



Capital Projects Fund Multi-Purpose Community Facility Program

Rural Statewide Technical Assistance Webinar

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Capital Projects Fund (CPF)

Established by the U.S. Department of Treasury as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), the Capital Projects Fund program provides funding to carry out critical capital projects that directly enable work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options.

The CPF program allows for eligible applicants to invest in capital assets that address a community's critical connectivity need identified or exacerbated by the pandemic. This includes rural areas, Tribal communities, and low to moderate income communities.



Capital Projects Fund

The State of Florida is implementing three programs within the CPF:

- Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP)
- Digital Connectivity Program (DCP)
- Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program (MPCF)

\$86.9 million is designated for the Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program.



Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program

Purpose:

The primary objective of the MPCF Program is to provide funds for the construction of or improvements to buildings and facilities designed to enable work, education, and health monitoring.

Applicants should ensure the proposed facility is in an eligible community (e.g., rural town with insufficient community center) with an identified critical need.

Below are examples of projects eligible for use of MPCF funds:

- Projects designed to construct or improve full-service community schools.
- Projects designed to construct or improve libraries.
- Projects designed to construct or improve community health centers.



Rural Communities

Preference will be given to rural communities with demonstrated economic distress factors compared to the state average, including the following:

- Poverty levels
- Unemployment rate
- Socioeconomic Vulnerability Index
- Children qualifying for free or reduced lunch
- Low to moderate income levels

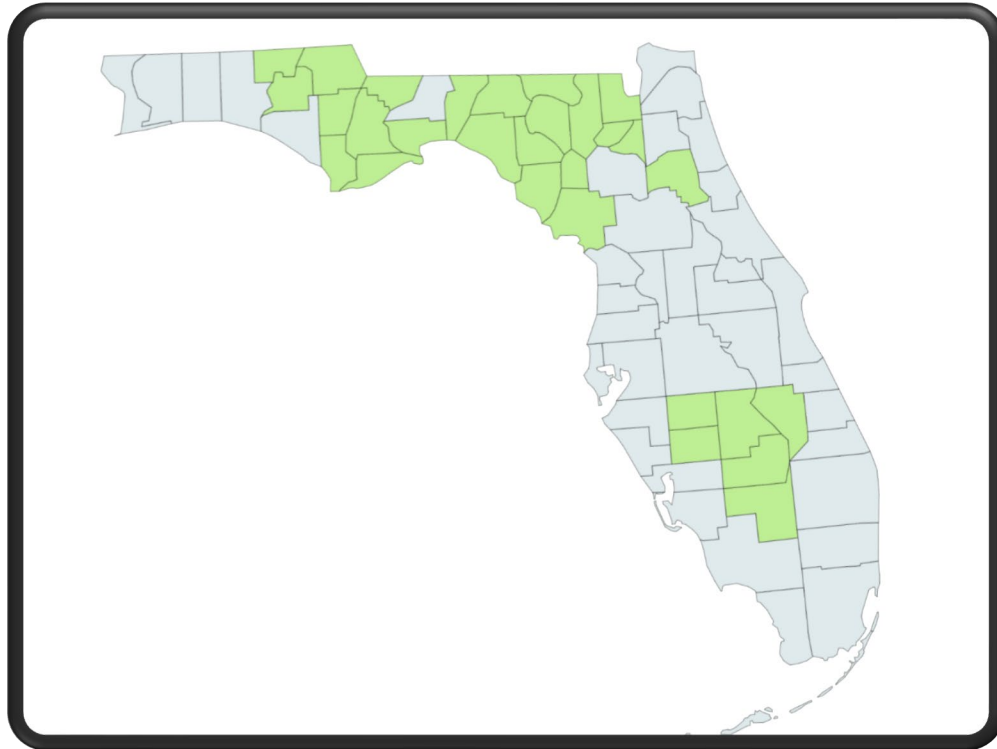


There will be links provided within the application to various resources to help gather this data. Please use the most current data available.



Rural Areas Of Opportunity

Rural Areas of Opportunity (RAO) are rural communities, or a region composed of rural communities, that have been adversely affected by extraordinary economic events or natural disasters.



Of Florida's 67 counties, 29 are within three Rural Areas of Opportunity designated by the Governor under section 288.2656, Florida Statutes.

- **Northwest**: Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Wakulla, and Washington counties, and the area within the city limits of Freeport and Walton County north of the Choctawhatchee Bay and intercoastal waterway.
- **South Central**: DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, and Okeechobee counties, and the cities of Pahokee, Belle Glade, and South Bay (Palm Beach County), and Immokalee (Collier County).
- **North Central**: Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Putnam, Suwannee, Taylor, and Union counties.



Eligible Applicants

Applicants eligible to apply for MPCF funding include:

- Local governmental units (e.g., municipalities or counties).
- Non-profit organizations.
- Private entities which can be in the form of corporations, limited liability companies, general partnerships, or limited partnerships.
 - Internet Service Providers, broadband internet training institutions, and information technology programs.
- Libraries, healthcare facilities, law enforcement academies, school districts and other community anchor institutions.
- Higher education institutions (e.g., universities, community colleges, or technical colleges).
- Nursing and critical health profession programs.
- Multi-purpose community centers.
- Co-operatives and electric utilities.



