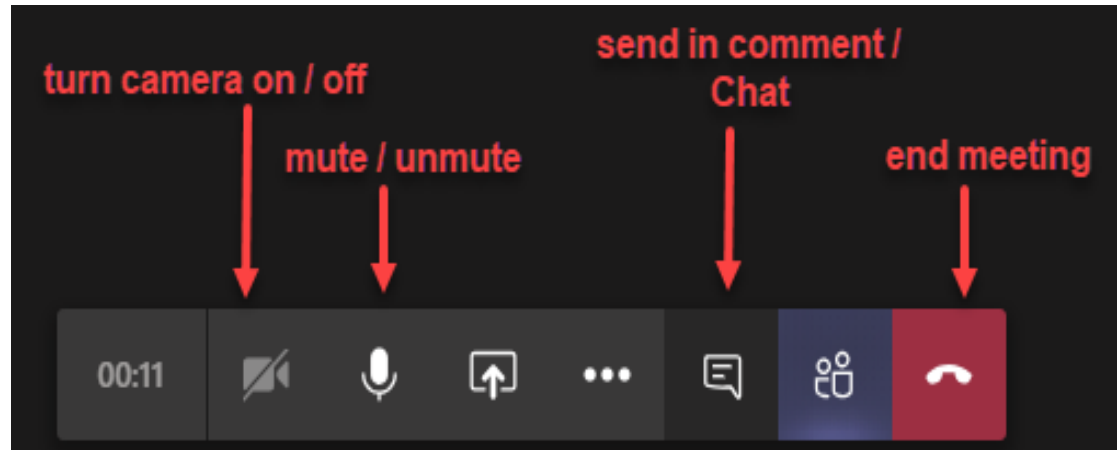




American Rescue Plan Act Funding Opportunities

August 3, 2021

Housekeeping



- Please type questions in Chat
- Q&A at end of webinar

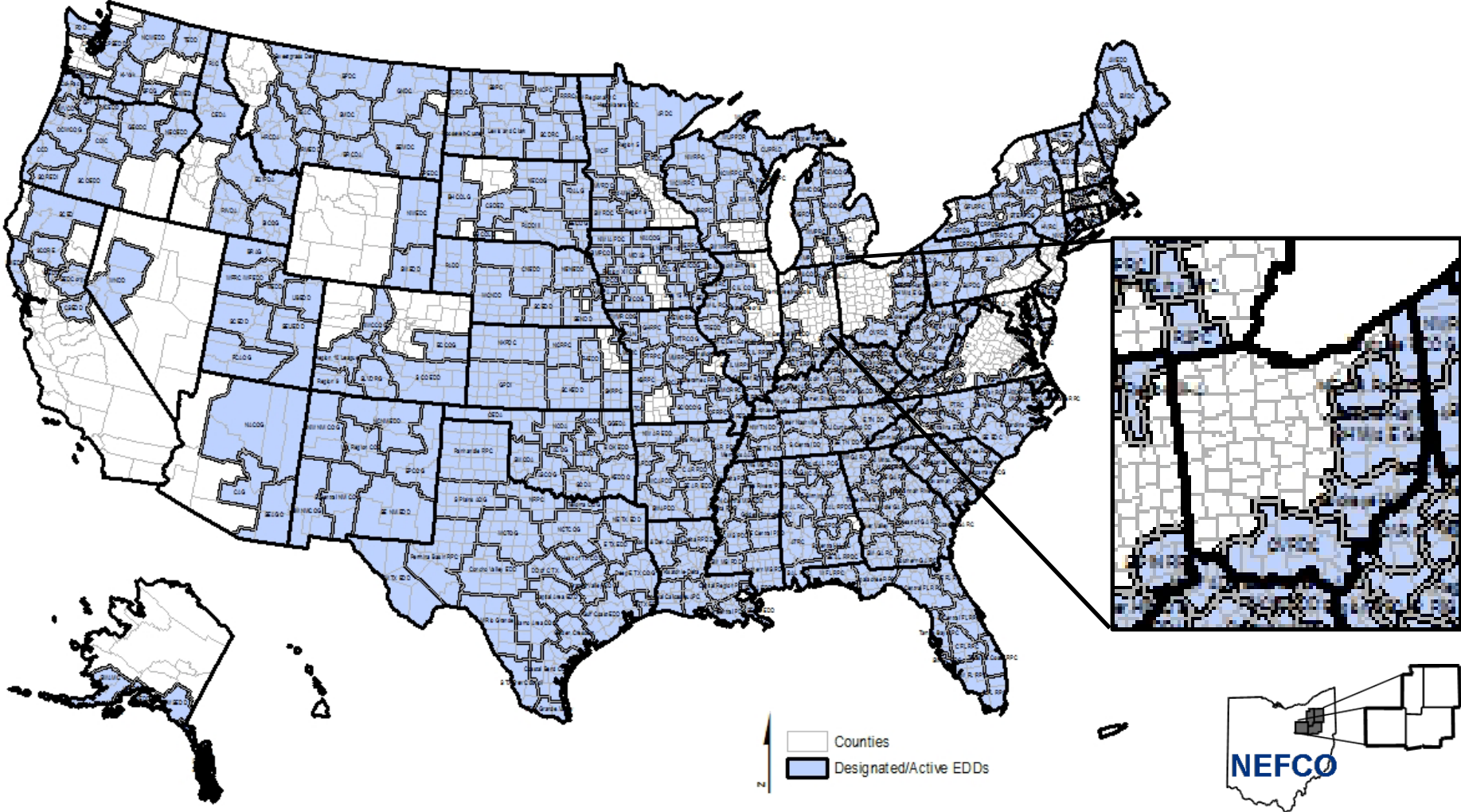


NEFCO and role as EDD

- ❑ Regional COG serving Portage, Stark, Summit, Wayne Counties
- ❑ Established as EDD in 1978 by DOC
- ❑ Maintains 4-county region's eligibility for EDA funding
- ❑ Responsible for maintaining CEDS/CEDS Plan
- ❑ TA to applicants/liaison to EDA
- ❑ EDA Partnership Planning Grant



EDA-designated Econ. Dev. Dists.



What is the CEDS?

“Locally-based, regionally-driven economic development planning process and document that successfully engages a range of partners, including community leaders and residents, nonprofit organizations, the private sector, educational institutions, and other stakeholders in planning for the region’s future”

— cedscentral.com





CEDS Goals

1. Support programs that diversify local & regional economies
2. Encourage development of industries that support NE Ohio's economic clusters
3. Build intergovernmental & public-private partnerships collaborating to address region's needs
4. Promote redevelopment of blighted, underused, vacant, environmentally-challenged sites
5. Support existing programs that build human capital
6. Develop an economic recovery and resiliency plan to help region respond to the impacts of the pandemic
7. Supporting efforts to bring affordable, high-speed, reliable broadband to unserved and underserved areas of NEFCO region





EDA Investment Priorities

1. Equity
2. Recovery and Resilience
3. Workforce Development
4. Manufacturing
5. Technology-based economic development
6. Environmentally-sustainable development
7. Exports and Foreign direct investment





EDA Funding Programs

- Public Works/Economic Adjustment Assistance (incl. CARES Act Addendum)
- Local Technical Assistance/Planning
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Disaster Supplemental Funding
- Revolving Loan Funds
- **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding**





Eligible Applicants

- Political subdivisions (counties, municipalities, townships, etc.), or a consortium of political subdivisions
- Councils of government, EDDs
- Colleges, universities, or consortium of institutions of higher education
- Public or private nonprofits acting in cooperation with political subdivision
- Projects must be owned/controlled by eligible political subdivision or nonprofit
- **INELIGIBLE: Individuals, for-profit entities**





