



SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
02/11/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

PENDING APPLICATIONS

- OCRA WESTPORT WATER - R2
2025 AWARD
ANNOUNCEMENTS: FEB 2026
CONTACT: VICTORIA
- OCRA RYKERS RIDGE SEWER - R2
2025 AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:
FEB 2026 CONTACT: PATTY
- OCRA WALDON WATER - R2 2025
AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS: FEB
2026 CONTACT: KILEY



UPCOMING APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS:

Q1 PLANNING

- OCRA METAMORA UTILITY PLAN - Q1
PLANNING 2026
AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS: APRIL 2026
CONTACT: MARY
- OCRA MORRISTOWN UTILITY PLAN - Q1
PLANNING 2026
AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS: APRIL 2026
CONTACT: VICTORIA
- OCRA OSGOOD COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - Q1
PLANNING 2026
AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS: APRIL 2026
CONTACT: KILEY

ROUND 1 CONSTRUCTION

- OCRA VERSAILLES WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
WDW R1 2026
PROPOSAL DUE: MARCH 29
FULL APP DUE: JUNE 7
AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS: AUGUST 2026
CONTACT: MARY

AIM WEBINARS

MAR 3: [Utilizing Opportunity
Zones for Long-Term
Community Investments](#)

MAR 19: [Aim Legislative Recap](#)

OCRA 2026 Application Calendar

MARCH

March 1 - CDBG Planning/OOR
2026 Cycle 1: Application Deadline
March 29 - CDBG Construction
2026 Round 1: Proposals Due

APRIL

April 1 - Grant Administrator
Update from 10 - 11:30 a.m. ET

JUNE

June 7 - CDBG Construction 2026
Round 1: Application Deadline
June 11 - CDBG Planning/OOR
2026 Cycle 2: Opens

July 12 - CDBG Planning/OOR 2026
Cycle 2: Application Deadline

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 3 - CDBG Construction
2026 Round 2: Opens
Sept. 29 - Oct 2 - Preserving
Historic Places Conference -
Franklin
Sept. 30 - Grant Administrator
Update from 10 - 11:30 a.m. ET

OCTOBER

Oct. 1 - CDBG Planning/OOR
2026 Cycle 3 Opens
Oct. 4 - CDBG Construction
2026 Round 2: Proposals Due

NOVEMBER

Nov. 1 - CDBG Planning/OOR
2026 Cycle 3: Application
Deadline

DECEMBER

Dec. 13 - CDBG Construction
2026 Round 2: Application
Deadline



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Indiana Economic Development Corporation

🚀 Applications Open for the 2026 Community Collaboration Fund (CCF)!

The IEDC is excited to announce that applications for the 2026 Community Collaboration Fund are now open! CCF is designed to spark new collaborations between Indiana-based Entrepreneur Support Organizations (ESOs) to strengthen the state's entrepreneurial ecosystem and fill critical service gaps.

Eligible projects may focus on entrepreneur education, tech enablement, or acceleration, and awards range from \$5,000 to \$40,000.

To apply, organizations must provide a 25% match (15% cash / 10% in-kind) and propose a new or expanded initiative that directly supports Hoosier entrepreneurs.

📅 Application Window:

Opens: February 1, 2026

Closes: March 2, 2026 (11:59 PM ET)

📌 Eligible Applicants Include:

- Indiana-based nonprofits
 - Academic institutions
 - Native American tribes
- Local & regional governments
- Networks/associations (For-profit entities are not eligible.)

📌 Project Requirements:

- Must involve two or more Indiana ESOs with one lead ESO
 - Must be completed by June 30, 2027
- Must include a line-item budget, budget narrative, and letters of support
 - Must provide direct entrepreneur support
- Must be reimbursement-based with verifiable documentation

💡 Need help?

Questions can be directed to CCF@iedc.in.gov.

🔗 Learn more and start your application:

<https://lnkd.in/gWBBYTTx>



IEDC Power Up Event

Friday, February 27, 9-10:30

Columbus Regional Health

2400 East 17 St

Columbus, IN 47201

The Region 9 Workforce Investment Board has been asked by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) to convene local employers and partner agencies for a conversation about their new Power Up initiative. The IEDC wants to hear about promising recruitment and training practices in southeast Indiana, and explore how this program can better assist local employers. Columbus Regional Health will be providing an overview of their innovative nursing pipeline project and IEDC representatives will be on-hand for the discussion

Please RSVP to this invitation via amandag@workonesoutheast.org by Friday, Feb 13th.



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Arts & Culture Opportunities

Indiana Arts Commission accepting applications for Arts Project Support grant program

(INDIANAPOLIS) The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) and its Regional Arts Partners announced today the opening of applications for the Fiscal Year 2027 Spring Arts Project Support grant program.