Local Technology Planning Teams

Active Local Technology Planning Teams (LTPT) will assist communities with identifying critical needs and identifying eligible projects.

LTPTs may include, but are not limited to, representatives from the following segments:

- Libraries
- K-12 education
- Local health care providers
- Private businesses
- Community Organizations
- Local government

LTPTs are divided by county.



Local Technology Planning Teams

- Participation and engagement in LTPTs is recommended to help determine the community's need for a multi-purpose facility.
- LTPTs should play an active role in the application process as they are acutely aware of the challenges and barriers faced by Florida's communities.
- LTPTs can provide more accurate and relevant information on the needs of the communities they serve.

If you need help connecting with your LTPT, please email the Office at Broadband@Commerce.FL.gov.



CareerSource Florida

CareerSource Florida offers resources and programs to assist individuals with job searches, career development and training. All applicants are encouraged to partner with the local workforce development board to gain insights on training, workforce needs, and general economic activity that could benefit from the MPCF program.

There are local workforce development boards all over the state.

To find your local team, please visit CareerSource Florida's website to see a listing of all locations.

CareerSourceFlorida.com



CareerSource Florida

Factors to consider when completing this application section include the following:

- Level of coordination and information sharing between applicant and CareerSource Florida including whether the applicant has conducted and/or participated in regular meetings with CareerSource Florida.
- Evidence of an overall plan for the community, more specifically a plan to host weekly or monthly meetings/training and provide information and services at no cost to users of the facility that seek to enter or re-enter the job market.
- Evidence of planning for training courses, and approach to soliciting support from the local workforce development board on job postings.



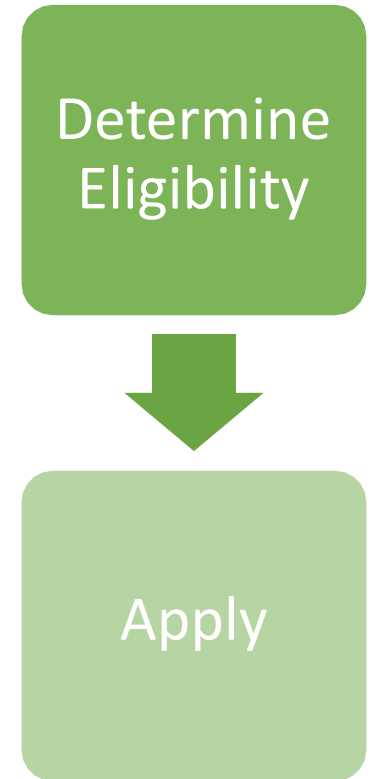
Application Overview

- Application submission opens on July 5, 2023.
- Applications will be accepted via the portal only at www.FloridaJobs.org/Broadband
- Questions about the application process may be directed to Broadband@DEO.MyFlorida.com.
- There is no limit on the number of projects an applicant can submit.
- \$4 million is the limit on the requested grant award amount per application.
- \$6 million is the limit on the cumulative grant award per applicant across awards.



Application Overview

- There is no required match of funding, however private leverage is strongly encouraged.
- If an applicant or project area has current Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF), Broadband Opportunity Grant Program, Broadband Infrastructure Program, Connect America Fund, or other federal broadband funding identified in the proposed project area, the project is still eligible for funding under this program.
- Applicants can apply for both the MPCF program and the Digital Connectivity Program
- Awards will be based on a competitive application process.
- Funds will be issued through a reimbursement process.



Scoring And Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on defined scoring criteria for the MPCF Program.

There are six major categories for scoring and evaluation, which include:

- Economic Distress
- Project Need
- Project Readiness
- Community Impact
- Project Budget
- Project Viability, Sustainability, and Resiliency

The Scoring Criteria is posted at www.FloridaJobs.org/Broadband



Completing The Application

Things to consider when completing the application:

- Be sure to complete all fields.
- Applicants may designate portions of information provided on their application and/or any supporting documentation as “**Proprietary Confidential Business Information**” or “**Trade Secret**” under Florida Statutes.
- Such claims of confidentiality must be clearly articulated and made at the time of submittal.
- The Applicant **must identify each portion of the application and/or supporting documentation deemed confidential and provide a redacted version of the same material which may be disclosed**, pursuant to Florida Statutes, to the Office concurrent with when the claim of confidentiality or proprietary protection is asserted.
- All sections claimed confidential by an Applicant will be kept confidential by the Department.



Completing The Application

Things to consider when completing the application:

- Contact the Office of Broadband for technical assistance if you are unsure about anything that is asked or requested.
- Applicants should be responsive in a timeline manner if contacted regarding deficiencies in the application.
- Check all figures in the project budget for calculation errors.
- Be sure that the signatory on the application has the authority to sign the application.
- Do not wait until the deadline to submit or to request technical assistance.
- Submit the application by 5:00p.m., on the deadline. No late applications will be accepted.



