



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Michelle Metteer, Town Manager, Minturn, CO  
**From:** Sarah Marin, Senior Associate & Client Services Manager  
**Date:** September 26, 2024  
**Subject:** **Minturn Water Treatment Plant Funding Resources Memo**

---

This memorandum outlines the federal funding landscape for water infrastructure projects that could support Minturn's water treatment plant (WTP) modernization needs. Both the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) are primed to provide significant funding for water infrastructure, climate resilience, and drought mitigation in the United States. These resources provide historic levels of investment designed to deliver a wide range of water programs, advance environmental justice by prioritizing low-income and disadvantaged communities, and combat climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other air and water pollutants.

### Background

The Town of Minturn, Colorado, is a one-of-a-kind Rocky Mountain town with a vibrant sense of community. Home to just 1,033 residents and nestled between the Vail and Beaver Creeks, Minturn has strived to maintain its identity separate from other communities in Eagle County but has struggled with infrastructure backlogs. The Town of Minturn has been evaluating the best way to improve the reliability of water production at its existing slow sand direct filtration water treatment plant (WTP). At 60 years old, the plant struggles to meet Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) regulations, limiting the quantity of water it can treat, and it was found in 2018 that there were no liners on Filters 1 and 2, requiring removal from service and significantly decreasing Minturn's production capacity.

Funds are needed to support the modernization and modification of the facility to ensure a reliable supply of safe drinking water. Minturn has undertaken feasibility analyses and planning to modernize the plant, and now seeks construction funds to improve the facility to meet current and future water infrastructure needs and requirements. The installation

of new water treatment processes will help meet the community's anticipated growth needs by expanding the capacity and reliability of the Town's water infrastructure.

The Town has completed 30% of the design and engineering for the construction of a new membrane water treatment plant to improve the resiliency of the water supply. These systems are relatively simple to operate compared to conventional processes (for example, no need for coagulation or settling. This plan would include a new building to house the membrane skids, and requisite chemical storage systems would be constructed in the unoccupied area owned by Minturn to the south of the existing filters. The existing outdoor filters would be converted into detention ponds for backwash waste. The estimated capacity following Phase 2 would expand to 1.2 mgd, with an offline standby unit. The opinion of probable cost for construction is \$11.9 million, with an additional \$1.5 to \$2 million in architectural and engineering services required.

### **Funding Sought & Secured To-Date**

Minturn has successfully secured grants to support the modernization of its WTP and address water infrastructure needs. Since 2021, the Town has secured over \$3 million in federal and philanthropic funding to support this effort. These funds include:

- \$184,000 in Community Funding Partnership (CFP) funding from the Colorado River District
- \$1 million in State and Tribal Assistance Grant (STAG) funding administered through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through congressionally-directed spending in FY2022 federal appropriations
- \$2 million in State and Tribal Assistance Grant (STAG) funding administered through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through congressionally-directed spending in FY2023 federal appropriations

In addition, the Town sought but was unable to secure a \$1 million U.S. Department of Agriculture "Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal" earmark from Congressman Joe Neguse in the FY2025 federal appropriations process.

### **Federal Funding Landscape**

Recent historic federal investments in infrastructure have introduced billions of dollars in financing to support water needs across the United States. These funds span several agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), and the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI).

The Biden Administration has made it a priority to allocate federal funding to projects in communities or neighborhoods that are most affected by poverty, historical

disadvantage, climate change, pollution, and environmental hazards. However, while Minturn is a small, rural community with a small population, the Town does not have any census tracts that qualify as “historically disadvantaged” based on the widely used federal [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#), and likewise Minturn cannot meet most other federal standards for funding for “disadvantaged” communities.

Minturn’s median household income, at \$103,333, higher than the Eagle County median income of \$98,887 and state median income of \$92,911, also precludes the Town from taking advantage of many USDA Rural Development programs, such as the [USDA Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program](#), [Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households \(SEARCH\) program](#), and [Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant program](#), which establish income limits as thresholds for the level of grants or loan funding where funds are frequently provided on a graduated scale with smaller communities with the lowest median household income being eligible for projects with a higher proportion of grant funds.

