U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

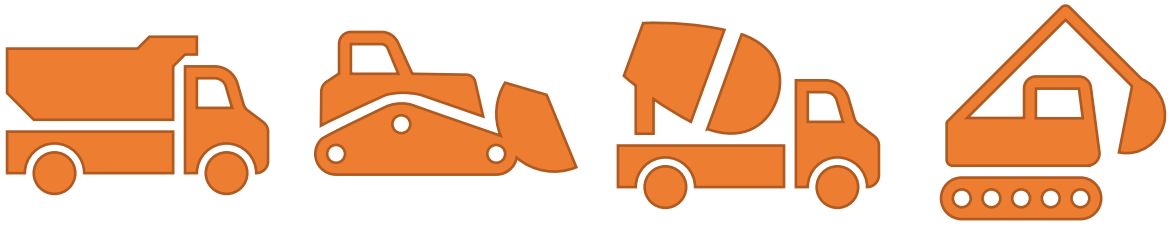
IMPACT AID PROGRAM

Discretionary Construction Grants

FY 2023 Competition

Agenda

- Overview/Purpose
- Eligibility/Deadline
- Appropriation
- Funding
- Build America Buy America Act(BABAA)
- Application Cycle & Processes
- Tips & Resources
- Q&A



Program Purpose

- The Impact Aid Discretionary Construction Grant Program provides grants for emergency repairs and modernization of school facilities to certain local educational agencies (LEAs) that receive Impact Aid formula funds.
- Emergency grants are for projects that address urgent health and safety concerns in educational facilities.

34 CFR 222.170

Program Eligibility

- High concentration of federally connected students
- Free public education
- No or minimal capacity to bond
- Low assessed value per pupil
- Facility with an emergency condition

34 CFR 222.171

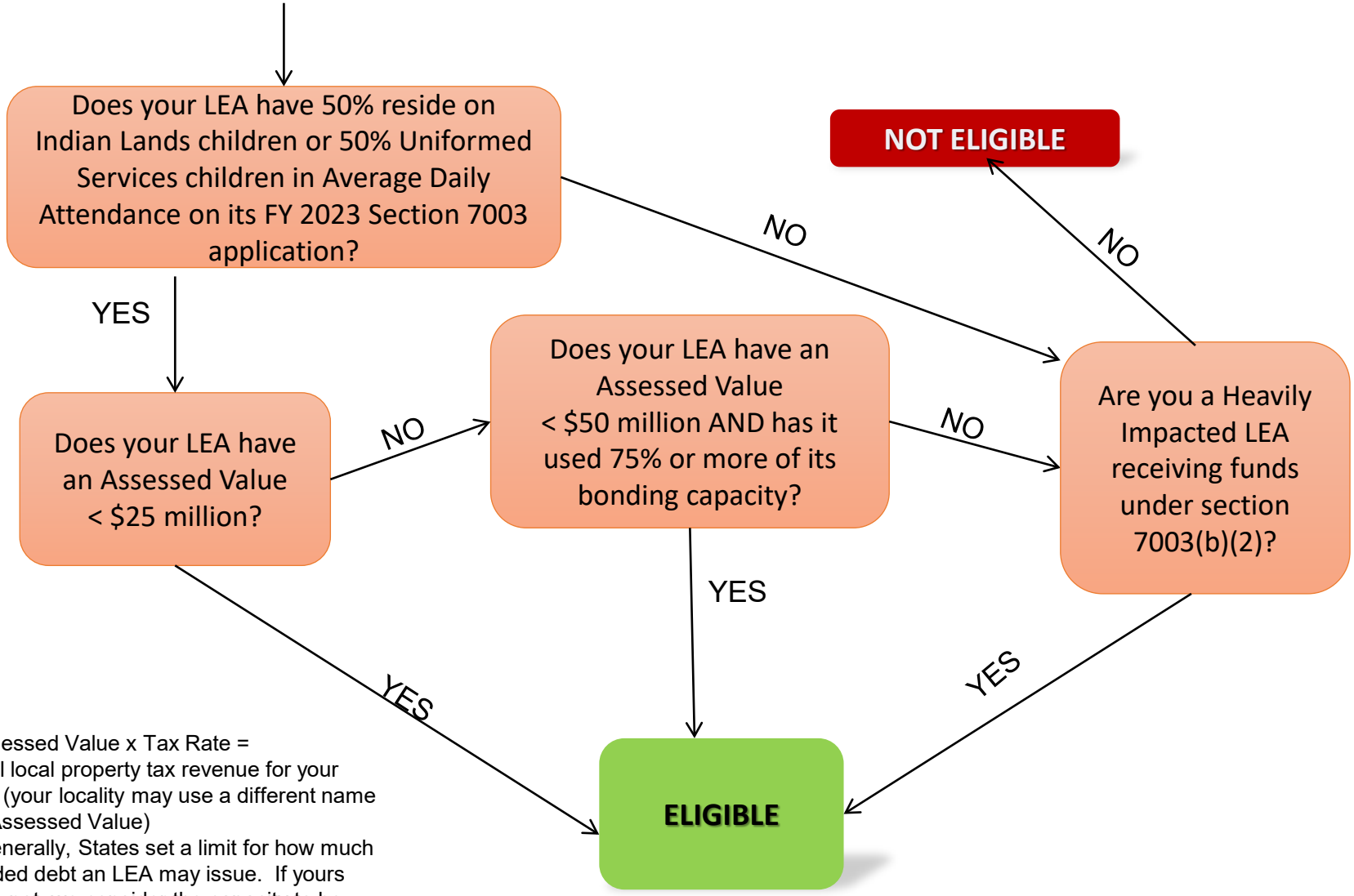
Application Deadline:

