



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
**DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER**

State and Local Government Finance Division  
and the Local Government Commission

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**June 5, 2009**

**Memorandum # 1128**

**To: Officials of Local Governments and Public Authorities and Certified Public Accountants**

**From: Sharon Edmundson  
Director, Fiscal Management Section**

**Subject: Available Funding Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009**

The following information pertains to four programs funded through the ARRA of 2009. Local governments are urged to review and determine if they are interested in pursuing funding from these programs. Deadlines vary by program and are, in some instances, rapidly approaching. Please contact the indicated funding source for more information or the NC Office of Economic Investment and Recovery at (919) 733-1433 or <http://www.ncrecovery.gov>.

**Recovery Act Community Development Fund (CDBG) Formula Grant Program Recovery Plan:** Community Development Block Grants, from the US Department of House and Urban Development that are to be used by local governments, as well as states, in funding a wide range of community development activities eligible under section 105 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Agencies receiving funding are strongly encouraged to use these funds for hard costs associated with infrastructure that provides basic services to residents, and for activities that promote energy efficiency and conservation through rehabilitation and retrofitting of existing buildings. There is \$1 billion provided by the Recovery Act for this program, of which North Carolina will receive \$12,080,614.

Grantees will identify projects and activities to be assisted with CDBG funds in action plan amendments that all grantees will be required to submit in order to receive their funding. HUD plans to list these projects and activities on its website ([www.HUD.gov/Recovery](http://www.HUD.gov/Recovery)) as grantees submit them for approval. Projects will range from small scale, single family rehabilitation activities to major infrastructure and economic development activities. Funds are allocated using CDBG Formula. Activities must comply with CDBG Eligibility and National Objectives Requirements. Ineligible activities under the current CDBG program are ineligible under the CDBG Recovery Program, as well as projects for swimming pools, casinos or other gambling establishments, golf courses, zoos and aquariums.

Applications for funding are now available on the Division of Community Assistance website (<http://www.nccommerce.com/en/CommunityServices/>). The applications are due by **June 12, 2009** by 5pm, at which time the application must physically be onsite at the Division of Community Assistance Office.

More information on the CDBG Recovery Program can be found at [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov). Select the US Agency, Department of Housing and Urban Development. Select the Recovery Act Community Development Fund (CDBG) Formula Grant Program Recovery Plan. More information may be found at [www.recovery.gov/HUD](http://www.recovery.gov/HUD).

**Broadband Technology Opportunities Programs (BTOP) Recovery Plan:** The Recovery Act through the US Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), provides \$4.7 billion to establish a Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) for awards to develop and expand broadband services to rural and underserved areas and improve access to broadband by public safety agencies. Activities will include awarding grants for the construction of wired-line and wireless broadband networks in areas of the country with limited or no broadband access.

NTIA's goal is to open the first grant application window in the summer of 2009 and anticipates making grant awards beginning in the final quarter of the calendar year 2009, following a publication of a Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) and more specific eligibility criteria and funding conditions in accordance to the Recovery's Act requirements. NAIA is anticipating making grant awards beginning in the final quarter of calendar year 2009.

Information on the BTOP can be found at [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov). Under Agency reports, select the Department of Commerce, then the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. More information on BTOP may be found at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandgrants>.

**Assistance to Firefighters Grants Recovery Plan:** The Recovery Act provided the Federal Emergency Management Agency of the Department of Homeland Security with \$210 million for the Assistance to Firefighters Grants Recovery Plan (AFG) to fund the construction and modification of fire stations. Grants awarded under the program shall be to a variety of fire departments, including, paid, volunteer and combination fire departments; fire departments located in communities of varying sizes; and fire departments located in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

Guidance and Application kit for the AFG grant can be found at: [www.firegrantssupport.com](http://www.firegrantssupport.com). Applications can be submitted beginning July 2, 2009 through September 29, 2009. Awards will be announced and processed on a rolling basis from October 15, 2009 to December 31, 2009.

**Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program:** Recovery Act funding provides \$2.7 billion in formula grants under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program through the US Department of Energy. Currently the program application deadline is June 25, 2009.

The EECBG Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) and application package are located on two different web sites. The FOA and its attachments are located at [www.FedConnect.net/Fedconnet/](http://www.FedConnect.net/Fedconnet/), the federal online site for government funded programs. The application package is located at <http://www.grants.gov>.

To help eligible grantees develop energy efficiency projects and programs that meet the conditions and guidelines of the EECBG Program, technical assistance resources are provided at <http://www.eecbg.energy.gov/solutioncenter/>. More information can be found at: <http://www.eecbg.energy.gov/>.

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Jim Burke at (919)807-2389 or via email at [james.burke@nctreasurer.com](mailto:james.burke@nctreasurer.com).