The Rural Rapid Manufacturing Grant provides funding to establish laboratories designed to train students and employees to build and improve equipment and offer scholarships.

The state has allocated a one-time $500,000 appropriation for this grant, beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2020. Projects must be completed within 18 months from the date the application is approved.

What is Rapid Manufacturing?
Rapid manufacturing means a facility, laboratory, equipment or process engaged in small-batch, fast delivery manufacturing.

Qualifying Activities of this Grant are:
- Construction or renovation of laboratories designed to train students and employees in:
  - Clothing production
  - Engineering and computer graphics
  - Manufacturing systems
  - Textile science
- Building and improvement of equipment to provide training and participation in rapid manufacturing
- Training and scholarships for students and employees to participate in rapid manufacturing employment opportunities

Qualifying Entities and Counties
Qualifying entities for this grant include institutions of higher education or nonprofit companies established within qualifying rural counties. Qualifying nonprofit types are (501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), and 501(c)(6).

Qualifying Rural Counties are:
Beaver, Box Elder, Carbon, Daggett, Duchesne, Emery, Garfield, Grand, Iron, Juab, Kane, Millard, Morgan, Piute, Rich, San Juan, Sanpete, Sevier, Uintah, Wasatch, Wayne

Non-Qualifying Counties are:
Cache, Davis, Salt Lake, Summit, Tooele, Utah, Washington, Weber

Application Priority
Priority will be given to applicants:
- Who will serve underprivileged or under-served communities, including communities with high unemployment or low median incomes (compared to State of Utah averages)
- Where an applicant demonstrates comprehensive planning of a project and the cooperation of high-quality partners, including an institution of higher education; and
- That will create new high paying employment positions in rural areas that pay at least 125 percent of the average wage of the community in which the employment positions will exist

Questions? Please email goedruralprograms@utah.gov.