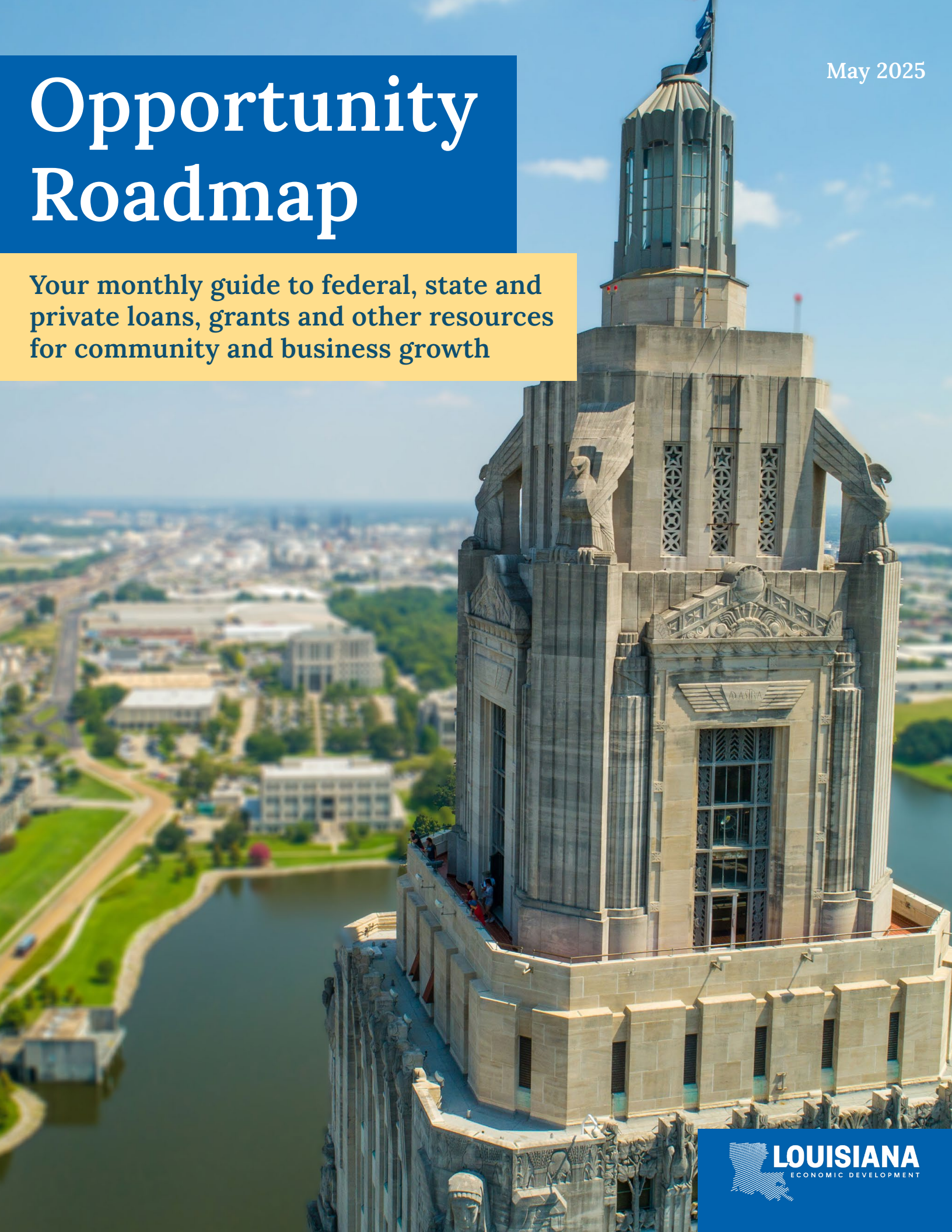


# Opportunity Roadmap

May 2025

Your monthly guide to federal, state and private loans, grants and other resources for community and business growth







## *Searching for resources, but don't know where to start?*

You've come to the right place. At Louisiana Economic Development, we aim to support the efforts of regions that are continually capitalizing on opportunities, fostering job creation and enhancing the state's business environment. Sometimes, business and community leaders are unaware of all the resources available to help them grow. Or, they simply don't know where to look. To make it easier, we've created this go-to resource guide, updated monthly, that lists loans, grants, programs and other opportunities that federal, state, and private entities have made available in Louisiana. We hope you find it an essential reference as you maximize your community or business growth.