General Evaluation Criteria

- Alignment w/NEFCO CEDS & EDA investment priorities
- Efforts to reach historically underserved populations and areas
- Ability to address high-quality job creation/retention
- Demonstrate private investment as a result of project
- Ability to leverage public and private \$s
- Utilize funds quickly and effectively
- Verified match and commitment
- Must have beneficiaries
- Provide clear scope and specific, measurable outcomes
- Demonstrate how project will respond to the economic impacts of the pandemic



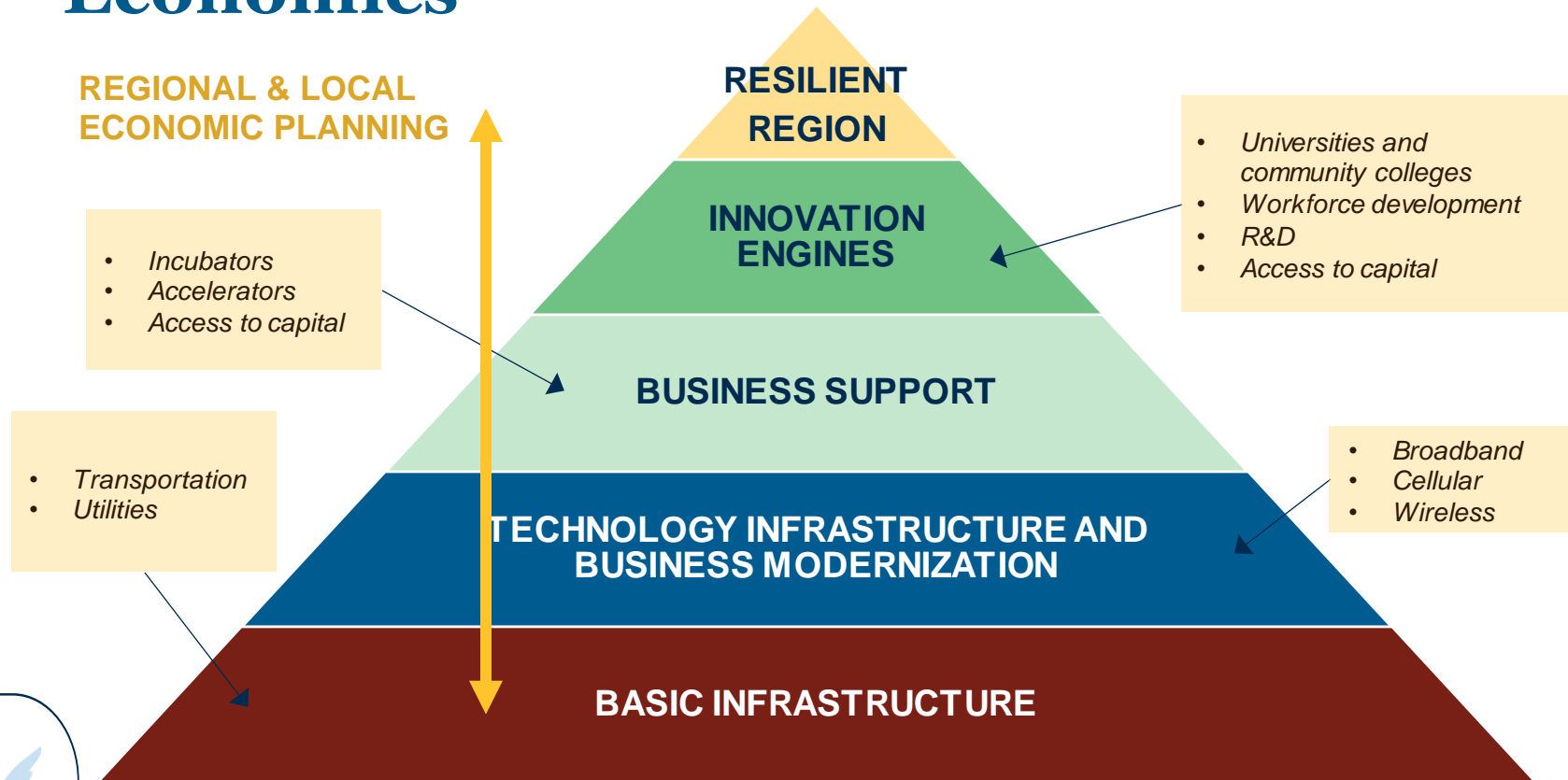
EDA's Mission

To lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.