### **Enterprise Fund Limitations**

The Town's Enterprise Fund has specific restrictions in place regarding the use of external funding for the water treatment plant. According to these restrictions, the total amount of grants and other special funding within the enterprise fund cannot exceed 10% of the total fund revenues generated by that fund. If this limit is surpassed, it would disrupt the Enterprise status, potentially impacting any existing debt owed by the enterprise. In such a situation, it may become necessary to seek approval from taxpayers through a ballot issue in order to continue making debt payments.

It is recommended that the Town only break the Enterprise Fund revenue restrictions for large funding sources. It's important to note that this restriction does not apply to federal funding sources. In 2021, the Town received an award of approximately \$350,000 from the Colorado River District (CRD) but could only accept \$184,000 due to the Enterprise Fund restrictions on funding from State agencies.

### **Timing Considerations**

The Town has faced challenges in determining the best course of action for the project, which has taken over two years. This has hindered the Town's ability to pursue federal, state, and philanthropic funding during this period of heavy federal investment. Without a clearly defined scope of work or cost estimates for the project, the Town has been unable to apply for funding for which it may be eligible. This is because the project's development stage did not align with various program eligibility requirements.

As the project progresses and reaches the 30% design stage, it is crucial to seize the opportunity to explore and apply for additional sources of grant and/or loan funding. The Town should move quickly on the project as any delays in implementing the project will lead to escalating costs for the Town. However, it's important to note that many grant and loan programs have specific timelines and may not allow grant/loan funding to cover costs incurred before federal award.

### **Grant Funding Opportunities**

The Addendum to this memorandum outlines over twenty-five (25) sources of federal, state, and philanthropic funding that are currently available to support water infrastructure projects. Rows highlighted in gray indicate programs where the Town does not meet the eligibility requirements. It's important to emphasize that while there are numerous sources of grant funding available for water infrastructure planning, only a few offer funding levels that can meet the substantial \$10+ million required for the complete scope of WTP modernization. Additionally, it is crucial to note that many larger funding sources primarily provide loans rather than grants.

### **Alternatives to Grant Funding**

The Town of Minturn should explore alternative funding options to complete the modernization of the WTP. One viable option could involve seeking loan principal forgiveness from relevant authorities, while another option could be selling parcels of land owned by the town. Both strategies could provide the necessary funds to ensure the successful completion of the WTP modernization project.

*Please contact Sarah Marin at [Sarah.Marin@strategiesdc.com](mailto:Sarah.Marin@strategiesdc.com) or 202.308.7125 with any questions.*

State Water Resources			
Opportunity	Purpose	Amount, Match, & Deadline	Potential Uses & Key Considerations
<b>Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB)</b>			
<a href="#">CWCB Colorado Water Plan Grants</a>	To make progress on the critical actions and measurable objectives identified in the <a href="#">Colorado Water Plan</a> including, water storage and supply, water sharing agreements, conservation and land use planning, engagement and innovation, agricultural projects, and environmental and recreation projects.	<p><b>Amount:</b> Typically less than \$300,000</p> <p><b>Match:</b> 50% match for all construction projects and 25% match for all plans or studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No more than half of the match may be in the form of in-kind services</li> </ul> <p><b>Deadlines:</b> December 1 and July 1 annually.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A source of funding for water conservation efforts.</li> <li>Past expenditures directly related to the water activity may be considered as matching funds if the expenditures occurred within 9 months of the execution date of the contract or purchase order with the State.</li> <li>Completed feasibility studies must be submitted with an engineer's estimate of probable costs for grant requests that include costs for final engineering plans and construction.</li> <li><b>Contact:</b> Kevin Reidy, Program Officer, <b>Conservation &amp; Land Use Planning</b></li> <li>E: <a href="mailto:kevin.reidy@state.co.us">kevin.reidy@state.co.us</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#">CWCB Water Supply Reserve Fund Grants</a>	To assist Colorado water users in addressing their critical water supply issues and interests. The funds help eligible entities	<p><b>Amount:</b> Typically no more than \$300,000</p> <p><b>Match:</b> 25%</p> <p><b>Deadlines</b> include October 1, December 1, February 1, April 1, June 1, and August 1 annually.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funds focused on planning and design.</li> <li>Funds can be used for technical assistance regarding permitting, feasibility studies and environmental compliance</li> <li>Studies or analysis of structural, nonstructural, consumptive and non-consumptive water needs, projects or activities</li> <li>Design of structural projects or activities</li> </ul>