Funding opportunities can be used for projects ranging from infrastructure upgrades to strategic plans, workforce training, and community improvements. Target audiences include:

- » Regional Economic Development Organizations
- » Local Economic Development Organizations
- » Planning Districts
- » Communities
- » Parish and Municipal Governments

## New Items

### » **Keep Louisiana Beautiful**

[2025-26 Beautification Grant](#)

\*Deadline June 20

[2025-26 Healthy Communities Grant](#)

\*Deadline June 20

### » **T-Mobile**

[Hometown Grants](#)

\*Deadline June 30

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# Loans

## USDA Rural Development

### BUSINESS & INDUSTRY LOAN GUARANTEES

This loan can be used for business conversion, enlargement, repair, modernization, or development, the purchase and development of land, buildings, and associated infrastructure for commercial or industrial properties, the purchase and installation of machinery and equipment, supplies or inventory, and debt refinancing. B&I loans approved in Fiscal year 2025 will receive an 80% guarantee. This Loan is For-profit or non-profit businesses, cooperatives, federally-recognized tribes, public bodies, and individuals engaged or proposing to engage in a business.

#### Use of funds:

- » Business conversion, enlargement, repair, modernization, or development.
- » The purchase and development of land, buildings, and associated infrastructure for commercial or industrial properties
- » The purchase and installation of machinery and equipment, supplies or inventory
- » Debt refinancing when such refinancing improves cash flow and creates jobs
- » Business and industrial acquisitions when the loan will maintain business operations and create or save jobs

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

**\*Grant award maximum 80%**

### ELECTRIC INFRASTRUCTURE LOAN & LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

This program makes insured loans and loan guarantees to nonprofit and cooperative associations, public bodies, and other utilities. State and local governmental entities, federally recognized tribes, nonprofits, and for profit businesses eligible to apply for this program. Funds may be used for maintenance, upgrades, expansion, replacement of distribution, sub transmission and headquarters facilities, energy efficiency, and renewable energy systems. This loan guarantees up to 100% and applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

#### Use of funds:

- » Maintenance
- » Upgrades
- » Expansion
- » Replacement of distribution, sub transmission and headquarters (service, warehouse) facilities
- » Energy efficiency
- » Renewable energy systems
- » For additional details, see the Code of Federal Regulations

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

**\*Loan guarantees up to 100%**

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

### EPA WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND INNOVATION ACT (WIFIA)

The WIFIA program accelerates investment in our nation's water infrastructure by providing long term, low cost, supplemental loans for regionally and nationally significant projects. Examples of eligible projects include wastewater conveyance and treatment projects, drinking water treatment and distribution projects, and desalination, aquifer recharge, and water recycling projects.

Eligible applicants include:

- » Local, state, tribal, and federal governments are eligible to apply for this program and applications are accepted on a rolling basis.
- » WIFIA program can fund development and implementation activities for eligible projects
- » Development phase activities, including planning, preliminary engineering, design, environmental review, revenue forecasting, and other pre-construction activities
- » Construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and replacement activities
- » Acquisition of real property or an interest in real property, environmental mitigation, construction contingencies, and acquisition of equipment
- » Capitalized interest necessary to meet market requirements, reasonably required reserve funds, capital issuance expenses and other carrying costs during construction

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

**\*49% of project cost MAX**

## U.S Department of Transportation

### RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT FINANCING (RRIF) PROGRAM

This program provides direct loans and loan guarantees to finance development of railroad infrastructure. Funds may be used to acquire, improve, or rehabilitate intermodal or rail equipment or facilities, including track, components of track, bridges, yards, buildings and shops, and including the installation of positive train control systems; Develop or establish new intermodal or railroad facilities; Reimburse planning and design expenses relating to activities listed above; Refinance outstanding debt incurred for the purposes listed above; and Finance transit-oriented development.