- Increase America's global ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS
- Support COMMUNITY-LED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- Help communities develop RESILIENT AND AGILE local economies



EDA Supports Local and Regional Economies



\$3 billion in American Rescue Act funding to Invest in America's Communities

This **historic investment** will support bottom-up, economic development focused on advancing equity, creating good-paying jobs, helping workers to develop in-demand skills, building economic resilience, and accelerating the economic recovery for the industries and communities hit hardest by the coronavirus pandemic.

EDA investments made under the American Rescue Plan will support the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment not just to build the American economy back to where it was before the pandemic, but to **build back better and stronger**.



\$3 billion in American Rescue Plan funding to invest in:

Jobs for Today



Good Jobs Challenge
Travel, Tourism, & Outdoor Recreation

Communities Built for All



Economic Adjustment Assistance
Indigenous Communities
Coal Communities Commitment

Regions for the Future



Build Back Better Regional Challenge
Statewide Planning, Research, & Networks



ARPA Funding Programs



NOFOs**Description****Total American Rescue Plan funding: \$3B**

1 **Statewide Planning, Research, & Networks** **\$90M** Invest in economic plans, research to assess the effectiveness of EDA's programs, and support for stakeholder communities around key EDA initiatives

2 **Build Back Better Regional Challenge** **\$1B** Transform 20-30 economically distressed regions through substantial investment through groups of 3-8 projects, totaling ~\$25-75M per region; open to proposals up to \$100M

\$100M

3 **Travel, Tourism, & Outdoor Recreation** **\$750M** Accelerate communities impacted by COVID-related travel and tourism decline through state grants (\$510M) and competitive grants (\$240M)

4 **Economic Adjustment Assistance** **\$500M** Invest in infrastructure, technical assistance, planning, and revolving loan programs through competitive grants available to every community

\$200M

5 **Indigenous Communities** **\$100M** Additional Economic Adjustment Assistance funds to specifically support Indigenous communities

6 **Good Jobs Challenge** **\$500M** Establish or strengthen regional systems to train workers with in-demand skills through employer-driven training, supporting participants with wrap-around services and employer commitments to hire

\$300M Coal Communities Commitment

ARPA Funding Programs

- \$3B available
- \$300M for Coal Communities Commitment
- 25% (\$750M) dedicated for tourism sector
- All areas eligible
- Up to 80% grants
- Apply at [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov); select appropriate NOFO
- Variable grant award amounts and deadlines
- ARPA grants must be awarded by 9/30/2022; all projects completed by 9/30/2027
- Projects must be consistent with NEFCO CEDS & EDA Investment Priorities



Statewide Planning, Research, & Networks

\$90 million

Invest in economic plans, research to assess the effectiveness of EDA's programs, and support stakeholder communities around key EDA initiatives

Statewide Planning: \$59M

\$1 million planning grants to each state and territory



Research & Networks: \$31M

- **Research & Evaluation:** Fund projects to study the implementation of EDA's American Rescue Plan programs; identify valuable strategies, data, and trends; and inform future EDA grant-making
- **Communities of Practice:** Fund the launch and operations of communities of practice across key groups of EDA stakeholders (UCs, RLFs, EDDs, etc.) and other American Rescue Plan programs (Build Back Better Regional Challenge, Good Jobs Challenge, etc.)



