



## AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

# ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FACT SHEET

## EDA Awards 256 Grants to Support Local Economies

The U.S. Economic Development Administration's (EDA) [Economic Adjustment Assistance](#) (EAA) program invests \$500 million in [American Rescue Plan](#) funding to help plan, build, innovate, and put people into quality jobs in hundreds of communities across the nation. As part of the suite of EDA American Rescue Plan programs, the EAA program is funding 256 grantees that will implement projects in 48 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia to address some of the most pressing economic development challenges in their communities. As a result, these projects are estimated by applicants to garner over \$11 billion in private investment and create and retain over 64,000 jobs.

The EAA program is EDA's most flexible program, evidenced by the wide range of investments the program supports. Urban, rural, and coastal communities across the country are implementing projects that will bring critical infrastructure to many underinvested communities; create workforce development programs and pathways to good-paying jobs in communities in need; and develop business ecosystems that will allow small businesses and entrepreneurs to grow, share learnings, and flourish.

As part of EDA's [Coal Communities Commitment](#), \$208.3 million of EAA funding across 89 projects will directly support coal communities, aiding in their economic recovery and revitalization efforts through the creation or expansion of new industry sectors. Further, \$32.9 million of EAA funding through 19 projects will directly support Tribal communities.

Collectively, EAA grantees will set the stage for economic revitalization, expansion, and resiliency in communities across the country.

### The 256 EAA awards focus on 8 key activities:

- 107 awards (\$281.7 million) to build enabling infrastructure that create the conditions for businesses to succeed
- 36 awards (\$81.1 million) to provide workers with the skills and support needed to secure high-quality jobs and to build facilities to support that training
- 55 awards (\$28.8 million) for communities to engage in planning and receive the technical assistance needed to recover from the pandemic and build a more resilient economic future
- 19 awards (\$48.5 million) to build new business support facilities or provide equipment that enables commercial growth
- 17 awards (\$21.8 million) to support business incubation and entrepreneurship
- 11 awards (\$13.5 million) to provide access to capital to enable small businesses to grow
- 7 awards (\$13.5 million) to accelerate innovation in emerging technologies
- 4 awards (\$16.3 million) to build or upgrade tourist attractions—such as museums, event venues and hiking trails—that will attract visitors and commercial activity to American communities

### Additionally, within the portfolio described above, there are 4 cross-cutting trends that spotlight the country's economic development priorities:

- 160 projects (\$315.3 million) directly benefitting underserved communities
- 74 projects (\$170 million) advancing American manufacturing
- 15 projects (\$33.9 million) addressing the climate crisis
- 11 projects (\$23.0 million) directly serving completely rural counties

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## CORE THEMES

**Enabling Place-Based Solutions**

The EAA program is investing in projects that address pressing needs that are unique to their respective communities. As a result of this flexibility, the EAA portfolio is comprised of projects that span the full economic development spectrum, yet each one has a common outcome: increasing economic opportunity and setting their community up for long-term economic resiliency and competitiveness.

- In Texas, the [Multi-Assistance Center at Morgan's Wonderland](#) is developing an Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) designed to serve the special needs population. The new facility will be the only ASC in the country known to focus on assisting the special needs community. (*\$1.5 million*)
- In California, the [Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles, Inc.](#) is renovating a 6,688 square foot warehouse into a fully functioning multi-media job training center where participants, including veterans and members from historically underserved communities, can build skills and work experience to transition into high-demand entertainment industry careers. (*\$3 million*)

**Building for Growth**

It is especially challenging for a community to become economically self-sufficient and prosperous until it has modern, sound, and effective infrastructure. Through the EAA program, critical infrastructure and broadband-related projects are being implemented in some of the most underserved communities across the country, creating the preconditions for business and job growth, community resilience and future economic success.

- In Louisiana, the [Lafayette City Parish Consolidated Government](#) is installing ten miles of high-quality, high-speed fiber optic internet service. The project will connect business, medical, and government districts with affordable and reliable internet, and establish long-term resiliency by preventing extensive broadband outages during future disasters. (*\$2.5 million*)
- In Oregon, the [City of Cottage Grove](#) is reconstructing five blocks of Main Street to revitalize their downtown. By significantly upgrading utilities and landscaping, the City of Cottage Grove will make their downtown more attractive to businesses and visitors alike, setting them up for long-term economic sustainability. (*\$5 million*)

**Uplifting Historically Underserved Communities**

Aligned with EDA's top investment priority, EAA grantees are developing equitable economic development strategies that will uplift historically underserved communities and create pathways to economic growth and prosperity.

- In Colorado, the [Rockies Venture Institute](#) is implementing the Colorado BIPOC Startup Acceleration Program, providing business services to a wide range of minority startups. As part of the program, participants will learn how to pitch their businesses to and connect with potential investors, receive mentorship, demo products and services, and complete a round of funding. (*\$250 thousand*)
- In Nevada, the [City of Las Vegas](#) is developing the Culinary Training and Leadership Academy that will provide workforce training to youth (ages 15-18) across the county who are justice-involved or in the foster care system. The project will help participants develop pre-vocational skills, acquire basic culinary training, and obtain job placement in the food service and hospitality industries. (*\$1.8 million*)

### Establishing Business Ecosystems

EAA grantees are fostering business ecosystems to help support the ideas, initiatives, and activities of small businesses. Collectively, these business ecosystems are shaping the business world of the future.

- In Connecticut, the [Southeastern Connecticut Enterprise Region Corporation \(seCTer\)](#) is capitalizing a revolving loan fund that will provide gap financing to small businesses in the region, host small business lending workshops and weekly business lending office hours, and help businesses cultivate deeper relationships with local traditional lenders. This investment will provide critical access to capital and technical assistance to many small businesses in the region's distressed, underserved communities. (*\$2 million*)
- In Georgia, [Atlanta Beltline, Inc.](#) is launching the first-of-its kind BeltLine Business Solutions Office to deliver tailored solutions to local small businesses seeking to expand in BeltLine equity target areas with a prioritization on businesses owned by women and minorities. Services include mentoring, assisting with accessing affordable commercial spaces, and continually connecting business with potential partners and lenders. (*\$786 thousand*)

### Investing in the Workforce of the Future

The EAA program is investing in the workforce of the future by creating workforce development ecosystems and enabling entrepreneurship. EAA grantees are cultivating projects that increase labor force participation, tap into the potential of more Americans, and allow skilled workers to work where they live.

- In Ohio, [Central State University](#), a Historically Black University, is establishing a Workforce & Business Development Center to provide employment-related training, entrepreneurship skills development, and education to the underserved communities in Southwest Ohio. The Center will train and connect the surrounding population with job opportunities in emerging industries in the region, such as advanced materials, advanced manufacturing, information technology, and advanced data management. (*\$3.6 million*)
- In Puerto Rico, [ConPRometidos](#) is implementing the "El Comeback" initiative, designed to foster collaboration between the public and private sectors to strengthen Puerto Rico's professional network and opportunities. The project will connect relocated Puerto Rican citizens with local, highly-skilled, good-paying job opportunities. Once implemented, the project will attract new industries, create jobs, increase global competitiveness, and promote economic resiliency throughout the region. (*\$800 thousand*)

For more information about the Economic Adjustment Assistance program, please visit [www.eda.gov/arpa/economic-adjustment-assistance/](http://www.eda.gov/arpa/economic-adjustment-assistance/).



For more information about Economic Development Administration's six American Rescue Plan Programs, collectively called Investing in America's Communities, please click [here](#).