- » Railroads, state and local governments, and government sponsored authorities and corporations are eligible to apply for this program and applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

## Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

### BROWNFIELD CLEANUP REVOLVING LOAN FUND

- » LDEQ's Brownfield Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (BCRLF) provides low interest loans with flexible terms to support the environmental cleanup of vacant and underutilized properties to get them ready for reuse.
- » LDEQ's BCRLF currently has a 0% interest rate, and nonprofit and government entities are eligible for 30% loan forgiveness. Funding goes to the entity applying for assistance who then hires a qualified environmental contractor to complete cleanup activities.



- » Repayment generally starts six months after the Certificate of Occupancy is issued or two years after the cleanup is completed (whichever is first) to allow time for the project to produce income
- » Public, private, and nonprofit entities are all eligible to apply for this program and applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

## Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

### THE DRINKING WATER REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAM (DWRLF)

This program provides low-interest loans and technical assistance to public water systems in the state to assist them in complying with Federal and State drinking water regulations and to ensure that their customers are being provided with safe drinking water in order to protect the public health.

- » Some of the monies are designated for technical assistance to small public water systems serving under 10,000 population.

- » **Technical Assistance**

Some of the monies are designated for technical assistance to small public water systems serving under 10,000 population.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

## Louisiana Public Facilities Authority

### LOW INTEREST LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOND BANK PROGRAM

This program saves local governments money by providing up to 25% of a financing at a reduced interest rate. The local government works with its local bank to borrow 75% of the necessary funds from the local bank at a negotiated interest rate.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

**\*Max up to 25%**

### RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOW INTEREST LOAN PROGRAM

This program helps provide local governments and non-profits with interim financing for capital and infrastructure projects until permanent financing is received from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Development Program. The borrower works with its local bank and borrows 60% of the necessary funds at a negotiated interest rate. The LPFA provides the remaining 40% of the loan at an interest rate equal to one-half of the local bank's interest rate.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

**\*Max up to 40%**



# Grants

## USDA Rural Development

### EMERGENCY COMMUNITY WATER ASSISTANCE GRANTS

This program helps eligible communities prepare, or recover from, an emergency that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water. To be eligible, the applicant must be rurally located public bodies, nonprofit organizations, federally recognized tribes.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**  
**\*\$150K max water transmission line grant**  
**\*\$1M max water source grant**

### WATER & WASTE DISPOSAL LOAN AND GRANT PROGRAM IN LOUISIANA

This program assists qualified applicants who are not otherwise able to obtain commercial credit on reasonable terms. Funds may be used for drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage and distribution, sewer collection, transmission, treatment and disposal, solid waste collection, disposal and closure, storm water collection, transmission and disposal.

Most state and local governmental entities, private nonprofits, and federally-recognized tribes are eligible to apply for this program and applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

#### **Use of funds:**

- » Drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage and distribution
- » Sewer collection, transmission, treatment and disposal
- » Solid waste collection, disposal and closure
- » Storm water collection, transmission and disposal

In some cases, funding may also be available for related activities such as:

- » Legal and engineering fees
- » Land acquisition, water and land rights, permits and equipment
- » Start-up operations and maintenance
- » Interest incurred during construction
- » Purchase of facilities to improve service or prevent loss of service
- » Other costs determined to be necessary for completion of the project
- » See [7 CFR Part 1780.7 and 1780.9](#) for a complete list.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

### WASTE & WATER DISPOSAL PREDEVELOPMENT PLANNING GRANT

This program helps eligible low-income communities plan and develop applications for proposed USDA Rural Development water or waste disposal projects. Eligible applicants include rural areas and towns with populations of 10,000 or less and federally recognized tribal lands.

- » The max award for this program a \$60k and applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

**\*\$60K Max award**

## U.S Department of Transportation

### TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

This program provides funding for a variety of generally smaller-scale transportation projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities; construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas; community improvements such as historic preservation and vegetation management; environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity; recreational trails; safe routes to school projects; and vulnerable road user safety assessments.

- » State and local governments, regional transportation authority, transit agencies, school district, tribal government, and nonprofit entities are eligible to apply for this program, and applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

**\*Application accepted on a rolling basis**

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

### REGION 6 TARGETED BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT

This program provides free targeted brownfields assessments (TBAs) to support Brownfields projects; assessment services include Brownfield inventories, area-wide planning, site environmental assessments and investigations, and site cleanup planning.