May 15, 2023

11:59:59 PM

Eastern Time

Is my LEA eligible to remediate a facility emergency under Priority One?



*Assessed Value x Tax Rate = Total local property tax revenue for your LEA (your locality may use a different name for Assessed Value)

**Generally, States set a limit for how much bonded debt an LEA may issue. If yours does not, we consider the capacity to be 10% of the LEA's Assessed Value.

34 CFR 222.177

FAQ

What is the total funding available?

$18.4 million

Project Funding - Amount

For LEAs with an assessed value over $25 million, grant funds **cannot exceed**:

- 50% of total project cost
- $4 million over 4 years

For all LEAs, grant funds **cannot exceed** the difference between the cost of the project and the amount the LEA has available from other sources.

34 CFR 222.191, 222.192, 222.193

Project Funding - Purpose

- Repair, renovate, or alter a school facility to ensure the health and safety of students and personnel
- Replacement of a school facility where the LEA holds title and it would be more cost-effective to replace than to repair
- Provide accessibility for persons with disabilities as part of a larger project

34 CFR 222.172

Grant Funds May Not Be Used For…

- Improvements to school grounds
  - Environmental remediation
  - Traffic remediation
  - Landscaping
- Stadiums
- Teacher housing
- Acquisition of real property
- Maintenance costs

34 CFR 222.173

Build America Buy America ACT (BABAA)

- President Biden signed into law the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) on November 15, 2021. A component of the IIJA is the Build America Buy America Act (BABAA).
- It applies to formula and discretionary infrastructure grant programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education (the Department). BABAA requirements apply to new, non-competing continuation, or supplemental awards obligated under these programs on or after October 1, 2022.

Build America Buy America ACT (BABAA)

- This program is subject to the Build America, Buy America Act (Pub. L. 117-58) domestic sourcing requirements. Accordingly, grantees and their contractors may not use their grant funds for infrastructure projects or activities unless—
  - (a) All iron and steel used in the infrastructure project or activity are produced in the United States;
  - (b) All manufactured products used in the infrastructure project or activity are produced in the United States; and
  - (c) All construction materials are manufactured in the United States.
- For more information, see the Department's Build America Buy America Waiver website at: https://www2.ed.gov/policy/fund/guid/buy-america/index.html. Grantees may request a waiver for these requirements, but **do not assume a waiver request will be granted when creating your cost estimate**.

BABAA What does "construction materials" mean?

