



Overview

In calendar year 2025, the City of Colusa actively managed a diverse and multi-year grant portfolio supporting transportation safety, public safety, housing and planning, parks and recreation, utilities, economic development, and long-term infrastructure investment. Grant activity in 2025 reflects not only successful awards, but sustained administration, compliance, reimbursements, and project sequencing across multiple departments.

Grant funding remains a critical strategy for advancing City priorities while limiting reliance on General Fund resources.

2025 Grant Portfolio Snapshot

Total grants tracked: 12

Total grant funding awarded: \$57.5 million

Grants fully closed in 2025: 2

Grants fully closing out in 2026: 5

Grants in development, application, or pipeline stages: 12

The City's portfolio includes state, federal, and regional funding, with several awards structured as multi-year, phased projects requiring ongoing coordination, reporting, and amendments.

Looking into 2026

California's state budget is closely tied to the federal budget, with a significant share of funding flowing from federal appropriations through state agencies to local governments, nonprofits, and other eligible entities. These pass-through funds are incorporated into California's budget during the spring budget process and finalized when the state budget is adopted by the Legislature, typically by June 15, with the new fiscal year beginning July 1. As a result, most new or expanded grant programs tied to the enacted state budget are released between late summer and early winter (July–December), after departments receive final allocations, update program guidelines, and obtain administrative approvals. In some cases—particularly for federally funded or reauthorized programs—additional grant rounds may be released in early spring (January–March) once federal allocations are confirmed or amended. Understanding this cycle allows applicants to anticipate that the highest volume of new Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) and Requests for Proposals (RFPs) will follow state budget adoption, rather than precede it, and to plan staffing, match commitments, and project readiness accordingly.

City of Colusa 12-Month Grant Readiness Timeline

January

- Finalize city priorities & needs assessments for upcoming state grants (e.g., infrastructure, housing, public safety, climate resilience).
- Catalog grant opportunities expected in the next cycle (review HCD's Notice of Funding Availability Calendar and other state portals).
- Prepare/update grant management framework (schedule, roles, cost allocation plan, match sources).

February

- Monitor early draft guidelines or pre-announcement information for state grant programs — some departments release them 6+ weeks before NOFAs.
- Begin community engagement and partnership agreements (e.g., nonprofits, regional agencies), which speeds application development.

March

- Prepare baseline application materials (organizational profile, resolution templates, maps/data, match funding commitments).
- Update procurement and contracting policies to ensure compliance with state and federal pass-through requirements.

April

- Finalize readiness packages for high-priority anticipated grants (budget impact statements, project scopes, performance metrics).
- Outreach to state agency contacts (e.g., HCD, CalRecycle) to confirm expected NOFA timelines.

May

- As the Governor's May Revision is issued (typically by May 14), begin refining applications based on final funding expectations.
- Continue preparing required environmental and regulatory review materials (CEQA/NEPA) where applicable.

June

- State budget must be passed by Legislature by June 15 and signed by the Governor, triggering the release of appropriated funds.
- Use this time to update risk assessments and refine draft grant proposals.

July

- The new fiscal year begins July 1, and state agencies typically begin publishing draft NOFAs or guidelines in late summer.
- Check portals daily (e.g., California Grants Portal, HCD/Caltrans/CalOES pages) for upcoming NOFAs.

August

- Receive published NOFAs/draft guidelines and technical assistance notices.
- Hold internal working sessions to assign authors, finalize budgets, and develop narratives.

September

- Begin drafting full applications — budget tables, outcomes, letters of support, match documentation, community needs statements.
- If applicable, conduct public hearings for projects requiring local approval.

October

- Submit applications for grants with fall NOFA deadlines.
- Follow up on any questions or addenda from state agencies.

November

- Continue submissions and adjustments for programs with late-fall deadlines.
- Start tracking federal pass-through programs that may be tied to federal budget actions impacting California allocations.

December

- Many agencies finalize award decisions in late fall/early winter; use December to prepare for award administration (e.g., kickoff planning, environmental clearance).
- Update your grant calendar based on awards/denials to inform next year's cycle.