



Grant Assistance Program Newsletter

The Grants Assistance Program

Federal administrative agencies award billions in funding every year to state agencies, municipalities, tribes, nonprofits, private individuals and organizations.

Too often, Nevada does not receive these needed funds from lack of applications to programs. The grant application process can be intimidating at times; however, I am committed to helping guide Nevadans who are seeking grants and may need further assistance.

For more information on my office's grant program, including on letters of support or grant tracking assistance, please visit [my website](#).

UPDATE -- Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Community Project Funding:

My office has begun receiving submissions for "Community Project Requests". Please follow this [link](#) to submit your request. Please see this [document](#) for information pertaining to the Community Projects process for governments within Nevada, and the additional information below.

Public entities, such as state, local, or tribal governments, interested in funding a specific project in Nevada, may submit Community Project Requests for FY 2026. Nonprofits will not be eligible for this funding. All requests are received jointly by my office and Senator Rosen's office.

For guidance and examples of funding opportunities please consult [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2026 Community Project Funding Guidance and Accounts](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Kurt_Lynch@cortezmasto.senate.gov



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Examples of Past Community Project Funding Secured for Nevadans by Senator Cortez Masto:

- Henderson - Workforce Training - \$2 million
- Ely - Central Ely Sewer Upgrade - \$3.3 million
- Lander County - Austin Clinic - \$800,000
- Nye County – Tonopah Child Development Center - \$1 million
- CCSD Social Workers - \$950,000
- Fallon - Highway 50 - \$1.616 million

Seeking Input --- Federal Funding Delays and Freezes:

Multiple Executive Orders were issued in the first week of the new Administration, on January 27, 2025. The White House's The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) directed all federal agencies to temporarily suspend payments, except Social Security, Medicare, and assistance provided directly to individuals. While these actions have been challenged in court and temporary restraining orders have been issued, my staff and I understand there are ongoing challenges in accessing federal funding or applying to existing grant opportunities.

I want to understand in more detail what the Nevada impact of this may be. Recognizing this is a fluid situation, please let me know if there is any information you can share by answering the following questions through my [Grant Assistance form](#).

My staff and I are only using this information for internal awareness purposes, and will follow-up with any additional questions.



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If you have any questions regarding any of the above information, or about applying for federal grants or Community Project Funding more generally, please do not hesitate to reach out to my Grants Director at grants@cortezmasto.senate.gov or my appropriations team at Appropriations@cortezmasto.senate.gov.

If you have any questions regarding a specific grant opportunity, please contact my Grants team at grants@cortezmasto.senate.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Catherine Cortez Masto in blue ink, written in a cursive style.

Catherine Cortez Masto
U.S. Senator for Nevada



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Tips Before Starting the Grant Process

1. **Find out if you or your organization is eligible for a Grant.** Other government websites may be more suitable for [personal needs](#), [student loans](#), [small business assistance](#), or other [business opportunities](#) such as government contracting. The website [Government Benefits, Grants, and Financial Aid](#) may also be of help.
2. **If eligible, search for programs** at [Assistance Listings](#). Includes grants, loans, business and nonfinancial help.
3. **Check current federal grants opportunities** at [Grants.gov](#), register with [System for Award Management](#) (SAM), and apply online (links and instructions given at the website). Additional notices appear at [FedConnect](#).
4. **Create a SAM.gov account** as soon as possible, as the process to enable you to submit grant applications can be significantly delayed.
5. **Search foundations** for project funding: use the [Foundation Center](#) website or [Foundation Directory](#) to identify national, state, and community foundations.
6. **Learn how to write grant proposals:** Take the free online [Foundation Center Proposal Writing Short Course](#), or see other tips and sample proposals at Grantspace's [How Do I Write a Grant Proposal?](#)



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Nevada Governor's Office of Federal Assistance

The Nevada Governor's Office of Federal Assistance (OFA) provides a range of grant-related support, including grant identification, grant training, and grant matching. Please visit [Nevada's Federal Grant Resource](#) for additional help in your grant search.

Grant Opportunities

OFA diligently adds new curated grant opportunities to their [watch list](#) weekly. All of the grants listed are open to Nevadans, but they take the time to identify who the grant is for: state agencies, local governments, tribal governments, non-profits and more.

US Digital Response Grant Identification Tool

US Digital Response (USDR) in partnership with OFA offer a tool that compiles [grant opportunities](#) for those searching for federal grants, with ease, efficiency, and ability to facilitate coordination and collaboration with fellow grant seekers.

Federal Matching

Meet Federal Matching Requirements with The Nevada Grant Matching Program. The Office of Federal Assistance Nevada Grant Matching Program is available for state agencies, local agencies, tribal governments, and nonprofits applying for federal funds within the State of Nevada who need matching funds for the federal grant opportunity they are pursuing.

The Grant Matching Program receives \$1 million in funding each state fiscal year. These funds are here to help Nevada stakeholders meet up to 50% of the required federal grant match.



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To qualify for the Grant Matching Program, applicants must meet specific eligibility criteria. They must be seeking a new federal competitive or discretionary grant with a matching requirement outlined in the federal Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for which they are eligible. The GMP applicant must be applying directly for the federal grant (not a subaward or subrecipient). Additionally, the federal grant opportunity must be within the organization's scope, and all other avenues to meet the required match must have been exhausted.

Save time with OFA's [eligibility checker](#). Complete this short, 3-minute assessment to determine if your project is eligible for the Nevada Grant Matching Program.



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Examples of Grant Funding Secured for Nevadans by Senator Cortez Masto

- \$7.7 million to help Nevada school districts purchase and install 25 electric school buses across the state.
- \$20 million to help Southern Nevada combat drought and protect Las Vegas Wash.
- \$18 million to improve road safety across Nevada.
- \$31 million to support Nevada public safety and victim services programs for police departments, courts, non-profits, and Tribes.
- \$14.9 million to boost regional workforce system in Northern Nevada.
- \$2 million to Bridge Counseling Associates to provide mental health services to Nevadans.
- \$24 million for road improvements in Downtown Ely.
- \$12.9 million in projects to support economic investment in Las Vegas' historic Westside.
- \$107 million invested in private sector battery manufacturing to create jobs in Nevada.
- \$6.7 million in housing grants for affordable housing, doubling what the state usually receives.
- More than \$1 million to Nevada organizations working to support trafficking victims.



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Find Programs by Agency

Department of Agriculture Programs [here](#).

Department of Commerce Programs [here](#).

Environmental Protection Agency Programs [here](#).

Department of Energy Programs [here](#).

Department of Health and Human Services Programs [here](#).

Department of Interior Programs [here](#).

Department of Labor Programs [here](#).

Veterans Administration Programs [here](#).

National Science Foundation Programs [here](#).

National Endowments for the Humanities and Arts Programs [here](#) and [here](#).

Questions, comments or suggestions for this newsletter? Please send them to grants@cortezmastosenate.gov