



September 2024 Newsletter

September Webinar:

Please join us for the MI Funding Hub webinar on **September 26, 2024**. We will have guest speaker **Sarah Lucas** from the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity's **Office of Rural Prosperity** and speakers from the **Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**. Our guests will provide insight on available funding opportunities through their offices.

[Register for the September webinar.](#)

What do you think of MI Funding Hub?

Our goal is to support municipalities in their search for federal and state funding by providing a searchable grants database and accessible technical assistance. Help us help you and let us know what has worked and what you would like to see from this program. Please provide your feedback [in this survey](#).

Grant Basics: Assembling a Grant Team

When it comes to crafting a winning proposal, having a strong grant writing team is your key success. Writing grants in a silo isn't any fun, and it doesn't help you put your best foot forward. So, who needs to be on your roster?

You need a grant writer: someone who's familiar with grant application requirements and deftly weaving together a compelling narrative to make your project shine. Your finance or budget director ensures that your budget is precise, realistic, and includes all those additional allowable expenses like overhead and admin, and accurately reflects your FTE salary and benefit costs. You need them to convince funders that you're not just dreaming big, but that you're doing so with financial savvy.

And then there's the program staff, the unsung heroes who provide the nitty-gritty details and the on-the-ground perspective that transforms your proposal from a nice idea into a fully fleshed-out plan ready to execute when your proposal is awarded. They are the ones responsible for implementing the programs you're applying for, and they like nothing less than grant funds dropped in their lap without input on how to spend them.

Leadership, meanwhile, is the captain of this grant-writing ship, steering it with vision. They make sure everyone's on the same page and that the proposal aligns with your municipality's strategic, master, or economic development plan (we know there's lots of plans).



Without this dynamic group, your grant application won't be as impactful as it could be. So, gather your team, think carefully about who can support your vision, and make sure everyone's playing to their strengths. Your chances of success are much higher when your proposals are backed by a top-notch team.

Featured Grant Opportunities

[Nonpoint Source Watershed Planning Request for Proposals](#)

Deadline: September 11, 2024

Awards: Up to \$244,500

"The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) is requesting proposals to develop new or update existing watershed management plans. Under this RFP, it is anticipated that up to \$244,500 in federal Clean Water Act section 604(b) funding will be available for watershed planning projects. We strongly suggest that applicants consult with Nonpoint Source (NPS) staff as they work with partners and stakeholders to develop potential projects."

[Transportation Alternatives Program](#)

Deadline: October 2, 2024

Awards: \$200,000+

"The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a competitive grant program that uses federal transportation funds designated by Congress for specific activities that enhance the intermodal transportation system and provide safe alternative transportation options."

[Community Forestry Grants](#)

Deadline: September 20, 2024

Awards: Up to \$50,000

"To provide funds for projects that address the urban forestry needs of municipal governments, schools, nonprofit organizations and volunteer groups throughout Michigan. These projects may include: tree inventories, management plans, tree planting, educational workshops, training materials, and Arbor Day activities."

Other Active Opportunities

[Renewables Ready Communities Award](#)

[Community Roots Program](#)

[Assets for Thriving Communities](#)



Justice40 Capacity Building Cohort

To better support Justice40 communities around the state of Michigan, MI Funding Hub will be restructuring the Justice40 Capacity Building cohorts. Instead of a three-session crash course, we will provide tools and resources directly on our website and focus on offering technical assistance. If you attended any of our sessions this summer, we encourage you to [provide your feedback](#) to help improve our program offerings. Feel free to direct any questions to helpdesk@mifundinghub.org.

Events and Resources

Local Infrastructure Hub: Grant Application Bootcamp

Deadline: Fall 2024

Description: “The National Infrastructure Hub is offering five grant ‘bootcamps’ for upcoming federal grant programs this fall: Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities; Flood Mitigation Assistance Program; Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE); IRA Elective Pay; and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. Through these bootcamps, small and mid-sized municipalities can receive an expert suite of supports to develop strong, competitive grant applications to these programs through pro-bono technical training and grant-writing assistance. [Click here to learn more and register for the bootcamps.](#)”

2024 Michigan Climate Summit

Date: September 26, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Description: “The goals of this year's gathering include depicting the interlocking crises of democracy and climate justice, educating the populace and empowering lifelong climate voters, and departing with tangible ways to perform our civic duty to our communities.” [Purchase tickets on the Michigan Climate Action Network's website.](#)

University of Michigan School for Environment & Sustainability (UM-SEAS): Project Proposals

Deadline for Intent to Submit Survey: Sunday, September 8, 2024

Description: If you have an idea for a sustainability-centered research project that could be advanced by an interdisciplinary team of around five graduate students, you are encouraged to propose a SEAS Master's Project. [Visit this SEAS website](#) for an overview of the proposal process, expectations and FAQs. You can see and review [past project examples here](#).

[Additional information on upcoming or past events can be found here.](#)