Statewide Planning, Research, & Networks

Examples:

1. Establish/strengthen communication and collaboration between and among core groups within a cohort (building urban-rural linkages)
2. Develop/organize/disseminate best practices to accelerate the work and impacts of members across a cohort
3. Increase awareness among core groups of stakeholders or reach new partners
4. Support initiatives to address cross-cutting issues such as environmental justice, equity and inclusion, increasing access by underserved communities, serve as an industry liaison and convener for Federal stakeholders (distribute grant notifications, research and data, and critical industry requirements)
5. Advance economic development in partnership w/EDA and other successful applicants



Build Back Better Regional Challenge

\$1 Billion

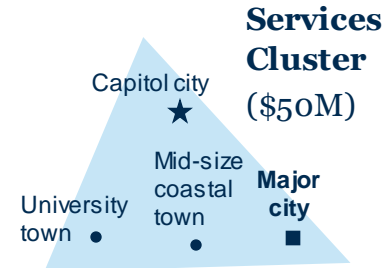
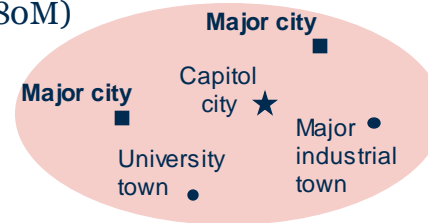
Transform economically distressed communities through substantial investment in regional growth clusters

- Proposals should include regional coalitions, industry support, and high-impact projects with a shared vision for a regional growth cluster
- One key coordinating entity per region
- 3-8 projects per regional cluster
- \$100M to the *Coal Communities Commitment*

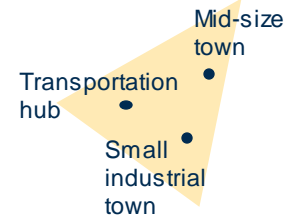
Projects can include:

Planning | Infrastructure | Workforce | Entrepreneurship

Manufacturing Cluster (\$80M)