	<p>complete water activities.</p> <p>Prior to submitting an application to CWCB, the applicant must receive written approval from the region's basin roundtable.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure replacement or maintenance projects</li> </ul> <p><b>Contact:</b> Ben Wade, Water Conservation Coordinator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>E:</b> <a href="mailto:ben.wade@state.co.us">ben.wade@state.co.us</a></li> <li>• <b>P:</b> 303-866-3441 x3238</li> </ul>
<p>CWCB <a href="#">Federal Technical Assistance Grants for Colorado Water Projects</a></p>	<p>Provides technical assistance and administrative support to entities applying for federal IJA or other federally available funding. The projects must assist with raw water and water supply projects that directly support the objectives and goals of the Colorado Water Plan.</p>	<p><b>Amount:</b> A total of \$2 million remains in the entire program fund. Grants are typically small.</p> <p><b>Match:</b> 25%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project costs may consist of a combination of in-kind and cash match, but no more than half (12.5%) of the match may be in the form of in-kind services.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deadline:</b> Grants will be awarded on a rolling basis through December 2024; grant funds must be fully expended by December 2026.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Source of funds for additional design of the WTP.</li> <li>• Staff in discussion with Program Manager</li> <li>• Priority will be given to Disadvantaged Communities</li> <li>• <b>Technical Assistance includes Local Capacity Grants and Technical Assistance Grants.</b></li> <li>• <b>Local Capacity Grants</b> are direct awards to grantees to develop projects and submit competitive federal grant applications.</li> <li>• <b>Technical Assistance Grants provide a</b> contractor hired by CWCB to perform a wide variety of water project services, including researching federal grant opportunities, project design and cost estimation, and federal application development/grant writing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Contact:</b> Michael Regan, Budget Analyst</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>P:</b> (303) 866-3441Ext. 3214</li> <li>• <b>E:</b> <a href="mailto:michael.regan@state.co.us">michael.regan@state.co.us</a></li> </ul>

<b>Colorado Department of Public Health &amp; Environment (CDPHE)</b>			
<a href="#">CDPHE Small Communities Water and Wastewater Grants</a>	The program is part of the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission's Regulation 55 - State Funded Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Programs. It is for eligible entities that serve a population of no more than 5,000 people, with financial need considered.	<p><b>Amount:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tier I projects can receive up to \$50,000 Tier I projects and are intended to fund planning and design projects.</li> <li>Funding for Tier II projects is up to \$400,000 and are intended to fund infrastructure projects including planning, design, and construction.</li> </ul> <p><b>Deadline:</b> Last round was February of 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waiting to see if program reopens.</li> <li>Tier II projects must contain a construction component.</li> <li>Eligible entities that serve a population of no more than five thousand people, with financial need.</li> <li>Financial need is determined during the application process by DOLA.</li> </ul> <p><b>Contact</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>E:</b> <a href="mailto:cdphe.wqcd.watergrants@state.co.us">cdphe.wqcd.watergrants@state.co.us</a></li> <li><b>P:</b> 720-248-7394</li> </ul>
<a href="#">CDPHE Water Quality Improvement (WQIF) Grant</a>	To improve water quality in Colorado by providing grant funds for water quality improvement projects and stormwater management training and best practices using civil penalties	<p><b>Amount:</b> Awards vary annually, but usually up to \$250,000</p> <p><b>Match:</b> At least 10% is required. Higher match percentage will score more points.</p> <p><b>Deadline:</b> The program typically opens in the fall.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The program is funded by civil penalties collected by the state, and varies each year.</li> <li>There are five categories of eligible projects. The program funds different categories on project per each Request for Application (RFA). Funding for projects to improve water quality where there has been a civil penalty imposed for a water quality violation, but focus is on stormwater projects. <a href="#">See categories here.</a></li> </ul>

