



**NYSAC**  
NEW YORK STATE  
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

# CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION (CFA)



# The Consolidated Funding Application Process


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## What is the CFA?

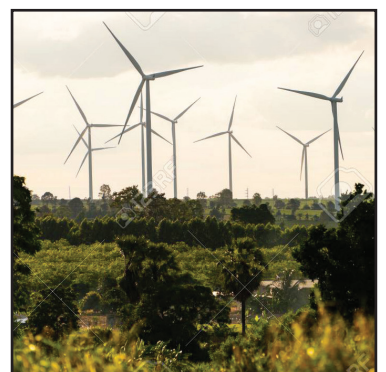
In 2011, Governor Cuomo created the ten Regional Economic Development Councils (REDC) and the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to improve New York State's business climate and expand economic growth. The CFA is a web-based application designed to streamline and expedite the application process for grants available through New York State agencies and authorities.

Prior to 2011, applicants had to navigate multiple agencies and applications to apply for state resources. Now, a single CFA can be submitted for one or multiple sources of funding. The benefit of the CFA is that, while applying for funding from one state agency, you may qualify for funding sources from other agencies.

## Who can submit a CFA?

The following are eligible applicants for CFS grants:

- Counties
- Municipalities
- For-profit businesses
- Not-for-profit corporations
- Business improvement districts
- Local development corporations
- Public benefit corporations
- Economic development organizations
- Research and academic institutions
- Incubators
- Technology parks
- Regional planning units
- Councils
- Tourist attractions
- Community facilities





## What programs are included in the CFA?

The CFA includes economic and community development programs administered by a variety of State agencies and authorities, including Empire State Development (ESD), Department of State (DOS), Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and Department of Labor (DOL).

Programs fall under eight categories:

1. Direct assistance to business and other organizations
2. Community development
3. Waterfront revitalization
4. Energy
5. Environmental improvements
6. Sustainability planning and implementation
7. Education/workforce development
8. Low-cost financing

All CFA grants are subject to the New York State Executive Law Article 15-A, which requires, where applicable, the establishment of 30 percent minority-and women-owned business enterprises (MWBE) contract goals. For more information about the programs you can apply to through the CFA, view the list of 2018 available resources in Appendix A (Pages 6 and 7).

## How do I apply?

The CFA process has eight steps:

1. Register for an account
2. Choose program(s) to which you are applying
3. Select the REDC region in which the project takes place
4. Upload required and optional documents
5. Complete a questionnaire
6. Indicate the net new jobs to be created
7. Indicate the amount of funding requested
8. Review and submit your application

A step-by-step guide to using the application is available on the CFA website, [www.apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa](http://www.apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa). Round 8 competitive program applications were due on July 27, 2018. There will be another round of program applications around the same time next year.



## What is the review process for CFAs?

### *Regional Council Review*

CFAs are scored by the Regional Economic Development Council in which the proposed project takes place. The Regional Council assigns each project a single score of 20, 15, 10, 5, or 0 based on merit. The statewide endorsement standards are as follows:

STATEWIDE ENDORSEMENT STANDARDS		
For each CFA, the Regional Council reviewer will determine the degree to which the application implements the regional strategic plan and assign the corresponding number of points as a score.		
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN	DEGREE	POINTS
The proposal is identified as a priority project by the Regional Council.	Priority	20
The proposal is identified in the plan and has regional benefits.	Very Strong	15
The proposal advances the plan and has local benefits.	Strong	10
The proposal is consistent with the plan and has project level benefits.	Moderate	5
The proposal has limited relationship to the plan.	Weak	0

Each region's strategic plan and progress report are available on the region's web page, which can be found at [www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov](http://www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov). Regional Council endorsement accounts for 20 percent of the total review.

### *State Agency Review*

The State agency administering the grant program also reviews the application and notifies the Regional Councils as to whether or not projects are eligible for funding. Agencies evaluate applications based on the criteria established for each grant program. The agency's review accounts for 80 percent of the total application score.



## How are awards announced?

Awards are based on a composite of the State agency's technical review and the Regional Council's endorsement. Each award is subject to final approval by the funding agency.

Every agency has in place an approval and disbursement process, which may require applicants to sign contracts or letters of commitment and submit supporting documents, such as verifications of eligibility, tax status, and municipal resolutions.

## Additional Resources

- Access the CFA web portal to submit a project application:

[www.apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/](http://www.apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/)

- Watch recorded webinars that describe the programs and their eligibility requirements:

[www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov/webinars](http://www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov/webinars)

- View the CFA Resource Manual for program details and contact information:

[www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2018-04/2018ResourcesAvailableGuide\\_0.pdf](http://www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2018-04/2018ResourcesAvailableGuide_0.pdf)

- View the CFA Application Manual for a step-by-step guide to using the application:

[www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2018-04/2018CFApplicationManual.pdf](http://www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2018-04/2018CFApplicationManual.pdf)

## Conclusion

The CFA is a streamlined application for grants available through New York State agencies and authorities. Counties should take advantage of the CFA to learn about and obtain new funding sources for local projects. Award announcements for Round 8 of the CFA will be made in December 2018.