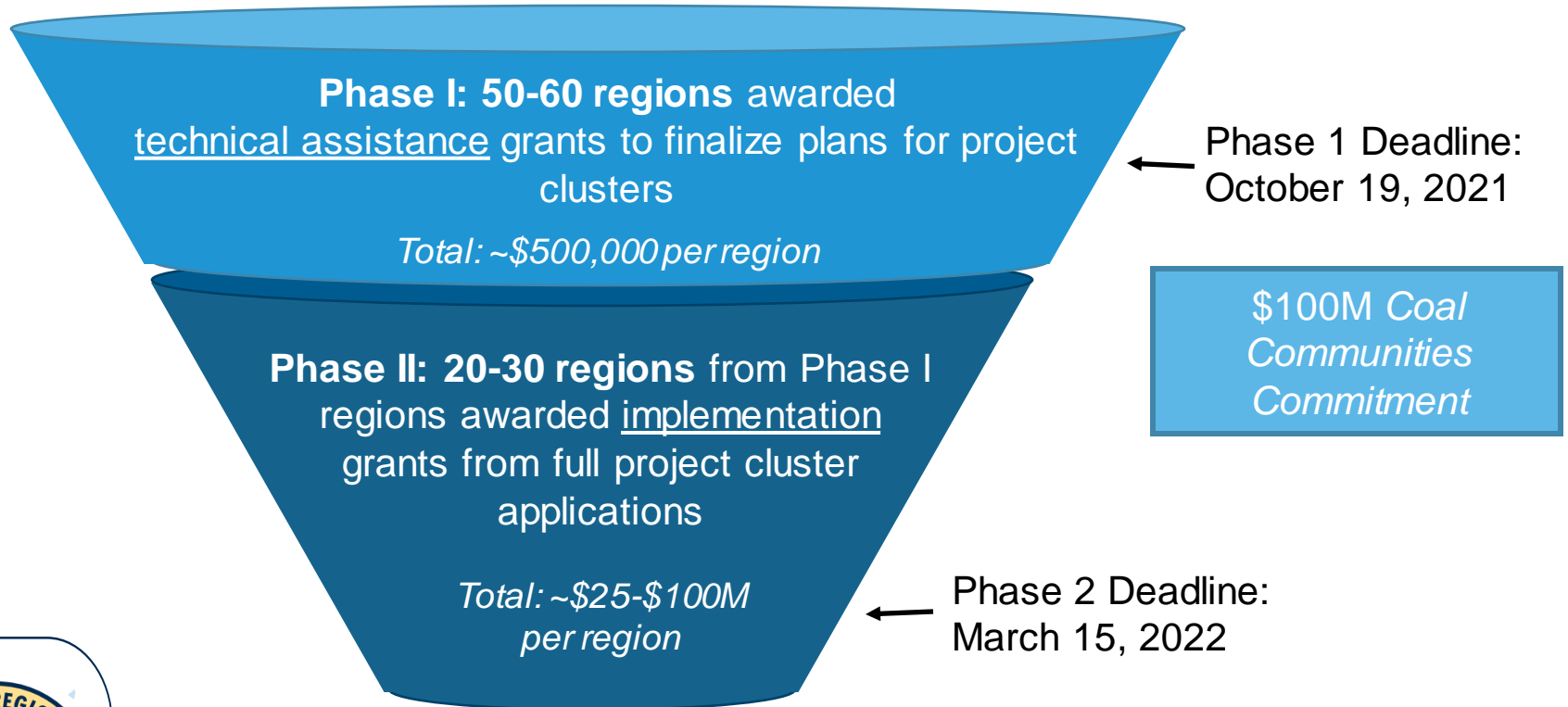


Entrepreneurship Cluster (\$25M)



Build Back Better Regional Challenge

Two-Phased Approach



Build Back Better Regional Challenge

Example:

An area historically reliant on the automotive industry wants to create a climate-friendly electric vehicle cluster by funding:

- (1) a new battery and lightweight composite materials research program and associated facilities at a local university;
- (2) a new non-profit workforce training center that focuses on the skills required by regional battery and automotive manufacturers;
- (3) an entrepreneurial center that focuses on commercializing new automotive technologies at start-up firms; and
- (4) programmatic support for a technology seed fund managed by a local CDFI.



Travel, Tourism, & Outdoor Recreation

\$750 million



Accelerate communities impacted by COVID-related travel and tourism decline through block grants to states and competitive grants

State Grants: \$510M

- Award allocations to each state and territory based on economic development indicators in the leisure and hospitality industries
- Can fund destination marketing, but cannot fund economic diversification projects

Challenge: \$240M

- Assist communities that suffered economic injury because of job losses in travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation sectors
- EDA prefers projects that directly support the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors; but will consider diversification projects
- Cannot fund local destination marketing



Travel, Tourism, & Outdoor Recreation

Examples:

- Water and stormwater/wastewater improvements
- Pier construction and improvements
- New outdoor recreation and trail infrastructure and public access enhancements, Nature-based infrastructure projects to improve access to recreation
- Cultural, arts, and tourism facilities (e.g., visitor or tourist information centers)
- Workforce training facilities and capacity building programs
- Accessibility enhancements
- Country-wide or multi-state travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation promotion.



Economic Adjustment Assistance

\$500 million

Invest in infrastructure, technical assistance, planning, and revolving loan programs through competitive grants available to every community

- Most flexible American Rescue Plan program; intended to fund non-construction and construction activities not already part of another Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
- A wide range of technical, planning, workforce development, entrepreneurship, and public works and infrastructure projects are eligible for funding under this program.
- EDA encourages application submissions based on long-term, regionally oriented, coordinated, and collaborative economic development or redevelopment strategies that foster economic growth and resilience. This includes plans aimed at building stronger regional economic links between urban centers and rural areas.

\$200M Coal Communities Commitment



Economic Adjustment Assistance

Examples:

- Construction and non-construction projects
- Infrastructure/utilities/rail/broadband
- Industrial parks, high-tech shipping/logistical facilities
- Workforce training facilities and equipment
- Business incubators/accelerators*
- Brownfield redevelopment
- Design/engineering
- Planning/technical assistance/feasibility studies



Indigenous Communities

\$100 million

Develop projects designed to create the conditions for economic growth in Indigenous communities and to accelerate economic recovery from the pandemic