- Non-ferrous metals, such as aluminum, copper, and lead used in a project
- Plastic and polymer-based products, including polyvinylchloride, composite building materials, and polymers used in fiber optic cables
- Prefabricated windows brought to a site for incorporation into a building
- Glass, including optic glass
- Lumber
- Drywall

Construction materials do not include any item that is a "manufactured product"; is primarily iron or steel; or includes cement and cementitious materials, aggregates such as stone, sand or gravel, or aggregate binding agents or additives.

FAQs.pdf (ed.gov)

Application Preparation

- Complete building assessment
- Get an independent certification
- Carefully consider the project's budget and timeframe (build in flexibilities for budget increases and unforeseen circumstances)
- BABAA Implementation

34 CFR 222.184

Grants.Gov User Registration

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GRANTS.GOV 〉 Applicants 〉 *How to Apply for Grants*

HOW TO APPLY FOR GRANTS

GRANT APPLICATIONS
- » How to Apply for Grants
- » Track My Application

APPLICANT RESOURCES
- » Workspace Overview
- » Applicant Eligibility
- » Applicant Registration
- » Applicant Training
- » Applicant FAQs
- » Adobe Software Compatibility
- » Submitting UTF-8 Special Characters
- » Encountering Error Messages

How to Apply for Grants: Getting Started

Learn
Go to the Grants Learning Center for an overview of grants.

Check
Make sure you are eligible before applying.

Search
Find federal grants that align with your work.

Register
Sign up with Grants.gov to apply using Workspace.

Apply
Complete and submit your application using Workspace.

Track
Enter your Grants.gov tracking number(s) for submission status.

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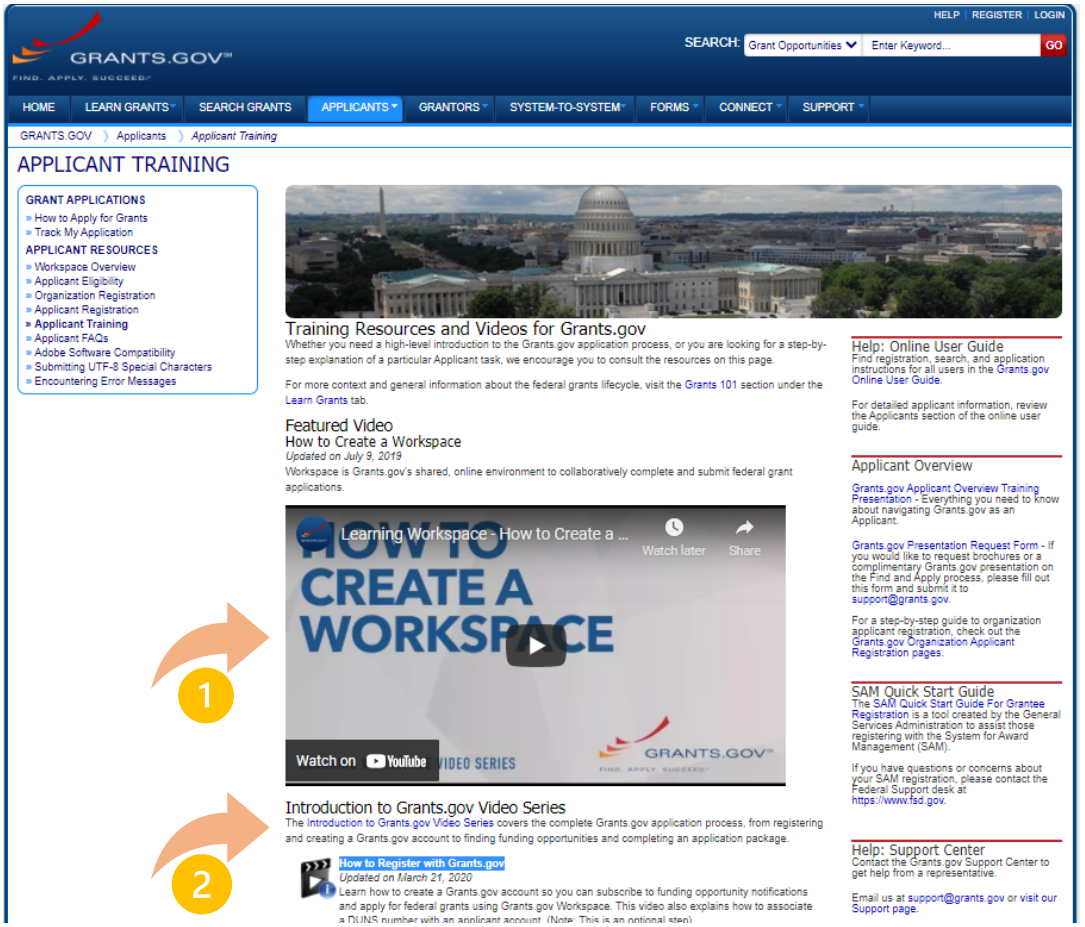
Frequently Asked Questions

