Funding & Technical Assistance

AARP Community Challenge Grant Program
Deadline: April 17 - more info here
AARP is now accepting applications for its Community Challenge grant program. In 2019 the grant program will provide funds for community-based "quick-action" projects related to housing, transportation, smart cities, and public spaces. The goal is to spark change and build momentum to improve livability for people of all ages. Applications are due by April 17, 2019 and projects must be completed by November 4, 2019. More information and applications can be found here.

Federal Transit Administration Low or No Emission Funding
more info here
For FY 2019, $85 million is available for projects relating to the purchase of zero or low emission transit vehicles and the facilities needed to support those vehicles. Prior rounds of funding have included non-metro projects. FTA grant recipients are eligible to apply by May 14, 2019. The agency will hold a webinar on April 11, 2019, 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Mtn Time. Webinar registration is available here.

USDA Funding to Spur Economic Development in Rural Communities
Deadline: June 5 - more info here
USDA Rural Development is accepting applications for grants to support economic development in rural communities. The grants are being made available through USDA's Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) Program in order to strengthen the rural economy. Qualified intermediary organizations receiving RCDI grants will provide technical assistance and training to help nonprofit organizations and communities develop their capacity to undertake housing, community facility, or economic development projects. USDA also encourages applications that will support efforts to combat substance use disorders, including opioid misuse, in high-risk rural communities by strengthening their capacity to address prevention, treatment, and/or recovery needs.

Advanced Industries (AI) Export Accelerator Grant Program
Deadline: Rolling
Funding Available to offset international business development and marketing costs
These grants are for current and aspiring Colorado exporters in the Advanced Industries who are looking to offset international business development and marketing costs. Grants are available for up to $15,000 for eligible costs for small and medium-sized AI businesses in aerospace, infrastructure engineering, advanced manufacturing, energy and natural resources, bioscience, electronics, and technology and information. Grants can be used to help cover the costs of trade missions and trade shows, translation services for a contract or official document, intellectual property protection, conducting due diligence or credit reviews on potential buyers or distributors, and production and design of international marketing materials. Grant applications are accepted on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted. First year grant applicants will be given preference during the application review process. Projects and/or activities must be finished by June 1, 2019. More info here.

Free Brownfields Webinar
April 24 at 12 p.m. Mtn time - Register here
Offered by the EPA Office of Community Revitalization's Strategies for Food Systems, Health, and Economic Development. EPA's Office of Community Revitalization has developed strategies and programs that assist communities' efforts to take stock of their assets, identify visions for growth that supports a better environment and healthy living. Through this webinar you'll hear
how EPA collaborates with communities to grow their economies and improve the environment.

**National Fish and Wildlife Foundation: Acres for America grants for Habitat Conservation Efforts**

Acres for America, a partnership between Walmart Stores and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), was established to provide urgently needed funding for projects that conserve important large-scale habitats for fish, wildlife, and plants through land acquisitions and perpetual conservation easements. Preference will be given to projects that achieve more than one of the following program priorities: conserve critical habitats for birds, fish, plants, and wildlife; connect existing protected lands to unify wild places and protect critical migration routes; provide access for people to enjoy the outdoors; and ensure the future of local economies that depend on forestry, ranching, and recreation. Pre-proposals are due April 17, 2019; invited full proposals must be submitted by June 27, 2019. Visit the [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation website](https://www.nfwf.org) to review the 2019 Request for Proposals.

**Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Grants**

Deadline: May 6. This program plans to award approximately 75 grants to rural communities. More information [here](https://www.nwsbdc.org).

**Peace Officer Mental Health Support Grants**

Support grant program is available for local law enforcement agencies to engage mental health professionals who can provide on-scene response services to support peace officers’ handling of persons with mental health disorders, and counseling services to peace officers. Applications will be reviewed in the order of receipt with a date and time stamp on each application. Deadline: April 30. For more information on the program, [Click Here](https://www.nwsbdc.org).

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**Registration Open!**

**NWCCOG Regional Economic Summit**

**Thursday, May 2, 2019**

**at the Silverthorne Pavilion**

Keynote Speaker: **Betsy Markey, Executive Director, Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade**

Opening Presentation: **Elizabeth Garner, State Demographer** - demographic and economic trends for the NWCCOG Region

...and much, much more!

Registration and agenda can be found [HERE](https://www.nwsbdc.org).

This event is sponsored by:

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**Training, Workshops, & Events**

**Women in Entrepreneurship: Growth Hacking**

May 2-3 in Vail - more info and register [here](https://www.nwsbdc.org).

The Northwest Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and the University of Colorado Leeds School of Business have teamed up to offer "WOMEN IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP: GROWTH HACKING" man interactive branding workshop for women business owners, decision makers, and entrepreneurs operating from mountain markets. The course will focus on how business owners can strengthen their message to target customers through brand clarification and growth hacking techniques. Register with scholarship code "NWSBDC" to unlock 15% discount. Please register here. For event questions or scholarship opportunities, contact lyndsey@northwestsbdc.org.
Colorado Economic Forum offered by the Federal Reserve Bank
May 15 at Colorado Mountain College in Steamboat Springs - Register Here.
An Economic Forum consists of presentations by Federal Reserve policy advisers about key regional economic issues and national trends, as well as an update on monetary policy objectives and concerns. The Forum also provide area leaders an opportunity to share their views with the Federal Reserve Bank. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. Register online now: Please contact Laurie Groth at laurie.groth@kc.frb.org with any questions.

Webinar to Feature Resources Available from EPA's Office of Community Revitalization
April 24 at 12 p.m. Mtn Time
Join National TAB for a webinar on April 24 featuring strategies to make every community healthy, wealthy, and wise. Improving environmental and human health outcomes in communities across the country is challenging under any circumstances. In the early part of the 21st century this is particularly true given the economic, political, and social changes occurring. EPA's Office of Community Revitalization has developed strategies and programs that assist communities' efforts to take stock of their assets and identify visions for growth that supports a better environment and healthy living. Through this webinar you'll hear how EPA collaborates with communities to grow their economies and improve the environment. Click here to register.

Solutions for the Opiod Crisis: Free Webinar
May 2 from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Mtn time - Register here.
Offered by the Orton Family Foundation. On average, 130 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose. And rural America is harder hit by the epidemic, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. So what's being done right now to reverse this devastating trend? We talk to three leaders with different vantage points who share the same goal-stop this epidemic.

The Advance Colorado Procurement Expo
May 16, 2019 in Denver - full details here
Every year, businesses are invited to participate in this day-long event, which focuses on state and local government procurement. Small businesses (sellers) exhibit throughout the day to showcase their goods and services to local and state government agencies (buyers). Exhibitors are able to meet with procurement professionals from those agencies to learn how to best sell their goods and services to them. In addition to the expo hall, training sessions are held in the afternoon on the topics of government procurement. There is also a keynote speaker during lunch, as well as engaging one-on-one sessions between buyers and sellers.

2019 NWCCOG Regional Economic Summit
Thursday, May 2, 20019
The second annual summit will once again be held at the Silverthorne Pavilion on Thursday, May 2, 2019. Information and register HERE.

2019 Colorado Creative Industries Summit
May 16-17 in Salida, Colorado
For more info please visit https://coloradocreativeindustries.org/summit/

Colorado Municipal League 97th Annual Conference
June 18-21 in Breckenridge, Colorado
For more info please visit www.cml.org