	from water quality violations.		<b>Contact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>E:</b> <a href="mailto:CDPHE_WQCD_Contracts+LAU@state.co.us">CDPHE_WQCD_Contracts+LAU@state.co.us</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#">CDPHE Emerging Containments in Small or Disadvantaged Communities Grant Program</a>	To assist public water systems in small or disadvantaged communities with planning and design grants, and infrastructure funding to reduce public health risks from emerging contaminants including PFAS, manganese and other emerging contaminants.	<b>Amount:</b> Tier 1: Planning and Design Grants of up to \$300,000. Tier 2: Infrastructure Grants of up to \$10 million <b>Deadline:</b> It is anticipated that future RFA application periods will be open twice per year in January and June in 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, or 2028.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the removal of emerging contaminants only</li> <li>• Funded by the EPA but administered by the CDPHE</li> <li>• <b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:cdphe_wqcd_ec_sdc_grants@state.co.us">cdphe_wqcd_ec_sdc_grants@state.co.us</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#">CDPHE Assistance Grants Program</a>	These grants are intended to help public water systems reach or consistently comply with the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations, and/or address a potential or existing water quality challenge.	<b>Amount:</b> Awards are up to \$25,000 with a total of \$150,000 annually. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2024 round is closed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential source of funding for a small component of the water plant project</li> <li>• State funded program and projects must be completed within the calendar year they are awarded.</li> </ul> <b>Contact:</b> Angela Green Garcia, Drinking Water Coach at <a href="mailto:angela.garcia@state.co.us">angela.garcia@state.co.us</a> or Kyra Gregory drinking water training specialist at <a href="mailto:kyra.gregory@state.co.us">kyra.gregory@state.co.us</a>



<a href="#">CDPHE PFAS Grant Program</a>	This program provides funding opportunities for sampling efforts to test groundwater and surface water, water treatment infrastructure, and emergency assistance for communities and water systems affected by these chemicals.	<p><b>Amount:</b> There is no award ceiling, although entities receiving more than \$100,000 will have to submit detailed project reports.</p> <p><b>Match:</b> Not required</p> <p><b>Deadline:</b> Application will open January 2025 and close Spring 2025</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The amount of funding available varies on an annual basis.</li> <li>• After completing preliminary PFAS testing, this could be used as a funding source for infrastructure projects for treatment.</li> <li>• <b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:cdphe_wqcd_pfas_grant@state.co.us">cdphe_wqcd_pfas_grant@state.co.us</a></li> </ul>
<b>Other State Resources</b>			
<a href="#">Community Funding Partnership</a>	For the protection, conservation, use and development of water resources in the Colorado River Basin. Projects must focus on agriculture, infrastructure, healthy rivers, watershed health and water quality and conservation/efficiency.	<p><b>Amount:</b> Up to \$1 million</p> <p><b>Match:</b> No minimum match percentage but program funds may not be the sole source of funding.</p> <p><b>Deadline:</b> Rolling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants are required to submit a letter of support for the project from the board(s) of county commissioners in which county the project is located and/or water from the project will be utilized.</li> <li>• Contact the River District to arrange for a pre-application meeting about the proposed projects. Contact: <a href="mailto:partnerfunding@crwcd.org">partnerfunding@crwcd.org</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#">DOLA Energy/Mineral Impact Assistance Fund</a>	To promote sustainable community development, and to	<p><b>Amount:</b> Up to \$1,000,000</p> <p><b>Match:</b> One-to-one</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A potential source of funds for any water/sewer projects</li> </ul>

	increase the livability and resilience of communities through planning, construction, and maintenance of public facilities and the provision of public services.	<b>Deadline: 3-4 cycles a year</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DOLA EIAF funds are quite flexible and could be used as a source of funding for any of the water infrastructure projects.</li> <li>Applicants are required to contact your area's Regional Manager before a grant is submitted.</li> <li><b>Contact:</b> Kate McIntire, regional manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>E:</b> <a href="mailto:kate.mcintire@state.co.us">kate.mcintire@state.co.us</a></li> <li><b>P:</b> 970-744-0760</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<a href="#">Colorado DOLA Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)</a>	The Department of Local Affairs administers the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for non-entitlement municipalities and counties to carry out community development activities.	<b>Amount:</b> Up to \$600,000, although entities can argue for higher. <b>Match:</b> Not required but recommended. <b>Deadline:</b> Typically late winter or early spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples of projects include sewer and water systems, commercial streetscape improvements, community centers, food banks, shelters, and health clinics.</li> <li>Project must (1) serve low-moderate income populations; (2) prevent or eliminate blight; or (3) meet urgent public health or safety needs.</li> <li><b>Contact:</b> Olivia Cook, Housing Development Specialist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(P) 970- 640-7576</li> <li>(E) <a href="mailto:olivia.cook@state.co.us">olivia.cook@state.co.us</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Federal Resources for Water</b>			
<b>Opportunity</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount, Match, &amp; Deadline</b>	<b>Potential Uses &amp; Key Considerations</b>
EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grant (STAG) Earmark	STAG Earmarks support water and wastewater projects that will result in	<b>Amount:</b> Up to \$7 million <b>Match:</b> 25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minturn has received two (2) STAG awards since 2022.</li> <li>Must work with your congressional delegation to get funding authorized in FY2026 appropriations.</li> </ul>

