

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

The following funding opportunities and table on the back of this document highlight the most relevant funding opportunities in New Mexico along with upcoming deadlines. The digital version found on <https://waterfx.org/funding-opportunities-for-tribal-communities-in-new-mexico/> contains hyperlinks for more information regarding specific funding programs highlighted below. You can also find additional opportunities, details on how to apply, and contact information at [efcnetwork.org/resources/funding-tables/](https://efcnetwork.org/resources/funding-tables/).

Opportunities that have not announced deadlines for their upcoming funding cycles include:

- **Tribal Infrastructure Fund:** Federally recognized tribes, nations, and pueblos are eligible for funding for construction and planning projects for water and wastewater systems.
- **Clean Water Indian Set-Aside Grant Program (CWISA):** Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages are eligible for funding for wastewater infrastructure. Tribes must identify their wastewater needs to the Indian Health Service Sanitation Deficiency System, which EPA uses to prioritize projects for funding.
- **Drinking Water Infrastructure Grants Tribal Set-Aside Program (DWIG-TSA):** Community water systems and non-profit, non-community water systems that serve a Tribal population are eligible to have projects funded, in whole or in part, with DWIG-TSA funds. The 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN Act) expanded the activities that are now eligible for DWIG-TSA funds, to include training and operator certification programs. The 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provided a historic \$15 billion in dedicated funding through the DWSRF and DWIG-TSA appropriation for lead service line identification and replacement and \$4 billion in dedicated funding for addressing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and other emerging contaminants.
- **Water Project Fund (NM Finance Authority):** Government entities can apply for financial assistance for the following project types: water conservation or recycling, treatment, or water reuse projects; flood prevention projects; endangered species act collaborative projects; water storage, conveyance or delivery projects; watershed restoration and management projects. Awards in loan/grant combinations are recommended, and each project requires a local match. Applications have not yet opened but will likely do so in August or September.
- **Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRLF):** Government entities, non-profits, and for-profit groups are eligible for loans at rates dependent on applicant and if the community falls under disadvantage status. The loan rates are as follows: 0% for loans to disadvantaged public water systems up to \$1,000,000 for drinking water projects, 1% interest loans to non-disadvantaged public water systems, 3% interest loans for nonprofit water systems, and 4% interest loans for for-profit water systems. Additional subsidies, such as principal forgiveness, may be available. No local match is required.
- **New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration:** Funding is available for water and wastewater projects, among other project types, via the Community Development Block Grant, Community Development Block Grant Colonias Set-Aside, and Community Development Block Grant (Planning).

A variety of funding and financing is also available on an ongoing basis from the following sources:

- **USDA Rural Development:** Water and Waste Disposal Direct Loans and Grants; Water and Waste Disposal Guaranteed Loan; Water and Waste Disposal Predevelopment Planning Grants; Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants; Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan; Water and Waste Disposal Revolving Fund; Individual Water and Wastewater Grants. Fourth Quarter deadline: June 30th, 2024
- **Rural Water Loan Fund (RWLF):** RWLF provides low interest rate (currently 3%) loans up to \$200,000 or 75% of the total project cost (whichever is less) to public entities serving up to 10,000 persons, or in rural areas with no population limits. Emergency loans are 90-day no interest, with immediate turn around on applications. Pre-development loans are also available. Similar programs are available through [RCAC](#), [CoBank](#), and [Live Oak Bank](#).
- **WaterSMART Grants:** The Bureau of Reclamation offers four types of WaterSMART grants targeting either 1) Water and energy efficiency, 2) water efficiency 3) water marketing or 4) water and wastewater reuse. These grants have multiple rounds when applications are accepted. WaterSMART grants can be up to \$5 million per project, but the majority of awarded projects will be \$500,000 or less.
- **Tribal Partnership Program - US Army Corps of Engineers:** The Tribal Partnership Program provides an opportunity to assist with water resources projects that address economic, environmental and cultural resource needs through studies that may include flood damage reduction, environmental restoration, and protection and preservation of natural and cultural resources. Coordination through Congressional contacts regarding specific appropriations would be necessary. To request a study or information regarding the program contact the Civil Works Branch at (855) 828-7015 or by email at [NWSCivilWorks@usace.army.mil](mailto:NWSCivilWorks@usace.army.mil).

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

	<b>Deadlines</b>	<b>Size of Loans</b>	<b>Eligibility*</b>	<b>Terms</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Contact Info</b>
<a href="#"><u>Local Government Planning Fund</u></a>	Monthly	Up to \$50,000	G, T P	Grants are provided on a reimbursement basis, and a local match is required (but can be waived)	New Mexico Finance Authority	Susan Rodriguez (505) 992-9659 <a href="mailto:LGPF@nmfa.net">LGPF@nmfa.net</a>
<a href="#"><u>Public Project Revolving Fund</u></a>	Monthly	Up to \$500,000	G, T W, WW	Loans offered at low, fixed interest rates	New Mexico Finance Authority	Ryan Olguin (505) 216-8592 <a href="mailto:pprf@nmfa.net">pprf@nmfa.net</a>
<a href="#"><u>Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)</u></a>	Year-Round	Contact Program Administrator	G, T, N, F WW, SW	Loans offered at low interest rates from 0% (public) and 2.375% (private)	New Mexico Environment Department	(505) 827-2855 <a href="mailto:nmenv-cpbinfo@state.nm.us">nmenv-cpbinfo@state.nm.us</a>
<a href="#"><u>Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation (WIFIA)</u></a>	Year-Round	Contact Program Administrator	G, T, N, F W, WW	Loans with low, fixed interest rates and flexible financial terms, up to 49% of costs	US Environmental Protection Agency	Arielle Gerstein (202) 566-1868 <a href="mailto:wifia@epa.gov">wifia@epa.gov</a>
<a href="#"><u>WaterSMART Grants</u></a>	Contact Program Administrator	Contact Program Administrator	G, T, N W	Second round grant funding is open for water and energy efficiency, small-scale efficiency, and more.	US Department of Interior (DOI), Bureau of Reclamation	Nickie McCann (303) 445-3733 <a href="mailto:nmccann@usbr.gov">nmccann@usbr.gov</a>
<a href="#"><u>Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program</u></a>	Second round due 5/31; Final round due 11/26	Contact Program Administrator	G, T W	Cost-shared funding (50/50) for the planning, design, and construction of water recycling and desalination projects	DOI Bureau of Reclamation	Yvette McKenna (505) 462-3640 <a href="mailto:urmckenna@usbr.gov">urmckenna@usbr.gov</a>