- » Local government units, a quasi-public entity, such as a community development organization, non-profit entities, tribal governments can apply for this program. If the redevelopment benefits the general public, private owners may be eligible to apply.
- » Applications for this program are accepted on a rolling basis.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

### WATER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The TA aims to assist communities with applications for federal funding, quality infrastructure, and reliable water services in partnership with drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities and local government.

- » Local governments/communities, drinking water utilities/systems, wastewater utilities/systems, stormwater utilities/systems, states, tribes, territories, non-governmental organizations are eligible to apply for this program, and applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

## National Science Foundation

### HUMANS, DISASTERS AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (HBDE) PROGRAM

The program focuses are ongoing and emerging hazards to populations (individuals, households, businesses, organizations, and agencies) and built environments (critical infrastructures, physical and cyber spaces, and buildings). Successful proposals shall address all three elements (i.e., humans, disasters, and the built environment) and have the potential to contribute to theories or insights that hold over a broad range of scales, conditions, and sectors. Research funded through this program is expected to build a deeper understanding of human behaviors at the interface of engineering and society and inform how communities manage their risk and adapt to changing patterns in climate, extreme weather, and other hazards.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

## Louisiana Division of Administration

### SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT CONSOLIDATION PLANNING GRANT

Provides funds to assist units of general local government in the consolidation of non-profit/municipal water systems to create sustainable, financially solvent, and stable potable water systems. Examples of eligible costs are engineering fees to develop a preliminary engineering report, legal and recordation fees, and administrative costs relating to the consolidation of potable water systems.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

**\*\$40K Max award**

## Non-governmental entities

### Entergy

#### MICRO GRANTS

Entergy's Micro Grants Program accepts requests for up to \$1,000 in all program areas: arts and culture, community improvement/enrichment, economic development, education/literacy, environment and healthy families.

- » Public charity or private foundation, school, hospital, governmental unit or religious institution that holds nonprofit, and state or local governments are eligible to apply for this program.

**\*Application Window: Open Applications are accepted on a rolling basis**

**\*\$1000 Max award**

#### OPEN GRANTS

Focuses on improving communities as a whole. Looks for giving opportunities in the areas of arts and culture, education and workforce development, poverty solutions and social services, healthy families, and community improvement.

Eligible applicants include:

- » A public charity or private foundation that qualifies as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt entity
- » A school, hospital, governmental unit or religious institution that holds nonprofit status similar to that of 501(c)(3) organizations
- » A state or local government, but only if a donation thereto is made exclusively for public purposes
- » A war-veterans organization that qualifies as a 501(c)(19) tax-exempt entity
- » A volunteer fire department that qualifies as a 501(c)(4) tax-exempt entity

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

## Exxon

### EXXONMOBIL

Exxon's Good Neighbor Grant Program, provides funds to local tax-exempt organizations that support community programs, educational initiatives or environmental projects. The funds must be used within one year of receipt to complete a project that will benefit a community near an ExxonMobil Pipeline Company asset. Grants range in value from \$250 to \$10,000, although some exceptions may be made.

- » The Good Neighbor Grant Program is open to both government organizations and officially recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations in relative proximity to an ExxonMobil Pipeline Company Asset.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

**\*\$10k Max award**

## Huey and Angelina Wilson

### HUEY AND ANGELINA WILSON FOUNDATION

The Foundation provides program grants, capital grants and bridge grants. Nonprofit organizations with programs in the parishes of Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, St. James, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana are eligible to apply for this grant. Funding for certain statewide projects may be considered, but the project must serve the entire state without regional restrictions.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

## Keep Louisiana Beautiful

### 2025-26 BEAUTIFICATION GRANT

The KLB Beautification Grant provides funding to help improve the appearance of communities throughout Louisiana by creating beautiful, well-maintained community entry points and roadways. People are less likely to litter in areas that display community pride and that are well maintained and beautiful, so reducing litter in highly visible areas is an additional key driver of this grant. Grant projects should enhance and beautify entry points of municipalities and parishes, or highly trafficked roadway medians. KLB seeks projects that have diverse community support, volunteer involvement, collaboration with stakeholders and benefit many community members. Louisiana parishes, and municipalities are eligible to apply.