- Additional \$100 million in Economic Adjustment Assistance funds will specifically support Indigenous communities and can be used to fund nontraditional EAA projects, like health centers
- A wide range of technical, planning, workforce development, entrepreneurship, and public works and infrastructure projects are eligible for funding under this program
- This competition is open only to Indian Tribes, as defined in EDA's regulations, nonprofits serving Native Hawaiians, and nonprofits serving Native Pacific Islanders



Good Jobs Challenge

\$500 million

Get Americans back to work by establishing or strengthening regional systems to train workers with in-demand skills through employer-driven training models that support participants with wrap-around services and employer commitments to hire

System Development

Funding to help an organization establish and develop workforce systems and sectoral partnerships

Program Design

Funding to develop skills training curriculum and materials, secure technical expertise to train workers, and secure employer commitments to hire

Program Implementation

Funding for non-construction projects to provide workforce training and connect workers with quality jobs, including wrap-around services



Good Jobs Challenge

\$500 million

Get Americans back to work by establishing or strengthening regional systems to train workers with in-demand skills through employer-driven training models that support participants with wrap-around services and employer commitments to hire

- **Beneficiaries:** unemployed or underemployed workers from underserved communities, incumbent workers from underserved communities with opportunity for upskilling and increased wages
- Capital expenses, such as equipment purchase and training facility leases, are permitted. However, construction activities are not allowable; any workforce program that requires construction can and should apply to other NOFOs, such as the Economic Adjustment Assistance NOFO
- Disbursement of funds gated upon successful completion of each phase of workforce program development benchmarks

System Development

Program Design

Program
Implementation



Good Jobs Challenge

Sectoral Partnership:

Strategic Partners

EDA-eligible organizations involved in workforce development

Adult basic education

Organized Labor

Business alliances / chambers

Other training orgs (e.g., Universities, Community College, K-12)

Workforce boards

Human services organizations

Community-based organizations

Backbone Organization

Lead entity of sectoral partnership, usually one of the strategic partners. Applications must identify a backbone organization for each sectoral partnership

