Travel, Tourism, & Outdoor Recreation
Economic Development Administration (EDA)
American Rescue Plan funding

INVESTING IN AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES

Webinar Notes

➢ Recordings of EDA webinars, Frequently Asked Questions, and more are available EDA's ARPA website

➢ This is a program overview presentation; please connect with your state's Economic Development Representative with specific project or eligibility questions

Visit **www.eda.gov/arpa** to learn more about
EDA's American Rescue Plan programs.

EDA's Mission

To lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.

➢ Increase America's global **ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS**

➢ Support **COMMUNITY-LED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

➢ Help communities develop **RESILIENT AND AGILE** local economies

EDA's Investment Priorities

- Equity
- Recovery & Resilience
- Workforce Development
- Manufacturing
- Technology-Based Economic Development
- Environmentally-Sustainable Development
- Exports & Foreign Direct Investment

To learn more about EDA's Investment Priorities, visit https://eda.gov/about/investment-priorities/

$3 billion in American Rescue Act funding to Invest in America's Communities

This **historic investment** will support bottom-up economic development focused on advancing equity, creating good-paying jobs, helping workers to develop in-demand skills, building economic resilience, and accelerating the economic recovery for the industries and communities hit hardest by the coronavirus pandemic.

EDA investments made under the American Rescue Plan will support the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to **build the American economy back better and stronger**.

$3 billion in American Rescue Plan funding to invest in:

Jobs for Today

Good Jobs Challenge

Travel, Tourism, & Outdoor Recreation

Communities Built for All

Economic Adjustment Assistance

Indigenous Communities

Coal Communities Commitment

Regions for the Future

Build Back Better Regional Challenge

Statewide Planning, Research, & Networks

$750 million for Travel & Tourism

Assist communities that have suffered economic injury because of job losses in the travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation sectors.

$510M for State Tourism Grants

Direct allocations to States and Territories funded at 100% federal share

$240M for EDA Competitive Tourism Grants

Competitive grants to fund in regions most adversely affected by damage to the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors from the coronavirus pandemic.

The 25% of American Rescue Plan funding is dedicated to supporting travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation

EDA expects to fund at least 80% of project costs and may increase the federal share up to 100%

State Tourism Grants: $510 million

Assist communities that have suffered economic injury because of job losses in the travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation sectors

- Direct award allocations to States and Territories, driven by leisure and hospitality economic indicators

- EDA sent letters to the Governor (or equivalent) of each State, DC, and Territory inviting them to apply

- Governors (or equivalent) are required to apply within 60 days of invitation; may designate a State agency or eligible entity to receive grant

- States can spend awards themselves and/or competitively subaward funds

State Tourism Grants: Eligible Uses

Projects must support the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors and be consistent with CDC guidelines for safe travel
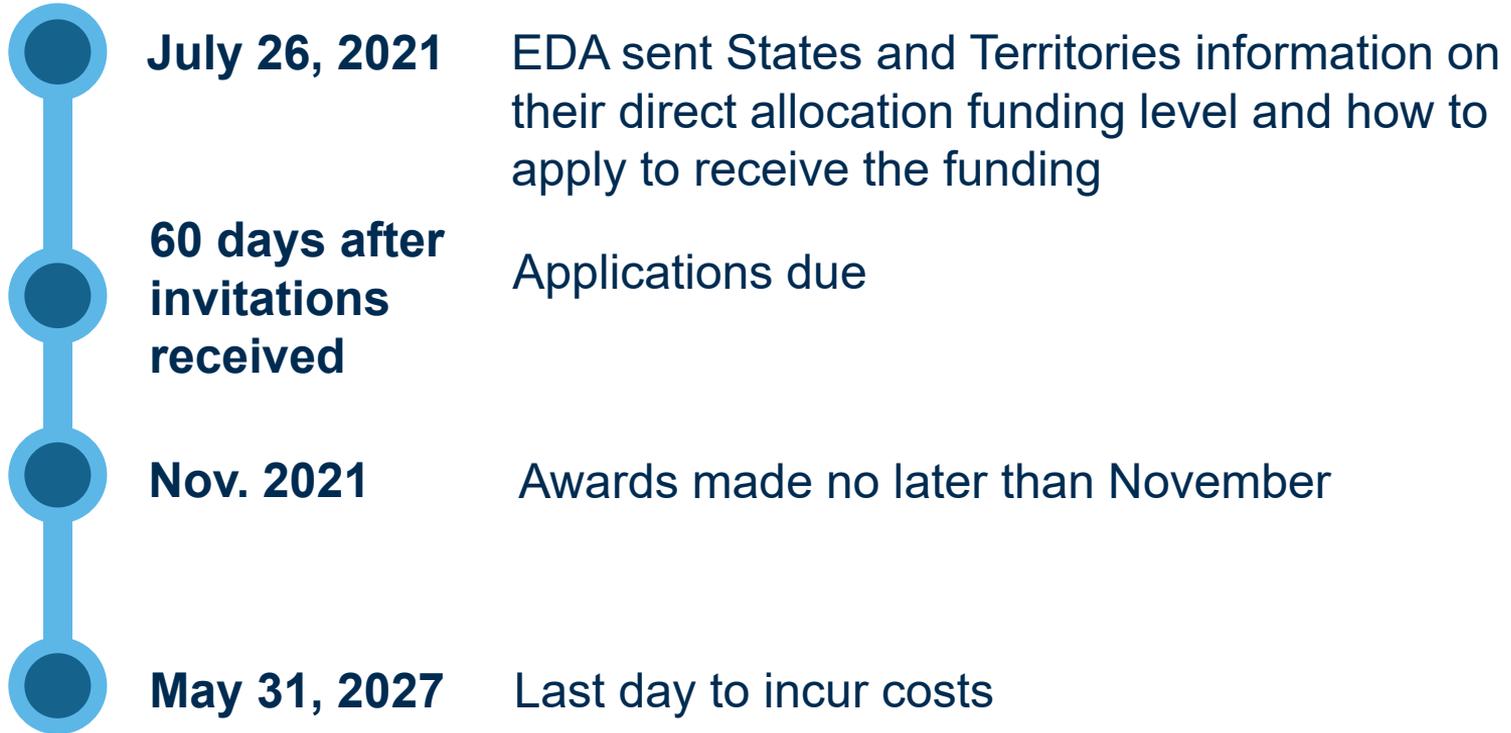
- **Tourism marketing and promotion**

