



FUNDING ALERT!

Professional Assistance for Today's Unprecedented Funding Opportunities

Program Name

Georgia Capital Projects Fund Grant Program

Funding Amount

- Up to \$240 million from ARPA Capital Projects Fund (CPF)

Key Dates

- **August 15** – Notice of Funding Opportunity and Preliminary Eligible Project Areas Released
- **August 15** – Challenges to the Proposed Eligible Areas Process Opens
- **August 17** – Virtual Applicant Workshop 1 at 9:00 AM ET
- **August 26** – Challenges to the Proposed Eligible Areas Process Closes at 5:00 PM ET
- **September 6** – Application Window Opens
- **September 8** – Virtual Applicant Workshop 2 at 10:00 AM ET
- **October 7** – Applications Due by 5:00 PM ET
- **October 28** – Application Review Complete
- **Fall 2022** – Final Recommendations and Preliminary Awards Announced
 - Dependent upon Treasury's approval of Georgia's CPF Grant and Program



Georgia

\$240 Million

Eligible Applicants

Internet Service Providers (ISPs) including:

- Co-operatives
- Electric Utilities
- Other entities that build or operate broadband networks
- Partnerships and consortium applications allowed

Eligible Areas

- The State has identified [44 preliminary eligible unserved project areas](#)
- Final eligible project areas will be announced following the Challenges to the Proposed Eligible Areas Process – August 26 at 5:00 PM ET

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Eligible Projects

Projects must meet the following criteria:

- Directly enables work, education, and health monitoring
- Addresses a critical need that resulted from, made apparent, or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency
- Addresses a critical need of the community

Presumptively Eligible Project

- Broadband Infrastructure Projects
- Digital Connectivity Technology Projects
- Multi-Purpose Community Facility Projects

Mapping Issues

- Final eligible project areas will be announced following the Challenges to the Proposed Eligible Areas Process – August 26 at 5:00 PM ET
- Service providers can file a Service Verification Form if they believe that a proposed eligible project location overlaps with their current service network.
 - Documentation required to show active buildouts

Scoring Criteria

- **Project Design and Implementation – 25%**
 - Project timeline required
 - Preference given to projects prioritizing fiber-optic infrastructure investments
- **Capabilities and Competencies – 20%**
- **Performance Measures – 10%**
- **Project Budget (including matching funds) – 30%**
 - Amount of grant funds requested, a detailed budget, and matching funds must be submitted using the provided budget template
 - Preference given to applications with higher matching funds
- **Community Engagement – 10%**
 - Including letters of support from local governments, elected officials, residents, public surveys, etc.
- **Affordable Offering – 5%**
 - Preference given to applications that provide at least one low-cost, affordable option offered – minimum of 100/20 Mbps

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Buildout Requirements

- 100/100 Mbps
- If a project cannot deliver services of at least 100/100 Mbps, the project must be designed so that it reliably meets or exceeds 100/20 Mbps and be scalable to a minimum of 100/100 Mbps
- Must participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)
- Must participate in the Georgia Broadband Map program and submit regular network updates as requested by the State
- All funds must be expended by December 31, 2026

Eligible Costs

- Capital expenses directly related to deployment of a qualified broadband project
- Materials
- Supplies
- Equipment
- Construction of "last-mile" infrastructure
- Pre-project development costs and uses
 - Data gathering
 - Feasibility studies
 - Engineering design
 - Work related to environmental & historical preservation
 - Cultural reviews
 - Permitting
- All remaining pre-project costs are eligible under matching funds

Ineligible Costs

- Acquisition of spectrum licenses
- Operating expenses
- Short-term operation leases
- Satisfaction of any obligation
- Payment of interest or principal on outstanding debt instruments
- Fees or issuance costs associated with the issuance of new debt
- Maintenance expenses
- Infrastructure not directly connected to service provision for an end-user in the proposed area
- Indirect labor costs (fringe/benefits, travel, meals, lodging, paid time off, etc.)
 - Long term capital asset purchases/leases (cost allocation for use during project period to be considered on case-by-case basis)

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Links & Emails

- [Georgia Capital Projects Fund Program](#)
- [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Program FAQs](#)
- [Georgia CPF Map](#)
- Please submit questions to arpabroadband@opb.georgia.gov

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funding@nrtc.coop

Contact us for Funding Assistance. NRTC's Funding Practice offers key benefits including:

- Opportunity Evaluation
- Effective Grant Writing
- Track Record of Success

Electric Cooperatives: Contact Rodney Pugh at **703-464-5235** or rpugh@nrtc.coop

Telecom Companies: Contact Chick Kennedy at **352-552-1317** or ckennedy@nrtc.coop