

Rural Economic Development Division

North Carolina Department of Commerce

Building Reuse Program

Economic Infrastructure Program

Industrial Development Fund

Community Development Block Grant for Economic Development

North Carolina Main Street

Appalachian Regional Commission

Building Reuse Program



Program Statement

The Building Reuse Program under the Rural Grants/Programs Section of the North Carolina Department of Commerce will provide grants/loans to local governments to renovate vacant buildings, renovate and/or expand a building occupied by an existing North Carolina company, and/or renovate, expand or construct health care facilities that will lead to the creation of new, full-time jobs.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are units of local government located in either a Tier 1 or Tier 2 county, or a rural census tract in a Tier 3 county. In Tier 1 or Tier 2 counties, priority will be given to towns or communities with populations less than 5,000. As prescribed in N.C.G.S. 143B-472.127(a)(2) a rural census tract is an area having a population density of less than 500 people per square mile according to the most recent decennial federal census.

Funding Categories

- **Vacant Building:** Grants are available to support the renovation and/or upfit of vacant buildings. Buildings must be vacant for at least three months prior to application deadlines. Eligible costs include, but are not limited to HVAC, electrical, plumbing, roofing, carpentry, drywall, paint, etc.
- **Existing Business Building:** Grants are available to support the renovation or expansion of buildings occupied by a company operating in the state of North Carolina for at least 12 months. Companies must also meet the county weekly wage standard and provide at least 50% employer paid health benefits to employees. Certain industry types are eligible - for a complete list see the Priority Industry Table on our website.
- **Rural Health Care:** Grants are available to support the renovation, expansion or construction of health care facilities. The health care entity must be licensed by the State of North Carolina and may include – but not limited to – hospitals, urgent care centers, hospice centers, elder care facilities and offices for physicians, dentist, vision care specialist and mental health care providers.

Funding Availability

Awards vary according to the location and type of project. Some projects may be eligible for grants up to \$12,500 per newly created full-time job, for a maximum award of \$500,000 or one-half the project cost, whichever is less. The program requires a cash match equal to the grant request amount. The local government must contribute at least 5% of the cash match.

Contact

To learn more about the program, visit <http://www.nccommerce.com/rd/rural-grants-programs/building-reuse> or contact Hazel Edmond at 919-715-0061.

Economic Infrastructure Program



Program Statement

The Economic Infrastructure Program under the Rural Grants/Programs Section of the North Carolina Department of Commerce will provide grants to local governments to assist with infrastructure projects that will lead to the creation of new, full-time jobs.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are units of local government with priority given to the counties that have the 80 highest rankings under N.C.G.S.143B-437.08. The rankings can be found on the NC Department of Commerce website at <http://www.nccommerce.com/research-publications/incentive-reports/county-tier-designations>

Eligible Projects

Grants are available to construct water and wastewater facilities or to provide other infrastructure needs, including, but limited to natural gas, broadband, and rail.

Funding Availability

Funding levels are determined based on the criteria below as long as a sufficient number of jobs are committed to support the requested amount.

Up to \$12,500 per full-time job, maximum award of \$500,000

- Project located in a Tier 1 or Tier 2 county
- Company type represented in the Priority Industry Table
- New jobs will meet the county weekly wage standard
- Company will provide 50% employer-paid health insurance

Up to \$10,000 per full-time job, maximum award of \$500,000

- Project located in a Tier 1 or Tier 2 county
- Any company type is eligible
- New jobs will meet the county weekly wage standard
- Company will provide 50% employer-paid health insurance

Up to \$5,000 per full-time job, maximum award of \$250,000

- Project located in a Tier 1 or Tier 2 county
- Any company type is eligible
- No wage standard is required
- No employer-paid health insurance is required

Up to \$5,000 per full time job, maximum award of \$250,000

- Project is located in a Tier 3 county
- Company type represented in the Priority Industry Table
- New jobs will meet the county weekly wage standard
- Company will provide 50% employer-paid health insurance

Contact

To learn more about the program, visit <http://www.nccommerce.com/rd/rural-grants-programs/economic-infrastructure> or contact George T. Collier at 919-715-0056

Industrial Development Fund



The Industrial Development Fund Utility Account is an infrastructure and site development grant program available to local government applicants. There is a local match requirement of 25 percent except no match is mandated for the 25 most economically distressed North Carolina counties. Funding for this program is provided by statutory deductions from the Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) Payments. The program is available only in Tier I and II designated counties. The funds may be used for publicly-owned infrastructure and should be used for projects that are reasonably anticipated to result in the creation of jobs. The statute does not provide for a maximum funding amount per job when jobs are created or per project.