	improvements in environmental quality and/or human health.	<b>Deadline:</b> Spring on an annual basis.	
USDA "Rural Development, Water and Waste Disposal" Earmark	Rural Development, Water and Waste Disposal" Earmark support water and wastewater projects such as rural drinking water sources, treatment, storage and disposal, sewer, and stormwater collection.	<b>Amount:</b> Recommended ask is \$1 million <b>Match:</b> 25% <b>Deadline:</b> Spring on an annual basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must service a rural area with a population of 10,000 or less.</li> <li>• Well earmarked, good funding potential</li> <li>• Must work with your congressional delegation to get funding authorized in FY2026 appropriations.</li> <li>• This earmark is only available through House members.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">USDA Water and Waste Disposal Predevelopment Planning Grants</a>	The program helps eligible low-income communities plan and develop applications for proposed USDA Rural Development water or waste disposal project.	<b>Amount:</b> Maximum of \$30,000 or 75 percent of the predevelopment planning costs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The amount of the pre-development grant will be subtracted from the total grant eligibility</li> <li>• Grants are based on demonstrated need and availability of funds.</li> </ul> <b>Match:</b> 25% match. <b>Deadline:</b> Applications for this program are accepted year-round	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants must be unable to borrow funding</li> <li>• To be eligible a community must have a median household income below the poverty line or less than 80% of the <a href="#">statewide non-metropolitan median household income</a>. The statewide non-metropolitan median household income in Colorado in 2023 was \$90,900. The limit for assistance for this program is \$72,700.</li> <li>• The Town should <b>Contact:</b> Amy Crick, Loan Specialist, Delta Local Office after its Disadvantaged Status review by DOLA to see if the community can qualify <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (P) 970-399-8195</li> <li>○ (E) amy.crick@usda.gov</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<a href="#">EPA Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA)</a>	Connects communities to experts who help assess and implement solutions for their drinking water, sewage, and stormwater needs	<b>Amount:</b> No direct funding; technical assistance only <b>Deadline:</b> Rolling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After reviewing your submission, the EPA or a technical assistance provider will respond with potential next steps.</li> <li>• <b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:waterTA@epa.gov">waterTA@epa.gov</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#">US BuRec WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants</a>	For projects that conserve and use water more efficiently; increase the production of hydropower; and accomplish other benefits that contribute to water supply reliability in the western US.	<b>Amount:</b> Applicants may request up to \$500,000 for projects to be completed within two years; up to \$2 million for projects to be completed within three years; and up to \$5 million for projects to be completed within three years. <b>Match:</b> Non-Federal match of 50% <b>Deadline:</b> There are typically two rounds of funding a year: one in the spring and one in the fall.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project categories include: water conservation project such as canal lining, metering, irrigation flow management or renewable energy projects.</li> <li>• Applicants may submit multiple project proposals; combine interrelated or closely related projects into one application.</li> <li>• Applicants must be in the Western United States or U.S. Territories.</li> <li>• <b>Contact:</b> Josh German, Grants Management Specialist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (P) (303 445-2839</li> <li>○ (E) <a href="mailto:jgerman@usbr.gov">jgerman@usbr.gov</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<a href="#">US BuRec WaterSMART Environmental Water Resource Projects</a>	For water conservation and efficiency projects, water management and infrastructure	<b>Amount:</b> Applicants may request up to \$3 million for projects completed in 3 years or up to \$5 million for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan to seek funding by the March deadline.</li> <li>• Working with HDR on an application.</li> <li>• Can fund both design and construction of the WTP.</li> </ul>