## APPENDIX A

# RESOURCES AWARDED THROUGH CFA IN 2018

## **DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO BUSINESS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS : Up to \$242.37 million**

- *Empire State Development*
  - Up to \$150 million for ESD grant funds
  - Up to \$75 million for Excelsior Jobs Program
  - Up to \$1.37 million for Business Incubator Program
  - Up to \$1 million for Strategic Planning and Feasibility Studies
  - Up to \$15 million for Market New York

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: UP TO \$55.7 MILLION**

- *New York State Council on the Arts*
  - Up to \$5 million for Arts, Culture and Heritage Projects
  - Up to \$5 million for Arts & Cultural Facilities Improvement Program – Large Capital Project Fund
- *Homes and Community Renewal*
  - Up to \$20 million for New York State Community Development Block Grant Program
  - Up to \$6.2 million for New York Main Street Program
- *Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation*
  - Up to \$19.5 million for Environmental Protection Fund Grants Program for Parks, Preservation and Heritage (EPF)

## **WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION: UP TO \$16 MILLION**

- *Department of State*
  - Up to \$15 million for the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program
- *New York State Canal Corporation*
  - Up to \$1 million for the Canalway Grants Program

## **ENERGY: Up to \$45 million**

- *New York State Energy Research and Development Authority*
  - Up to \$35 million for Energy Efficiency Programs



- o Up to \$10 million for Net Zero Energy for Economic Development

- *New York State Power Authority*

- o Up to 143MW for the ReCharge NY Program

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS: Up to \$97 million**

- *Department of Environmental Conservation*

- o Up to \$3 million for NYS DEC/EFC Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant

- o Up to \$79 million for the Water Quality Improvement Projects (WQIP) Program

- *Environmental Facilities Corporation*

- o Up to \$15 million for the Green Innovation Grant Program

### **SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION: Up to \$12.78 million**

- *Department of Environmental Conservation*

- o Up to \$8.78 million for the Climate Smart Communities Program

- *Department of State*

- o Up to \$4 million for Local Government Efficiency Grants

### **EDUCATION/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: Up to \$5 million**

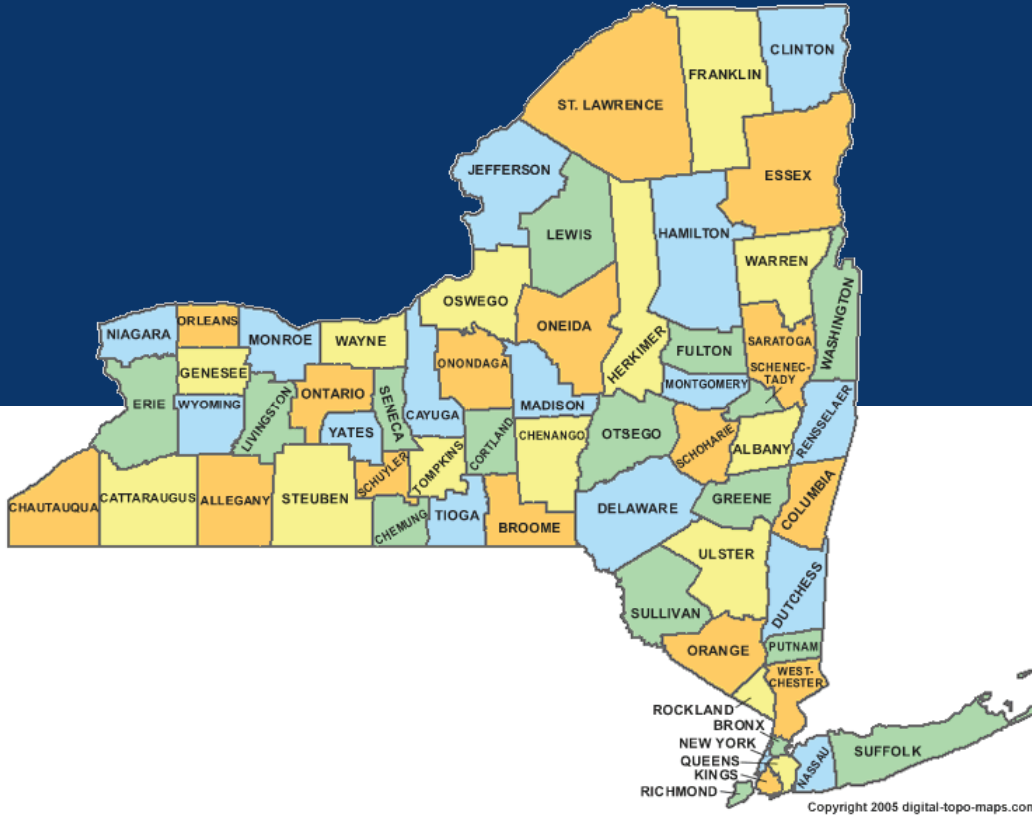
- *Department of Labor*

- o Up to \$5 million for Workforce Development

### **LOW COST FINANCING: Up to \$300 million**

- *Empire State Development*

- o Up to \$300 million for Industrial Development Bond (IDB) Cap



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