Arts Project Support grants provide nonprofit organizations and public entities with funding to support a specific arts activity, such as a one-time event, a single production, an exhibition, an educational workshop, or a series of related arts activities such as art classes or training sessions. Applications are accepted twice per year, with organizations eligible to receive one grant award per fiscal year.

The purpose of the program is to provide broad access to arts opportunities throughout the state. Applicants may request up to \$4,000 to support their project, and there is no match requirement. Projects must occur between July 1, 2026 and June 30, 2027 to be eligible for FY27 Spring Arts Project Support.

"Arts Project Support grants provide Indiana communities with an opportunity to increase the quality of life and quality of place for local residents," said Miah Michaelsen, IAC Executive Director. "Arts and creativity are a community and economic development driver, and we are proud to support Hoosiers who are working to making Indiana a better place to live, work, study, and stay through the arts."

Applications for the Arts Project Support program are reviewed and scored by members of the public.

Reviewers play a significant role in application evaluation for public funding by reviewing, scoring, and providing comments on submitted applications. [Learn more about serving as a grant reviewer and submit an interest form.](#)

Applications for Arts Project Support are due March 5, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. eastern time through the IAC's [online grant system](#). [Learn more and access the guidelines.](#)

Media Contact:

Connie Brahm

Marketing and Communications Director
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Arts Commission Announces Creative Aging Summit (INDIANAPOLIS) The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC), in partnership with the UIndy Center for Aging & Community (UIndy CAC), is excited to announce the Lifelong Arts Indiana Creative Aging Summit on March 23, 2026 at the University of Indianapolis campus in Indianapolis, Indiana.

This free, one-day in-person learning opportunity will bring together aging service providers, libraries, communities and arts organizations, as well as artists and experts on creative aging around supporting the expansion of arts learning for older adults in Indiana. The convening will offer learning, networking, and resources to anyone interested in providing arts experiences to older adults using the Lifelong Arts Indiana model.

Lifelong Arts Indiana, a multi-year initiative of the IAC, is designed to bring evidence-based participatory arts programming to older adults across Indiana to improve health and wellbeing outcomes through best-practices trainings and funded residencies. Research on the programming revealed that the Lifelong Arts Indiana model improved the mental and physical health of older adults, created meaningful employment opportunities for artists, and created sustainable community partnerships.

"Lifelong Arts Indiana has been a multi-year effort from our agency and partners to improve health outcomes and reduce social isolation among older Hoosiers through art and creativity," said Miah Michaelsen, Executive Director of the Indiana Arts Commission. "We are grateful for the opportunity to share the impact and importance of this work and to help encourage its utilization across Indiana and beyond."

More information regarding the full summit agenda and speakers will be announced over the coming weeks and made available on the [IAC website](#). Seating is limited and all attendees must register in advance. [Learn more about the event and register by March 9, 2026.](#)



INDIANA ARTS
COMMISSION
MAKING THE ARTS HAPPEN



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Arts & Culture Opportunities

Great news—the opportunity we have all been waiting for is here. With the SEI READI Arts & Culture Plan now complete, the IEDC is preparing to award READI 2.0 Arts & Culture Initiative funding beginning in 2026.

Please join the statewide Kick-Off Meeting for an overview of program goals, eligibility, application requirements, and evaluation criteria. This will be a virtual event on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 3:00 pm.

Registration Link:

https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_ceobarqaQbaTuP1WWylvgA

We will be posting more information as it becomes available on the SEI READI website – southeastindiana.org.

More details and resources are available at IndianaREADI.com.

Thank you for your engagement and ongoing support of arts and culture in Southeastern Indiana.



BEAD Update



As you may know, Indiana's Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) awards have been approved by the federal government and all awardees have received next steps from the Indiana Broadband Office.

The IBO has requested required pre-execution documentation, including updated GIS files, before we can begin subgrant agreements within the next month. Remember, all information must be submitted to the IBO via

IndianaBroadband@iot.in.gov as soon as

possible. As we approach contract execution, internet service providers have submitted redlines, comments and revision requests to the IBO Subgrant Agreement. To ensure contracts are executed within the federally-mandated deadline, the window to submit is now closed. We appreciate your time and effort in sending these to our office. Also, you may have received an email from our IBO Permitting Liaison William Hollis regarding your submitted EHP/NEPA milestones. Please respond to him as soon as possible so we can make sure everything we need is accurate and updated before we sign subgrant agreements.

Coming Soon: The IBO is also excited to announce that an insurance expert will be joining the team to answer all questions regarding insurance, including your questions about the Certificate of Insurance, etc.

