

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANTS, RESOURCES, AND WEBINARS NEWSLETTER

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES

January 17, 2024

### USDA Community Connect Program

On December 19th, 2023 the USDA published a correction notice for this program extending the FY 2023 application deadline and expanding the eligibility for project service areas. This program has \$79 million available for FY 2023 and provides grants of \$100,000 to \$5 million to

- State and local governments.
- Nonprofits.
- For-profit corporations.
- Limited liability companies.

in rural areas with less than 10 Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload speeds to provide broadband service in rural, economically-challenged communities. Eligible expenses include:

- The construction, acquisition, or leasing of facilities, spectrum, land or buildings used to deploy broadband service for:
  - all residential and business customers located within the Proposed Funded Service Area (PFSA).
  - all participating essential community facilities (such as public schools, fire stations, public libraries, and public safety stations).
- The cost of providing broadband service free of charge to the essential community facilities for 2 years.
- Up to 10 percent of the grant may be used for the improvement, expansion, construction, or acquisition of a community center that provides online access to the public.

Match is at least 15%. Deadline to apply is **February 20th, 2024**. For more information and to apply, go [here!](#)

### Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) Community Development Partnership Program

This program provides grants of up to \$50,00 for capital improvements projects in its service area, including Coryell, Mills, Hamilton, Lampasas, and San Saba counties. Past projects include improvements for fire departments, emergency response centers, community centers, schools, and libraries.

Match is 20%. The application period is **January 1-31, 2024**. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

## OTHER RESOURCES

### U.S Department of Labor (DOL) Youthbuild Program

This Program will provide \$700,000 to \$1.5 million to ISDs, state governments, counties, local governments, institutes of higher education, special district governments, and nonprofits for pre-apprenticeship services that support education, occupational skills training, and employment services to opportunity youth, ages 16 to 24. Applicants must include construction skills training. The period of performance is 40 months and match is 25%. Deadline to apply is **February 1st**. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Central Texas Entrepreneur Summit**  
January 30, 2024, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM  
302 E. 3rd St, Lampasas  
Registration Fee: Free  
To register click [here!](#)



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### Certified Development Professional Boot Camp

January 31, 2024-February 1, 2024, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM  
Registration Fee: \$495  
To register click [here!](#)

### Newly Elected Officials Class

February 20, 2024, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM  
Registration Fee: Free  
To register, email [Anna.Barge@ctcog.org](mailto:Anna.Barge@ctcog.org) with your name, email address, role, and city/county affiliation.  
To view the agenda, click [here!](#)