	improvements, and river and watershed restoration and nature-based solution projects that provide significant ecological benefits, have been developed as part of a collaborative process, and help carry out an established strategy to increase the reliability of water resources	projects that are undertaken through a watershed group and completed in 5 years. <b>Match:</b> A 25% match is required <b>Deadline:</b> March 11, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Contact:</b> Avra Morgan at 303-445-2906 or <a href="mailto:aomorgan@usbr.gov">aomorgan@usbr.gov</a> or Robin Graber at 303-445-2764 or <a href="mailto:rgraber@usbr.gov">rgraber@usbr.gov</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#">USDA Community Facilities Loans and Grants</a>	Provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas of populations of 20,000 or less. Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and / or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment and pay related project expenses	<b>Amount:</b> Typically up to \$3 million <b>Match:</b> 85% match for grants in communities with populations of 20,000 or less and median household income below 90% of the State nonmetropolitan median income. Interest rates set by Rural Development; loan repayment terms may not be longer than the useful life of the facility, state statutes,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides low-interest direct loans, grants or a combination of both as well as a <a href="#">loan guarantee program</a></li> <li>• Priority is given based on population and median household income with priority given to small communities with a population of 5,500 or less and those having a median household income below 80% of the state nonmetropolitan median household income</li> <li>• <b>Contact:</b> Duane Dale Colorado Community Programs Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (P) (970)-529-8375</li> <li>○ (E) <a href="mailto:duane.dale@usda.gov">duane.dale@usda.gov</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		the applicants authority, or a maximum of 40 years, whichever is less <b>Deadline:</b> Rolling	
<a href="#">USDA Economic Impact Initiative Grants</a>	To assist in the development of essential community facilities in rural communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression. Funds can be used to construct, enlarge or improve community facilities for health care, public safety and public service.	<b>Amount:</b> Typically up to \$2 million <b>Match:</b> At least a 25% match required based on need and funding available <b>Deadline:</b> The program is currently closed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural is defined as communities with a population of 20,000 or less. Must have a not employed rate greater than 19.5% or a median household income below 90% of the state non-metropolitan median household income.</li> <li>• Grants may be made in combination with other financial assistance such as a Community Facilities direct or guaranteed loan, applicant contribution or funding from other sources.</li> <li>• <b>Contact:</b> Duane Dale Colorado Community Programs Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (P) (970)-529-8375</li> <li>○ (E) <a href="mailto:duane.dale@usda.gov">duane.dale@usda.gov</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<a href="#">USDA Rural Community Development Initiative Grants</a>	To support housing, community facilities and community and economic development projects in rural areas	<b>Amount:</b> Up to \$500,000 <b>Deadline:</b> Likely Summer 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding focus on training (homeowners and businesses) and technical assistances on strategic plan development, accessing alternative fundings sources, board training, and the creation of training tools.</li> <li>• Rural define as cities or towns with a population of 50,000 or less</li> <li>• <b>Contact:</b> Amy Crick <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (P) (970)-399-8195</li> <li>○ (E) <a href="mailto:amy.crick@usda.gov">amy.crick@usda.gov</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<a href="#">USDA Special Evaluation</a>	Helps very small, financially distressed	<b>Amount:</b> Up to \$100,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural areas must have a population of 2,500 or less and have amedian household income below 80%</li> </ul>

