



SBDC Funding Opportunities

USDA Energy Audit & Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grants

The Energy Audit & Renewable Energy Development Assistance [grant](#) program assists rural small businesses and agricultural producers by conducting and promoting energy audits and providing Renewable Energy Development Assistance (REDA). Rural small businesses must be located in [eligible rural areas](#). This restriction does not apply to agricultural producers.

Deadline: January 31, 2020.

Economic Opportunity Challenge

The [Economic Opportunity Challenge](#) is a competition to award \$10 million to scale solutions aimed at improving the financial health of low-income families. The Challenge will fund solutions to address barriers to improved economic opportunity, security, and mobility for individuals and families. Applicant teams should demonstrate that they have the track record, experience, relationships, and resources to create lasting change. Up to five finalists will be named, one of which will receive a \$10 million grant, and the remaining finalists will each receive a \$100,000 grant. Nonprofit organizations based in the United States or its territories with operating budgets of at least \$1 million may apply. Registration deadline: January 28, 2020; application deadline: February 18, 2020.

USDA Beginning Farmer & Rancher Development Program

The [USDA Beginning Farmer & Rancher Development Program grant](#) provides funds for education, mentoring, and technical assistance initiatives for beginning farmers and ranchers with entering, establishing, building and managing successful farm and ranch enterprises. The target audience is farmers and ranchers who have not operated a farm or ranch or have operated a farm or ranch for no more than ten (10) years. An applicant webinar will be held at 1:00 pm EST on January 29, 2020. Deadline: March 19, 2020.

USDA Agriculture Innovation Center Program

The [USDA Agriculture Innovation Center Program](#) makes grants to Agriculture Innovation Centers that then provide technical and business development assistance to agricultural producers seeking to engage in making or producing value-added agricultural products.

Deadline: March 20, 2020.

EDA Accelerate R2 Network Challenge

EDA, in collaboration with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet), is [seeking applications](#) from eligible parties to

create a strategic nationwide network of organizations working to address disaster response and resiliency (R2) challenges with innovative technologies. The Accelerate R2 Network Challenge seeks to create a nationwide network or networks that will enable and support innovators, entrepreneurs, researchers, and investors to bring transformative technologies into the response and resiliency markets. Deadline: March 11, 2020.

ARC POWER

[ARC POWER grants](#) support efforts to create a more vibrant economic future for coal-impacted communities by cultivating economic diversity, enhancing job training and reemployment opportunities, creating jobs in existing or new industries, and attracting new sources of investment. Deadline: March 27, 2020.

EDA Economic Adjustment Assistance

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) [FY 2020 Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs Notice of Funding Opportunity \(PWEAA NOFO\)](#) funds programs to provide economically distressed communities and regions with comprehensive and flexible resources to address a wide variety of economic needs. Projects funded by these programs will support work in Opportunity Zones and will support the mission of the Department by, among other things, leading to the creation and retention of jobs and increased private investment, advancing innovation, enhancing the manufacturing capacities of regions, providing workforce development opportunities, and growing ecosystems that attract foreign direct investment. Grants and cooperative agreements made under these programs are designed to leverage existing regional assets and support the implementation of economic development strategies that advance new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities, including those negatively impacted by changes to the coal economy. **Deadlines:** There are no submission deadlines under this opportunity. Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until a new PWEAA NOFO is published, this PWEAA NOFO is cancelled, or all funds have been expended.

EDA Disaster Resiliency

The Economic Development Administration has [Disaster Supplemental funding](#) available to devise and implement long-term economic recovery strategies to address economic challenges in areas where a Presidential declaration of a major disaster was issued “as a result of Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Lane, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and of wildfires, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and other natural disasters occurring in calendar year 2018, and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019....” There are no submission deadlines and applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until all available funds have been expended.