Creating A Strong Application

When explaining the Project in the application:

- Include information regarding an *identified critical need* for the project.
- Include community demographic information.
- Wherever possible, leverage the use of existing facilities to maximize the use and impact of funds.
- Include any information about facility functions and services that will benefit the target community.
 - Applicants are encouraged to submit projects for facilities that provide access to other purposes like exercise areas, basketball courts, meeting spaces etc.
- Include information that aligns with the Priorities of the Program:
 - Access to education, healthcare, workforce, and community support.
 - Project sustainability and resiliency.
 - Strong local community support.

See MPCF Program Guidelines for additional details at www.Floridajobs.org/Broadband.



Documenting Community Support

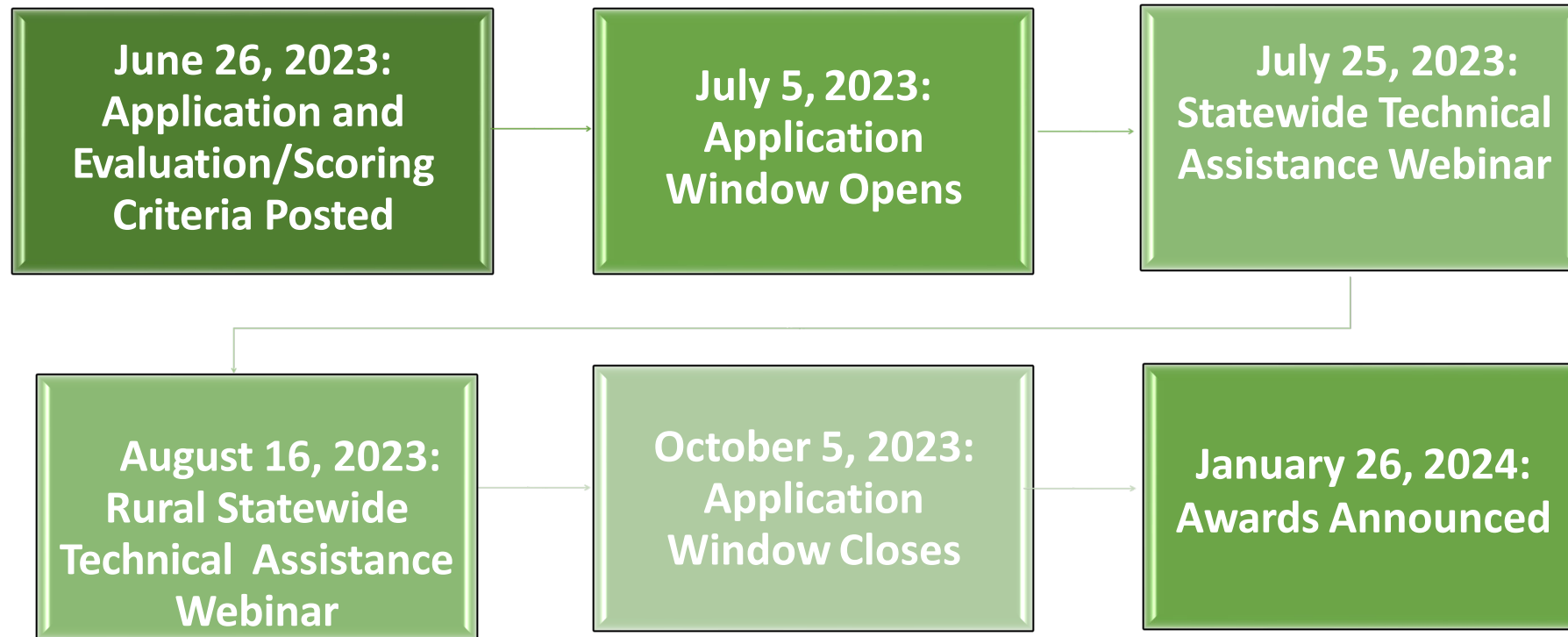
Seeking community support is a vital element in the Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program and applications must show evidence of community engagement by including:

- Documentation of meeting with the county's Local Technology Planning Team.
- Degree to which teams conducted community-level activities including engaging with Local Technology Planning Teams and research to determine the community's need for a multi-purpose facility.
- Any Memorandums of Agreement or Understanding between the applicant and its project partner(s).
- Evidence of community outreach efforts and feedback, such as surveys, community focused analyses, and project support.
- Other community feedback that shows compelling need for the project.



The Timeline

The current timeline for the Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program:



Requests For Payment During The Grant Period

All grant agreements executed under the Multi-Purpose Community Facilities Program will be based on a cost reimbursable basis.

All requests for payment must be related to work performed during the period of performance in the agreement.

Grantees may also want to consider:

- Timing on purchases of necessary project materials and labor contracting due to present supply shortage challenges.
- Cash flow challenges.
- Contingency planning.



Additional Funding Opportunities

Additional funding opportunities for communities through the Florida Office of Broadband:

- Round 2 of the Broadband Opportunity Program.
- Florida Digital Adoption and Use Program.
- Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD).
- Digital Connectivity Program.



Contact Us

Thank You.

If you have questions or comments about this presentation, please contact us.

www.FloridaJobs.org/Broadband



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Office: Florida Office of Broadband