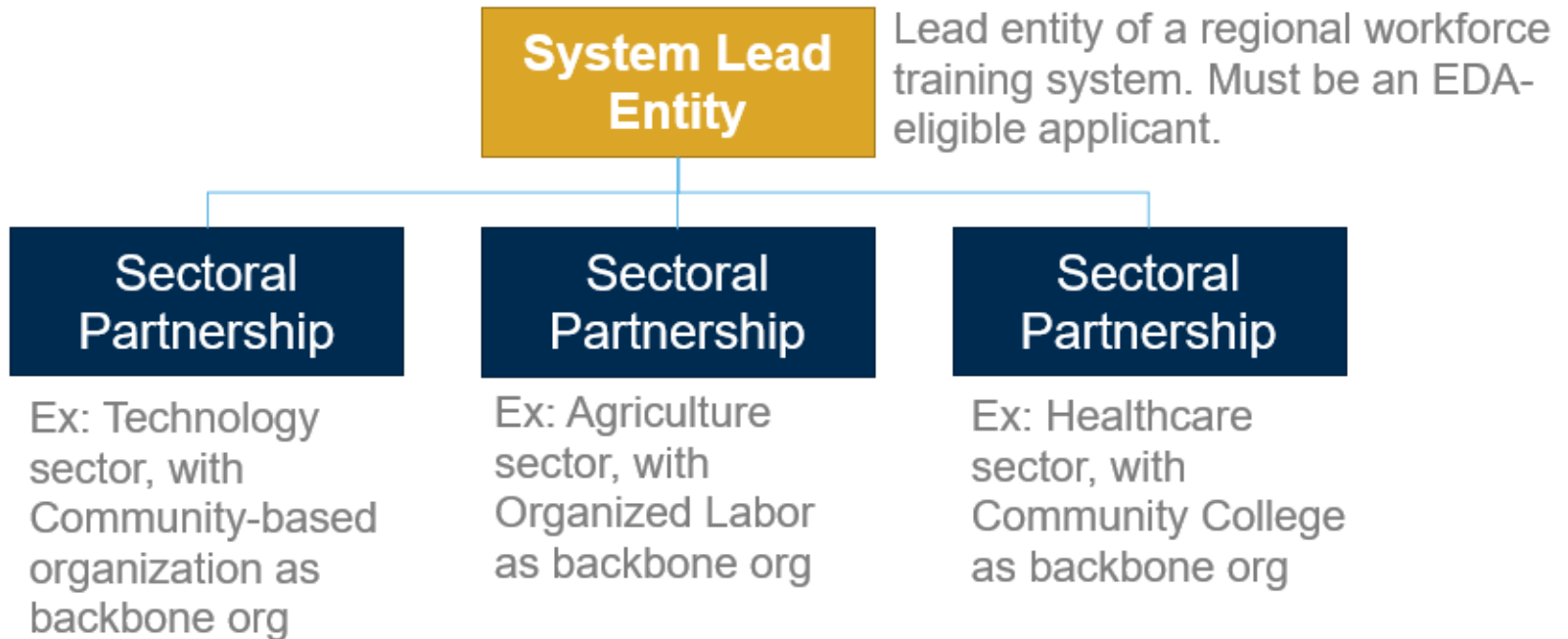
Industry Partners

Partnership of employers from the same industry



Good Jobs Challenge

Regional Workforce Training System:



Good Jobs Challenge

Examples:

1. Lead entity working with group of employers in industrial sector to fit openings/needs
2. Regional workforce training system, but those resources need to be linked and coordinated to help the worker, employers, and others in the region to identify or develop the skills adjacency to develop a pipeline of workers for in-demand jobs.



Thinking Big at EDA



American Rescue Plan programs will address larger projects than before. This gives EDA the opportunity to transform communities across the country.



American Rescue Plan programs will expand EDA's reach. EDA will engage with and impact more communities and support an equitable recovery.

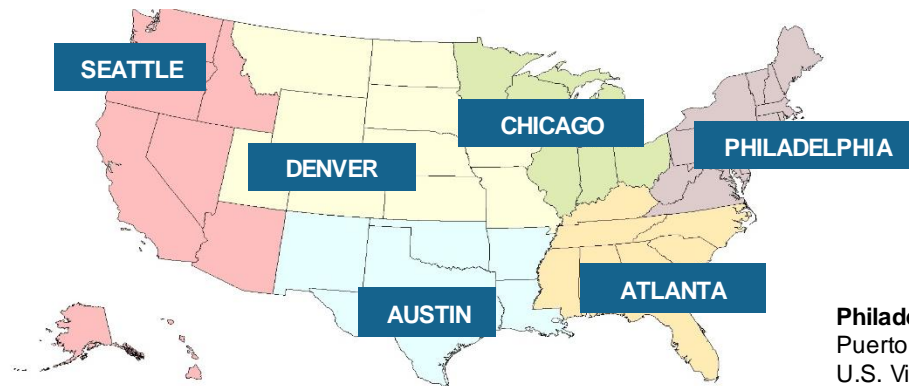


EDA will help Americans build back better through community-led economic development.



Next Steps to Apply

1. Read the **Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)** and Eligibility Requirements for each program: <https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>
2. Find your **Economic Development District** for planning support and technical assistance: <https://eda.gov/resources/directory/>
3. Connect with your state's **Economic Development Representative** with questions: <https://eda.gov/contact>



Seattle:
American Samoa
Guam
Federated States of
Micronesia
Palau

Philadelphia:
Marshall Islands
Commonwealth of the
Northern Mariana
Islands



Resources

Visit our website for resources: www.eda.gov/arpa

- One-page overviews
- NOFO webinars
- FAQs
- Applicant support tools



Contact NEFCO

- ❑ Questions about eligibility
- ❑ Discuss project ideas, components – does project fit?
- ❑ Compatibility/consistency of project(s) with NEFCO CEDS and EDA investment priorities
- ❑ What funding program/NOFO is most appropriate?
- ❑ Applicants strongly encouraged to contact NEFCO prior to submitting
- ❑ Review draft applications



Questions?





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