Reminder: Resources available for BEAD Subgrantees:

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and the IBO have a number of resources for subgrantees to prepare for BEAD Subgrant Agreements. NTIA resources include; BEAD FAQs, [NEPA resources](#), and more.



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DNR Water Stakeholder Input Workshops

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources is inviting stakeholders to participate in a series of water planning workshops across the state.

The purpose of the workshops is to collect stakeholder input, ideas, and information to help inform the development of a statewide water inventory and management plan under Governor Braun's Executive Order 25-63: Statewide water inventory and management plan.

Attendees will be updated on the progress of the effort. They will be asked for input on developing a regional water planning framework, enhancing Indiana's water monitoring networks, and creating an online water data and management platform.

Who should attend?

The types of stakeholders will vary by region, but representatives of the following groups are encouraged to attend and provide input:

- City/Town/County Officials
- Economic Development Groups
- Basin Commissions, Drainage Boards
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
 - Non-Government Organizations
- Academic and Research Institutions
 - Federal Agencies
- Water and Wastewater Utilities
 - Power Generation
- Industrial and Commercial Users
 - Agricultural Users
 - Domestic Users
- Fish and Wildlife Interests
 - Recreational Users

February 24, 1 - 4 p.m.
Clifty Inn at Clifty Falls SP, Madison, IN
RSVP for this event





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PCRD UPDATES

Road School Industry Awards

New this year, the Purdue Road School Transportation Conference & Expo is proud to launch our Road School Industry Awards program recognizing excellence, leadership, and innovation in public works and street operations throughout Indiana. In partnership with the American Public Works Association (APWA) Indiana Chapter and the Indiana Street Commissioners Association (ISCA), we invite agencies, consultants, and peers to submit nominations for outstanding projects and professionals.

Awards include APWA's Public Works Project of the Year (one award to be presented for projects under \$5 million, and another award to be presented for projects that were \$5 million or higher) and Public Works Leader of the Year, as well as ISCA's Project of the Year, Project of the Year (In-House), and Street Commissioner of the Year.

Click here ([Industry Awards/Road School Industry Awards.html](#)) for more details and instructions on how to submit your nomination.

Research and Policy Insights:

Indiana's Economic and Workforce
Regions: Educational Attainment
and Workforce
READI regions have become the official footprint
for state-level
regional development efforts. This report focuses
on eight variables
related to educational attainment and workforce.

Webinars & Trainings

Visit Engagement's Site

- R-STEP Solar on Your Farm: Key Insights Before You Sign
- [Tools for Effective Facilitation \(formerly Facilitative Leadership\)](#)
- [Beginner Farmer Program](#)
- [Small Business Success Workshop Series](#)
- [Digital Skills Lessons](#)





HOOSIERS BY THE NUMBERS

Your premier source for labor market information for Indiana.

LABOR MARKET REVIEW





DWD
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT



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We have received our purchase order (PO) from INDOT and will be beginning traffic counts in Franklin and Decatur Counties. In addition, INDOT has authorized 10 courtesy counts per county, with the exception of counties covered by a Metropolitan Planning Organization (Dearborn and Shelby).

The Special Count Program—covering both state-owned and non-state-owned roads—is currently underway in all counties except Shelby. This program operates under a three-year contract that runs through December 2026.

Traffic count data for your area is available on the INDOT website at <http://indot.ms2soft.com>. To access the data, enter the portal and select TCDS, where counts can be searched by county, roadway, or location ID. Staff assistance is available if you need help navigating the system.

As part of our ongoing coordination with INDOT, we encourage you to share any traffic-related information regarding local or state coordination, active transportation needs, or safety concerns. This information can be submitted to INDOT during our Annual Planning Meeting to help inform future planning efforts.

SICPDC Update

Homebuyer Program

622 Marmot Lane Aurora, IN



Homebuyer

Moore's Hill Lot



November 2025

January 2026



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Resources

LTAP DIRECTORY:

<https://inltaptraining.azurewebsites.net/public/directory.html>

PURDUE CENTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

<https://pcrd.purdue.edu/>

STATS INDIANA: <https://www.stats.indiana.edu/>

STATS AMERICA: <https://www.statsamerica.org/du/>

INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION: <https://www.in.gov/arts/programs-and-services/funding/>

INDIANA BROADBAND OFFICE: <https://www.in.gov/indianabroadband/du/>

PROSPERITY INDIANA: <https://www.prosperityindiana.org/>

INDIANA OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY: <https://www.in.gov/iot/local-government-services/>

SIRPC BROADBAND CLEARINGHOUSE: <https://broadband.sirpc.org/>

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