- **Workforce training**

- **Economic development planning and coordination**

- **Technical assistance projects** to assist economic recovery from damage to the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation industries

- **Upgrades/retrofits to existing travel,** **tourism, and outdoor recreation infrastructure** (require additional environmental review to be approved)

- **New infrastructure projects** that lead to long-term increases in tourist activity (require additional environmental review to be approved)

- Other uses approved by EDA

Projects that support economic diversification projects away from the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors are not eligible

State Tourism Grants: Award Timeline
$510 million

July 26, 2021 — EDA sent States and Territories information on their direct allocation funding level and how to apply to receive the funding

60 days after invitations received — Applications due

Nov. 2021 — Awards made no later than November

May 31, 2027 — Last day to incur costs

Competitive Tourism Grants: $240 million

Competitive tourism grants will fund travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation projects that include non-construction and construction activities

Intended to fund projects that:

- Support the development and implementation of a community's economic development strategy for travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation pandemic recovery

- Are in regions most adversely affected by damage to the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors from the coronavirus pandemic

- Applicants must clearly notify EDA in the application if seeking or receiving any other funding for the project, including funding from a State Tourism Grant

- EDA will use a regular IRC process to evaluate project applications.

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Competitive Tourism Grants: Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include a(n):

- District Organization of an EDA-designated Economic Development District (EDD);
- Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes;
- State, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions;
- Institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; or
- Public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State.

EDA is <u>not</u> authorized to provide direct financial assistance to individuals, small businesses, or for-profit entities.

Competitive Tourism Grants: Timeline

July 23, 2021   Competitive grant applications open

Rolling competitive grant applications and awards

Sept 30, 2022   All funds obligated

May 31, 2027   Award period of performance ends

Competitive Tourism Grants: Eligible Uses

Strategy development for travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation pandemic recovery

Recovery project implementation, including construction projects for:
- Cultural, arts and tourism facilities
- Zoos and aquariums *(policy change)*
- New outdoor recreation and trail infrastructure and public access enhancements
- Nature-based infrastructure projects to improve access to recreation
- Non-construction activities, including **country-wide or multi-state** travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation promotion
  - *State and local-level tourism promotion and marketing projects are <u>only</u> eligible under state tourism grants*

Diversification projects
(EDA prefers projects that support the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors)

Local and regional tourism marketing and promotion *are only eligible under state tourism non-competitive grants*

Next Steps to Apply

1. Read the **Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)** and Eligibility Requirements:
   https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=334748

2. Find your **Economic Development District** for planning support and technical assistance:
   https://eda.gov/resources/directory/

3. Connect with your state's **Economic Development Representative** with questions:
   https://eda.gov/contact

4. **Email your questions** about EDA's Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation opportunities to TravelandTourism@eda.gov.

Seattle:
American Samoa
Guam
Federated States of Micronesia
Palau
Marshall Islands
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

SEATTLE

CHICAGO

PHILADELPHIA

DENVER

Philadelphia:
Puerto Rico
U.S. Virgin Islands

AUSTIN

ATLANTA

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Questions?

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