Contact: Mark Poole, 919-733-4907, mpoole@nccommerce.com

Community Development Block Grant

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is a US Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program that provides an annual allocation of funds to the State for rural economic development and residential infrastructure projects. DENR administers the rural residential infrastructure program, and the Department of Commerce administers the economic development program. CDBG economic development provides grants to local governments for creating and retaining jobs. Funding for projects is based on the number of jobs to be created and the level of distress in the community applying for the funds. Sixty percent of the jobs created or retained in a project must be for persons qualifying as prior low and moderate income (LMI). A LMI person is defined by HUD as someone having 80% or less of the median income in the County they reside. CDBG funds are granted to local governments for various types of infrastructure improvements to assist private for-profit businesses to create or retain jobs. A local funding match of at least 25% of the determined need is required except in the 25 most distressed counties. Funds are also granted to local governments that propose a project in conjunction with a private for-profit business that proposes to restore a vacant building to economic use resulting in the creation of permanent, full-time jobs by the project company. To be eligible, documentation must be provided showing the building has been vacant thirty (30) consecutive days or more prior to the pre-application meeting. CDBG funds provided to the company by the local unit of government will be in the form of a forgiven loan. The loan has a term of five years with no principal or interest payments. If the project company retains the jobs pledged in the loan agreement for the five year term, the entire loan amount is forgiven. Security acceptable to both the Department of Commerce and local unit of government must be provided by the building owner.

Contact: George Sherrill, 919-715-6559, gsherrill@nccommerce.com

North Carolina Main Street



North Carolina
Main Street

Leading Resource for Downtown Revitalization: The Office of Urban Development offers tools, resources, technical assistance and funding information that is available to all North Carolina small towns and medium and large cities that are interested in spurring economic prosperity through revitalization and improvements to their downtown.

Main Street Solutions Fund:

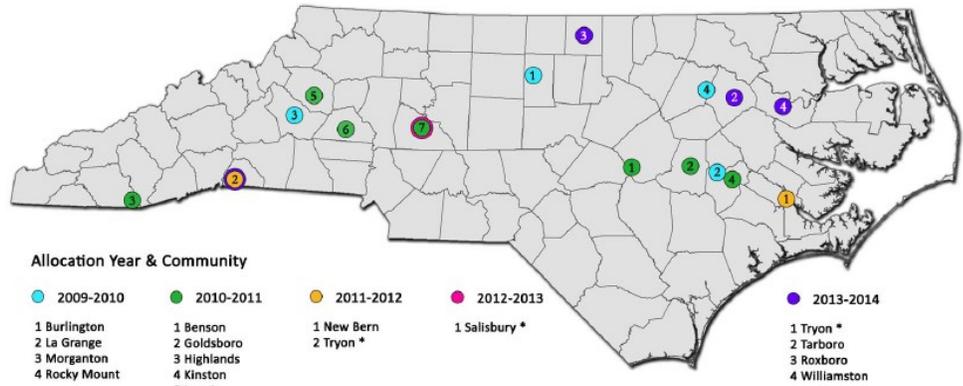
The Main Street Solutions Fund is a reimbursable, matching grant program (non State or Federal 1:2 local public or private match) that was created through a state appropriation in FY 2009-10 and FY 2010-11. Minimum Grants: \$25,000; Maximum Grants: \$200,000

The goals of this program are:

- To provide direct financial benefit to small businesses.
- To retain and create jobs in association with small business.
- To spur private investment in association with small business.

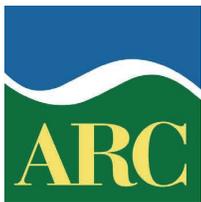
Contact: Elizabeth Parham, 919-715-0527, lparham@nccommerce.com

North Carolina Main Street Solution Fund Grant Recipients



* Community has received 2 grant awards.

Communities eligible to receive this grant must meet at least ONE of the following designations:
 A. Designated as a micropolitan in Tier 2 and 3 counties OR
 B. Designated as an ACTIVE North Carolina Main Street community in Tier 1, 2 or 3 counties OR
 C. Designated as an ACTIVE Small Town Main Street community in Tier 1, 2 or 3 counties.



Appalachian Regional Commission

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) was created by the Congress in 1965 to address economic and quality of life issues in the thirteen-state region. This federal-state partnership works to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life for the people of Appalachia. **Twenty-nine counties in North Carolina are eligible to receive ARC funds. Annually ARC provides funding (\$2.5 million to \$3.5 million) for projects throughout the Appalachian Region of North Carolina.** Matching funds for program administration are provided by the NC Department of Commerce, DCA Planning Office and Main Street Program.

State-local cooperation and intrastate partnerships with federal entities, plus work with other ARC states, are essential to the way the program operates. Staff seeks collaborative activities in dealing with potential partners that can help integrate the approach North Carolina takes in addressing issues, especially those with significant impact on the Appalachian portion of the state. These cooperative partnerships assist the program in meeting the needs of the region. The partners involved include:

- Council of Governments
- Golden Leaf Foundation
- NC Department of Commerce
- Handmade in America
- North Carolina Community College System
- NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- NC Department of Transportation
- United States Department of Agriculture
- NC Department of Agriculture
- Economic Development Administration
- Advantage West

Contact: Olivia Collier, 919-715-0535, ocollier@nccommerce.com