

# RESOURCES BULLETIN

March 2019

*archived bulletins can be found [here](#).*



## Funding & Technical Assistance

### Challenge America: National Endowment for the Arts

The Challenge America category offers support primarily to small and mid-sized organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations -- those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability. Grants are available for professional arts programming and for projects that emphasize the potential of the arts in community development. Deadline: April 11. [More info here](#).



### Advanced Industries (AI) Export Accelerator Grant Program

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](#).

### USDA Rural Business Development Grants

Deadline: March 29. The technical assistance grants in Colorado average around \$25,000, and a revolving loan fund request is \$50,000. This program is a competitive grant designed to support targeted technical assistance, training, and other activities leading to the development or expansion of small and emerging private businesses in rural areas that will employ 50 or fewer new employees and have less than \$1 million in gross revenue. For more information, visit [USDA website here](#) or contact P.J. Howe, business program specialist, at 970-329-3151 or [p.j.howe@co.usda.gov](mailto:p.j.howe@co.usda.gov).

### Youth Innovation Grants

Deadline: April 1. Offered by the State Youth Council. [More info here](#).  
The Colorado State Youth Council (SYC) is offering grants to young adults and local organizations for projects that support innovative, youth-focused projects. Applications are due on April 1. The SYC believes that in order to best serve the youth population, we need to continue to develop a strong youth voice within workforce development programs throughout the state and ensure we are providing young leaders with the tools and platforms necessary to be changemakers in their communities.

### Grants Promote Innovative Pre-K-12 Projects

Ezra Jack Keats Foundation: Mini-Grant Program

The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation offers mini-grants to public schools, public libraries, and public preschool and Head Start programs in the United States and its territories. The Foundation accepts proposals for creative, innovative projects that give teachers and librarians a unified, flexible way to meet Common Core goals as well as offer students a fun experience, a sense of achievement, and a source of pride. The application deadline is **March 31, 2019**. Visit the [Foundations website](#) to learn more about the application process.

### 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](#) 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](#).

#### **Department of Justice - Grant funding for Youth Mentoring**

The Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative supports a wide range of mentoring initiatives aimed at preventing and reducing juvenile delinquency, drug abuse (especially opioid abuse), victimization, and other problem and high-risk behaviors such as truancy. The application deadline is April 22, 2019. [More info here](#).

#### **Department of Education: Grants for Rural Schools**

The Small, Rural School Achievement Program seeks to address the unique needs of rural school districts. Interests include improving basic programs, supporting effective instruction, supporting language instruction for English learners and immigrant students, strengthening student support and promoting academic enrichment, and creating 21st century community learning centers. The application deadline is April 26, 2019. [More info here](#).

#### **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](#).

#### **Worldwide Competition for Funds to Address a Critical Issue**

MacArthur Foundation: 100&Change - [more info here](#)

100&Change is a MacArthur Foundation competition for a \$100 million grant to fund a single proposal that promises real and measurable progress in solving a critical problem of our time. 100&Change is open to organizations and collaborations working in any field, anywhere in the world. Proposals must identify a problem and offer a solution that promises significant and durable change. Each application will be evaluated on the following criteria: impactful, evidence-based, feasible, and durable. Applications may be submitted from April 30 to August 6, 2019. Visit the [100&Change](#) website for details about the competition and application information.



2019 REGIONAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT

**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](#).

This event is sponsored by:



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## Training, Workshops, & Events

### How Civility & Civics Build Community - Free Webinar

March 28 from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Mtn Time

Offered by Orton Foundation's Community Heart and Soul Program. In today's fractionalized, tribalized world it seems what divides us is often more apparent than what unites us. Add the cacophonous soundtrack of incivility that dominates discourse, and a toxic environment emerges that is fraying the fabric of our communities. [Register here.](#)

### Social Media Marketing + SEO

Thursday, April 11

12 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - bring your own brown bag lunch

Colorado Mountain College - Breckenridge Campus Room 142

Brought to you by the Northwest Colorado Small Business Development Center and the Summit Chamber of Commerce. Presented by Leah Rybak, LMR Consulting LLC. FREE to NWCCOG and Chamber members, all others \$10. Register [HERE](#).

### Angel Capital Summit 2019 | March 26-27

The Angel Capital Summit is the largest Angel Investing event in Colorado and has connected early-stage investors with high-growth entrepreneurs for over 11 years. Over two days, we bring together investors, pitching companies and thought leaders. Angel Capital Summit is focused on early stage companies who are best suited for seed round investments. We have resources for new and experienced angels alike. If you are interested in either side of the private equity table, you should be involved in this event. The [application and early-bird registration windows are currently open](#). We would love to see you there! Offered by the Rockies Venture Club.

### 21st Century Energy Transition Symposium

April 1-2 at the Grand Hyatt in Denver, CO

Hosted by Colorado Energy Research Collaboratory and its partners University of Colorado, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, and National Renewable Laboratory. This event will be of interest to those in all sources of the energy industry; environmental researchers and scientists; venture capitalists and philanthropic organizations; energy-related organizations; entrepreneurs; federal, state, and local governments; regulators; utilities; and students and faculty. Visit [cercsymposium.org/symposium-2019](http://cercsymposium.org/symposium-2019) for more information.

### CML 2019 Legislative Update (Webinar)

Monday, April 8, Noon-1 p.m. Presented by the CML advocacy team. Stay current on the CML advocacy team's efforts to represent and protect your interests at the statehouse. During this one-hour webinar, the team will share the latest news on issues that are important to you and provide you with the opportunity to ask questions on issues affecting municipalities. [Register here.](#)

### Downtown Colorado Inc. Annual Conference: "In the Game"

April 9 - 12, 2019 in Aspen

Join DCI and downtown champions from around the region as we focus on harnessing national, state, and local resources to expand our toolkit and understanding of creating vibrant downtowns. Early Bird Registration available until Monday, January 28, 2019. [Register here.](#)

### Solutions for the Opioid 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, 2019**

The second annual summit will once again be held at the Silverthorne Pavilion on Thursday, May 2, 2019. Information and register [HERE](#).

### **Women in Entrepreneurship: Growth Hacking**

**May 2-3 in Vail**

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, an 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. [Register Here!](#)

### **Save the Date! 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](http://www.cml.org)

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## **Resources**

### **The 2020 Census at a Glance**

[Download informational flyer here.](#) The U.S. Constitution requires that each decade we take a count-of a census-of America's population. The 2020 Census goal is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place. The census provides vital information for you and your community: It determines how many representatives each state gets in Congress; Communities rely on census statistics to plan for a variety of resident needs including new roads, schools, and emergency services; Businesses use census data to help provide more local jobs and places to shop. Each year, the federal government distributes hundreds of billions of dollars to states and communities based on U.S. Census Bureau data. In 2020, new technology will be introduced by the U.S. Census Bureau to make it easier than ever to respond to the census. For the first time, you will be able to respond online, by phone, or by mail. We will use data that the public has already provided to cut down on household visits. And, we are building a more accurate address list and automating our field operations-all while keeping your information confidential and safe. Learn more about the Census [HERE](#).

### **USDA Rural Development Business Programs**

With the passing of the 2019 federal government budget, USDA Rural Development is fully funded for the remaining of the fiscal year. USDA has several business programs to help start up or grow businesses in our communities. Many small business owners do not know where to start with the funding process. One great resource is the [Small Business Development Center](#) (SBDC). The SBDC can provide help with starting, growing, and sustaining small businesses. They have a variety of online

resources and also provide consultation services to give small business owners a step up. Once a business has a plan, Rural Development may be able to help thru various funding sources. [Click here is learn more about USDA's Business Programs.](#)