Recommended Training Videos

- How to Create a Workspace on Grants.gov
- How to Register with Grants.gov



Additional Grants.gov Resources

- YouTube Training & Webinar Videos: https://www.youtube.com/user/GrantsGovUS/featured
- Grants Learning Center: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/learn-grants.html
- FAQs: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-faqs.html
- Grants.gov Self-Service Web Portal: https://grants-portal.psc.gov

Grants.gov Tips

- You must upload a "FLATTENED" PDF (i.e. pdf that is a "printed image") - Use compatible PDF software (Adobe Reader)
- Contact Grants Support Center if you need help
  - https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html
  - Phone: 1-800-518-4726 (toll-free)
- Contact Impact Aid Staff with Program Information or Questions @ 202-260-3858 or Impactaid.ed.gov

Application and Components

- **Part 1:** Preliminary Documents
  - Application for Federal Assistance (form SF 424)
  - ED Supplemental Information for SF 424
  - Assurances for Construction Programs (SF-424D)
- **Part 2:** Other Attachment: Additional Information
  - Information Required for the Impact Aid Program
  - Program Assurances and Certifications
- **Part 3:** Project Narrative Attachment
- **Part 4:** Construction Program Cost Estimate Table
- **Part 5:** Independent Certification Form
- **Part 6:** Annual Financial Reports
- **Part 7:** Intergovernmental Review (Executive Order 12372)

https://impactaid.ed.gov/resources/

34 CFR 222.184
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Part 1: Preliminary Documents

Application for Federal Assistance

Preliminary Documents in Grants.gov:

Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424)

ED Supplemental Information (SF 424)

Assurances for Construction Programs (SF-424D)

Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (Form SF 424) first. (including name, address, e-mail address and organization's UEI number).
http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/forms/sample/SF424_2_1-V2.1.pdf

- **When applying electronically via Grants.gov, you will need to ensure that the organization UEI number you enter on your application is the same as the UEI number your organization used when it registered with the System for Award Management.**

- Please do not attach any narratives, supporting files, or application components to the Standard Form (SF 424)

Part 2: Other Attachments: Additional Information

- **Documents hosted on the Impact Aid Resources page (These documents should be downloaded from the Impact Aid website, completed, and uploaded in Grants.gov)**

- **Other Attachment: Additional Information**
  - Additional Information Form
  - Program Assurances and Certifications

https://impactaid.ed.gov/resources/

Part 3: Project Narrative Attachment

🚧 Application Narrative!!!

- A detailed description of the nature and scope of the emergency condition;
- The age and condition of the facility;
- Which mechanical systems are impacted;
- How much of the building is involved;
- The importance of the affected area to the instructional program;
- The population affected (students, teachers, administrators, etc.);

https://impactaid.ed.gov/resources/

Part 3: Project Narrative Attachment Cont.

- Application Narrative and Justification for Rebuilding (if proposing complete building replacement)
  - The proportion of the building occupants affected by the condition;
  - How the emergency condition adversely affects the health, safety and well-being of the occupants of the school facility;
  - Any actions the LEA has taken to respond to the emergency condition, and why the applicant has been unable to resolve the condition;
  - How the proposed project will address to the emergency condition and the anticipated effect on the useful life of the facility;
  - The potential effects of delaying the project, including increased future costs;
  - A timeline of major activities such as design, contract solicitation and award, and construction begin and end dates; and
  - Other resources available to the LEA that can be used for this project. Include anticipated receipts such as state construction grants, which the LEA has not actually yet received. This information, along with information contained in the LEA's annual financial reports, will be used to evaluate the amount of grant funding.

https://impactaid.ed.gov/resources/

Part 4: Construction Program Cost Estimate Table!!!

