

Application Overview Page

Rural Communities Opportunity Grant — Intent to Apply/Pre-application

PURPOSE

The Intent to Apply/Pre-application will open grant proposal assistance and grant writing consultation from the Governor's Office of Economic Development to eligible applicants who intend to apply to the Rural Community Opportunity Grant (RCOG).

Eligible applicants who submit a pre-application between July 1 and Sept 1 will receive assistance and consultation from GOED outreach representatives and grant administrators, which may include:

- Community needs assessment
- Project compatibility and readiness review
- Grant requirements instruction
- Grant writing tips
- Scope-of-work draft review
- Budget and Matching Funds advice
- Post-award reporting and compliance instruction
- Referrals to other resources

Submitting an Intent to Apply/Pre-application is not a prerequisite to qualify for this grant. Any eligible applicant may apply for the RCOG regardless of having submitted an Intent to Apply.

THE GRANT

The RCOG empowers eligible entities to take responsibility for economic development planning, projects, and activities, and to manage their own unique opportunities. The grant is designed to address the economic development needs of rural communities, including:

- business recruitment, development, and expansion;
- workforce training and development; and

- infrastructure, industrial building development, and capital facilities improvements for business development.

A “Rural Community” means a rural county or rural municipality as defined in Section 63N-4-801. Rural communities eligible for the RCOG include: counties of the third*, fourth, fifth, and sixth class; cities, towns, and metro townships located in counties of the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth class; and municipalities with a population of 10,000 or less in counties of the second class. The seven Associations of Governments (AOG) within the state are also eligible to apply for the RCOG for regional projects affecting all associated counties within them.

Grant funding is competitive and requires matching funds from eligible applicants. The maximum award amount for the RCOG is \$600,000.

[Click here](#) for a full description of the grant.

For technical issues, please reach out to: econsfsupport@utah.gov

**Counties of the third class are eligible for RCOG if the county of the third class has no municipality with a population of 100,000 or more (63N-4-801(9)(b)). Washington County, a third-class county, does not qualify for the RCOG because it has a city with a population greater than 100,000. Cities within Washington County, other than St. George, also qualify for RCOG.*