- » \$1,000 to \$10,000 reimbursement grant.
- » Minimum 15% cash match, in-kind donation or equivalent volunteer hours value is required

**\*Application Deadline: June 20, 2025**

**\*\$10k Max award**



**2025-26 HEALTHY COMMUNITIES GRANT**

The KLB Healthy Communities Grant (HCG) provides funding for local projects and programs bringing about behavioral changes needed to improve the appearance of communities in Louisiana. Grant projects should focus on litter removal, prevention, and education; best practices for waste management, waste reduction, recycling, reusing, and refusing; litter enforcement and other mission related efforts. KLB seeks to fund projects with diverse community support, volunteer involvement, collaboration with stakeholders and community benefit. Louisiana parishes, municipalities, state agencies, governmental entities schools, colleges, universities, non-profit organizations are all eligible to apply.

- » \$2,500-\$10,000 Reimbursement grant that funds projects and programs as described above
- » Minimum 15% cash match, in-kind donation or volunteer hours value required

**\*Application Deadline: June 20, 2025**

**\*\$10K Max award**

**Pennington Family****PENNINGTON FAMILY FOUNDATION**

Nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply for this grant. Grants from the Foundation focus on social and emotional learning, health and chronic diseases, the arts, public safety and economic development, disasters/community resilience, sports and recreation, environment and accessibility, and inclusion for all.

**\*Application Deadline: August 15, 2025**

**\*\$50k Max award**

**The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation****THE FRUIT TREE PLANTING GRANT PROGRAM**

Municipal entities, local nonprofits and public schools are eligible to apply to support the planting of fruitful trees and plants to alleviate hunger, combat global warming, strengthen communities and improve the surrounding environment. Trees can be planted at community gardens, city and state parks, low-income neighborhoods, Native American reservations, schools, and other locations where they will serve the greater community. The Foundation provides high-quality trees and shrubs, equipment, on-site orchard design expertise and oversight, horticultural workshops, and aftercare training and manuals.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

**LITACorp****MATCHING FUNDS GRANT PROGRAM (MFGP)**

The Matching Funds Grant Program (MFGP) assists Louisiana local governments with meeting local cost share requirements established by grant programs funded through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

- » Entities eligible to apply for a grant through the MFGP is limited to villages, towns, municipalities, and parishes/police juries.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

**\*\$50K-\$1M Max award**

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

This program provides services that include, but are not limited to, the following: strategic planning, project development, funding identification, grant writing, grant administration, and more.

- » Interested communities can submit letters of intent on a rolling basis.

**\*Letter of Intent accepted on a rolling basis**

## Louisiana Blue Foundation

### INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM

Innovation grants are made to innovative, new projects to improve the health and wellbeing of Louisianans. Louisiana-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply to this grant program. Deadlines to apply are March 1st and September 1st. Grants are generally less than \$25,000 in support of projects that take less than one year to complete.

**\*Application Deadline: September 1, 2025**

**\*\$25k Max award**

### IMPACT GRANT PROGRAM

Impact grants are intended to help non-profit partners expand their impact to further improve the health and wellbeing of Louisianans or to address the immediate community needs after a disaster or crisis. Louisiana based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply for this grant. Grants awards are up to \$100,000 per year, and the deadlines to apply are March 1st and September 1st.

**\*Application Deadline: September 1, 2025**

**\*\$100k Max award**

## SC Johnson

### SC JOHNSON GRANTS

This program's primary focus is on institutions or organizations that serve or directly affect communities where SC Johnson has operations with pillars that include helping society thrive, promoting sustainability, and helping to strengthen communities by advancing economic and social mobility through equal access to education and housing.

- » To be eligible, your organization must be a registered, qualified tax-exempt, section 501(c)(3) charity based in the United States, or a government entity such as a school, library, or public agency.

**\*Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

## T-Mobile

### HOMETOWN GRANTS

The purpose of the Hometown grants are to support the people and organizations who help small towns across America thrive and grow. Funding is awarded to support a community project of your choice, like revitalizing or repurposing a historic structure, creating a downtown asset or destination, or improving a space where friends and neighbors gather. Elected officials, town managers and employees, tribal leaders, or non-profit organizations are eligible to submit a proposal for their project using the Hometown Grants application.

**\*Application Deadline: June 30, 2025**

**\*\$50k Max award**



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