<a href="#">Assistance for Rural Communities and Households (SEARCH) Grants</a>	rural communities with predevelopment feasibility studies, design and technical assistance on proposed water and waste disposal projects	<b>Deadline:</b> Rolling	<p>of the state non-metropolitan median household income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Predevelopment planning costs (feasibility studies, preliminary design and engineering analysis, and technical assistance for applications) must be to support rural water, sanitary sewage, solid waste disposal and storm wastewater disposal facilities</li> <li>• <b>Contact:</b> Duane Dale Colorado Community Programs Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (P) (970)-529-8375</li> <li>○ (E) <a href="mailto:duane.dale@usda.gov">duane.dale@usda.gov</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<a href="#">EPA Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants</a>	To benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to address environmental and climate justice challenge	<p><b>Amount:</b> Up to \$20 million</p> <p><b>Match:</b> No match is required</p> <p><b>Deadline:</b> November 21, 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must support environmental justice in disadvantaged communities; must be a historically disadvantaged and environmental justice community</li> <li>• <b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:CCGP@epa.gov">CCGP@epa.gov</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#">EPA Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN), Small and Underserved Communities Emerging</a>	To assist public water systems in meeting Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirements	<b>Amount:</b> Program has \$25 million available in 2024; amount of funding that EPA awards to each state and territory is based on an allocation formula that includes factors for population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communities must apply through their State</li> <li>• Must benefit underserved, small, and disadvantaged communities by upgrading infrastructure to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act, reducing exposure to Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), removing sources of lead, and addressing additional local drinking water challenges.</li> </ul>

<a href="#">Contaminants Grant Program</a>		below the poverty level, small water systems, and underserved communities <b>Deadline:</b> Program currently closed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General information: <a href="mailto:wiindrinkingwatergrants@epa.gov">wiindrinkingwatergrants@epa.gov</a></li> <li><b>Colorado Contact:</b> EPA Region 8 or CDPHE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cynthia Gonzales, EPA Region 8 at <a href="mailto:Gonzales.cynthia@epa.gov">Gonzales.cynthia@epa.gov</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Loans and Bonds for Water Resources			
Opportunity	Purpose	Amount, Match, & Deadline	Potential Uses & Key Considerations
<a href="#">CWCB Water Project Loan Program</a>	Provides low interest loans for the design and construction of untreated projects in Colorado. This includes agricultural and municipal water collection, storage, and delivery facilities, and hydroelectric power generation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loans applications that are less than \$10 million are accepted year-round.</li> <li>Loans for more than \$10 million must be submitted by August 1 for funding available by July of the following year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A source of funding for the Water Intake Reconstruction Project.</li> <li>Projects financed by the Water Project Loan Program must align with the goals identified in Colorado's Water Plan.</li> <li>The standard term for a Water Project Loan Program loan is 30 years.</li> <li><b>Contact:</b> Matt Stearns, Program Officer, <b>Conservation &amp; Land Use Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>E:</b> <a href="mailto:matthew.stearns@state.co.us">matthew.stearns@state.co.us</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<a href="#">State Revolving Fund Drinking Water Revolving Funding (DWRF)</a>	Low-interest rate loans to finance the design and construction of drinking water infrastructure. This includes treatment facilities, transmission and distribution lines,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct loans for projects up to \$3 million</li> <li>Leveraged loans for projects over \$3 million</li> <li>Application deadlines are: Jan. 5, Feb 5, April 5, June 5,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A source of loan/forgivable loan funding for the Water Treatment Plan.</li> <li>Projects must be listed on the DWRF Eligibility List. The eligibility list is updated annually through a <a href="#">publicly accessible survey</a>.</li> <li>The state helps manage environmental reviews, engineering design approvals, and conduct overall project management.</li> </ul>



	source water, storage structures, and other projects related to drinking water.	Aug. 5, Oct 5 and Nov. 5.	<b>Contact:</b> Alex Hawley, Grants and Loans Unit Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>P:</b> 720-248-8095</li> <li>• <b>E:</b> <a href="mailto:alex.hawley@state.co.us">alex.hawley@state.co.us</a></li> </ul>
USDA <a href="#">Water &amp; Waste Disposal Loan &amp; Grant Program</a>	The program finances the acquisition, construction or improvement of drinking water, sewer, solid waste, and storm water systems, including legal and engineering fees, land acquisition, and water and land rights.	<b>Deadline:</b> Applications are accepted year-round. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding is in the form of long-term, low-interest loans with grant funding if available to reduce the impact on rate payers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 40-year payback period, based on the useful life of the facilities financed.</li> <li>• Fixed interest rates, based on the need for the project and the median household income of the area to be served.</li> <li>• <b>Contact:</b> Amy Crick, Loan Specialist, Delta Local Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (P) 970-399-8195</li> <li>○ (E) <a href="mailto:amy.crick@usda.gov">amy.crick@usda.gov</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>