world
- > Other teacher institutes have taken teachers to Japan, India, and England

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Humanities Council

CYCLES | Completed applications are due by September 1 - based on prior year grant schedule. Before beginning the application process, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Grants Administrator Erin Riebe at 304.346.8500 or riebe@wvhumanities.org

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://wvhumanities.org/grants

COMMUNITY NEEDS



TRAVEL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

FUNDING TYPE | Federal Grant

DESCRIPTION

The West Virginia Humanities Council Travel Assistance Program was instituted to provide support for travel to professional meetings and similar conferences that address humanities topics. No cost share is required. Projects are funded up to \$500.

ELIGIBILITY

For individuals associated with West Virginia museums, historical societies, institutions of higher and secondary education, and other nonprofit organizations.

Eligible projects have included travel to conferences and meeting of:

- > The Appalachian Studies Association
- > International Thespian Festival
- > The Shakespeare Association

ADMINISTERING AGENCY | West Virginia Humanities Council

CYCLES | Sixty (60) days prior to the date of travel - based on prior year grant schedule. Before beginning the application process, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Grants Administrator Erin Riebe at 304.346.8500 or riebe@wvhumanities.org

LINKS TO LEARN MORE

http://wvhumanities.org/grants

COMMUNITY NEEDS





FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS CONTACT:

| AGENCY | PHONE | WEBSITE |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| The Brad and Alys Smith Outdoor Economic Development Collaborative (Smith OEDC) | 304-293-5701 | PROVOST.WVU.EDU/ CENTERS-INSTITUTES/OEDC |
| West Virginia Department of Economic Development | 304-558-2234 | WESTVIRGINIA.GOV |
| West Virginia Department of Tourism | 304-558-2200 | WVTOURISM.COM |
| Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation | 412-288-0360 800-223-5948 | BENEDUM.ORG |
| West Virginia Housing Development Fund | 304-391-8600 800-933-9843 | WVHDF.COM |
| U.S. Department of Agriculture | 304-284-4860 800-295-8228 | RD.USDA.GOV/WV |
| National Park Service | 202-208-6843 | NPS.GOV |
| West Virginia Division of Highways | 304-558-3505 800-642-9292 | TRANSPORTATION.WV.GOV |
| West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection | 304-926-0440 | DEP.WV.GOV |
| National Coal Heritage Area Authority - Oak Hill | 304-465-3720 | COALHERITAGE.ORG |
| West Virginia Department of Commerce | 304-558-2003 | COMMERCE.WV.GOV |
| The National Capital Investment Fund | 681-252-4306 | NCIFUND.ORG |
| West Virginia Economic Development Authority | 304-558-3651 | EDA.WV.GOV |
| Preservation Alliance of West Virginia | 304-345-6005 | PAWV.ORG |
| West Virginia Small Business Development Center | 304-558-2960 | WVSBDC.COM |
| Hospitality Education and Training/ West Virginia Department of Education | 304-558-6321 | WVDE.US |
| West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History | 304-558-0220 | WVCULTURE.ORG |
| West Virginia Humanities | 304-346-8500 | WVHUMANITIES.ORG |

The information provided in this guide is subject to change. Please check with the participating agency when planning to participate.

NOTE: This publication was compiled and is maintained by the West Virginia Department of Tourism. For revisions or additions, please contact Anna Plantz at Anna.M.Plantz@wv.gov



WEST VIRGINIA