- The data entered on this table should be based on a recent professional estimate. **The estimates should take into consideration the delay between the application for funds and actual construction.** Consider that awards will not be made until 6 to 9 months after the application deadline.
- This program is subject to the Build America, Buy America Act (Pub. L. 117-58) domestic sourcing requirements.
  - Requirements can be waived after award, but don't assume a **waiver** will be granted.

https://impactaid.ed.gov/resources/

Part 5: Independent Certification Form

- Applicants must submit a signed statement from an appropriate certifying official
- The certifying official must either submit a statement on official letterhead or use the sample form located on our website here: **Independent Certification Form**
- The signed certification must be uploaded in Grants.gov in a “flattened” (non-fillable, non-editable) PDF format on or before the application deadline. If the **signed** certification is not received by the application deadline, the application may be deemed ineligible.

https://impactaid.ed.gov/resources/

Part 6: Annual Financial Report

- The Department needs the applicant's Annual Financial Reports (AFRs) from the three most recent fiscal years to verify the amount of available local funds that could be used for this project.

34 CFR 222.192

https://impactaid.ed.gov/resources/

Part 7: Intergovernmental Review (Executive Order 12372)

- The objectives of the Executive order is to strengthen federalism--or the distribution of responsibility between localities, States, and the Federal government--by fostering intergovernmental partnerships. If this applies to your state you must comply by submitting a copy of your application to your State Educational Agency.

https://impactaid.ed.gov/resources/

Application Tips

- Only submit one application per LEA/one school facility per application
- Do not submit pictures/maps/diagrams because they will not be reviewed or scored
- Verify Historic Preservation eligibility and requirements
- Feasibility study will be required for new construction proposals
- **You MUST have Adobe Reader installed. Click for more information on Adobe Reader Compatibility.**

Application Cycle/Timeline

03/15/23- 05/15/23 Grants.gov Application Submission

→ Impact Aid Program Review for Eligibility

→ Subjective and Objective Reviews

↓

Fall 2023– Information Requests

→ **Fall 2023** – Recommended awards are going through Departmental Clearance

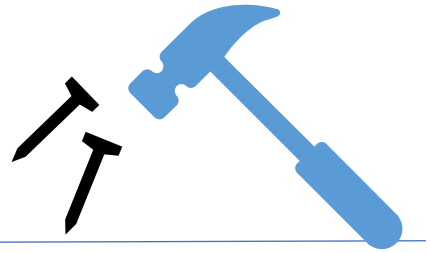
→ **Winter 2023 -** Awards (projected)

Scoring (Subjective)

Review panels of school facilities experts

- **Project Need -** Severity of the school facility problem to be addressed by the proposed project (30 points)
- **Project Urgency -** Risk to occupants if the facility condition is not addressed as soon as possible (28 points)

Scoring (Objective)



Effects of Federal Presence

(30 points maximum)

- Percentage of federally connected children in the LEA (10 points)
- Percentage of federally connected children in the facility (10 points)
- Percentage of non-taxable Federal property in the applicant district (10 points)

Ability to Respond or Pay

(12 points maximum)

- Percent of bonding capacity used (4 points if 75% or greater, 3 points if 50% or greater, etc.)
- Assessed value of real property per student (4 points if in the lowest quartile in the State, 1 point if in highest quartile, etc.)
- Total tax rate for capital or school purposes (4 points if in the highest quartile in the State, 1 point if in lowest quartile, etc.)

IAP Construction Grant Resources

- **Program Webpage**
  https://impactaid.ed.gov/resources/
  - Notice Inviting Applications
  - Application Instructions (PDF)
  - Application Forms
    - Additional Information (PDF)
    - Independent Certification (PDF)
    - Cost Estimate/Budget Table (MS Excel)
- **Education Facilities Clearinghouse**
  - www.efc.gwu.edu
- **The Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA)**

Questions? Contact us.

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