

U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC)
National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
2026 Congressionally Identified Construction Grant Program
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
2026-NIST-CICGP-01

Funding Opportunity Description: NIST is seeking applications from Congressionally identified entities for extramural construction projects, to be funded by NIST, in accordance with H.R. 6938, the "Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026," Public Law 119-74 (January 23, 2026).

Announcement Type: Initial.

Funding Instrument: Grants.

Assistance Listing (CFDA Number): 11.071, 2026 Congressionally Identified Construction Grants

Award Project Period: Projects awarded under this NOFO are generally anticipated to have a period of performance of no longer than 36 months. Recipient construction schedules for all phases of the project, *i.e.*, plan, design, procurement, construction, occupancy, etc., are to be provided in the application. No project may exceed a five-year period of performance, except in exigent circumstances where a longer period of performance is approved in writing by the NIST Grants Officer.

Goals & Objectives: Projects funded pursuant to this NOFO shall be consistent with the proposal submitted to Congressional sponsoring offices and must adhere to the project goals and objectives as submitted to NIST. In general, projects will expand and improve upon the scientific, technological, and educational capacity of the United States.

Eligible Applicants: This NOFO is for a non-competitive award to support “Community Projects Funding” identified by Congress and listed in the Joint Explanatory Statement accompanying Public Law 119-74. The only eligible applicants for this NOFO are the entities identified below in Section IV. Applicant Projects.

Funding Amount: Total available funding for this program is \$255,318,030. Each award is limited to the amount listed in the Applicant Projects section of this NOFO. The amount listed includes a 1% reduction from the appropriated amount to account for NIST expenses in administering the award.

Cost Share/Matching Requirements: Non-federal cost share is not required.

Submission Date: Applications must be submitted electronically via Grants.gov as soon as practicable, with a submission deadline of 11:59 PM (Eastern), May 11, 2026. Please note that the NOFO will be active on Grants.gov only until May 11, 2026, unless the application deadline for this program is extended by NIST through an amendment to this NOFO. Complete applications will generally be processed in the order in which they are received. NIST anticipates review and processing of each complete application on or before October 2026.

Award Date: NIST anticipates the earliest start date for an award issued under this NOFO to be September 2026.

Review and Selection Process: Nondiscretionary awards with review for application accuracy, completeness, technical soundness and merit.

How to Apply: Applications must be submitted using [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov). Paper applications will not be accepted.

Agency Contacts:

Programmatic and Technical Questions:

Robert Slocum, PE
Construction Grants Program Manager
Email: robert.slocum@nist.gov with “2026-NIST-CICGP-01” in the subject line.
Phone: 240-527-1927

Grant Rules and Regulations:

Dean Iwasaki
Grants Officer
Email: dean.iwasaki@nist.gov with “2026-NIST-CICGP-01” in the subject line.

Technical Assistance with Grants.gov Submissions

[grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)
Phone: 800-518-4726
Email: support@grants.gov

I. Required Forms and Documentation:

The following documents are required to process your application:

- 1) SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance.**
- 2) SF-424C, Budget Information for Construction Programs.**
- 3) SF-424D, Assurances for Construction Programs.**
- 4) Form CD-511, Certification Regarding Lobbying.**
- 5) SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities.** Form should only be submitted if the applicant is reporting lobbying activities.
- 6) Project Narrative.** Summarize the proposed project with sufficient background information for NIST to understand the scope and purpose of the project. There are no page limits, spacing, or font size requirements for the Project Narrative. The Project Narrative must contain the information outlined below.
 - A. Impact:**
Provide a project impact statement in support of the project. In a paragraph or more for each of the following, identify: (i) purpose; (ii) activities to be performed; (iii) expected outcomes; (iv) intended beneficiaries; and (v) any other funding participants or subrecipients.
 - B. Summary:**
Describe the project, to include: (i) existing building space in square footage (sf); (ii) new or renovated building space in sf; (iii) the use or occupancy type of each space; (iv) site location and size in sf or acres; and (v) any (non-building essential) equipment under the award.
 - C. Documents:**
Provide a brief narrative of the planned and/or completed steps, e.g., planning, land acquisition, design, construction. Provide available studies, permits, images, schematics, and design drawings.

- D. Construction Constraints: Describe any design or construction constraints for the proposed project, to include existing conditions, e.g., utility, road, and pre-existing building infrastructure.

- E. Construction Procurement:
Explain how the project will be procured, e.g., traditional design/bid/build, design/build, construction manager, or other. Identify if state procurement standards will be met or otherwise.

- F. Other Project Support, if Applicable:
For projects that include other Federal agency support, such as grant funding, partnerships, or services provided by another Federal agency other than NIST, identify the Federal agency(s) and describe the type of support being provided.

- G. Schedule:
Provide a detailed timeline that identifies the project milestones including planning, funding, design, construction, and occupancy.

7) Historic Information. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires that Federal agencies consider the effects of undertakings with Federal funds on historic or eligible historic properties. The Recipient is required to identify any effects the award may have on properties included on or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Historic information will inform NIST in determining the appropriate level of historic review. Absence of the appropriate historic information will affect the application review process and award schedule. Disturbance, demolition, renovation, or construction related to Federal funding prior to award and clearance is prohibited. Any property under the following criteria is relevant and required to be addressed in the historic information:

- A. Any property forty-five or more years of age to be affected by the project; any registered historic property to be affected by the project; any registered historic property within the viewshed of the project; any property within a historic district to be affected by the project; any property noted to be historically or architecturally significant in any study or article of public interest or State Historic Preservation Office and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Office; and

- B. A map of any historic district(s) or registered historic property affected by, associated with, adjacent to or within the viewshed of the project.

- 8) Budget Narrative and Justification.** There is no set format for the Budget Narrative and Justification, however the written justification must include the necessity and the basis for all costs. Costs should be placed under the applicable budget categories identified in the SF-424C, as listed below. Proposed funding levels must be consistent with the project scope, only allowable costs should be included in the budget, and all funds should be in whole dollars (no cents).

Information on cost allowability is available in the [Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards](#), which apply to awards in this program. The cost categories for this program are as follows:

- A. Administrative and legal expenses;
- B. Land, structures, rights-of-way, appraisals, etc.;
- C. Relocation expenses and payments;
- D. Architectural and engineering fees;
- E. Other architectural and engineering fees;
- F. Project inspection fees;
- G. Site work;
- H. Demolition and removal;
- I. Construction;
- J. Equipment;
- K. Miscellaneous;
- L. Contingencies; and
- M. Project (program) income.

An explanation of each cost category is available in the SF-424C Form Instructions in the [SF-424 Family Forms Repository](#) on Grants.gov.

- 9) Indirect Cost Rate Agreement.** If indirect costs are included in the proposed budget, provide a copy of the approved negotiated agreement. Alternatively, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.414(f), applicants that do not have a current negotiated (including provisional) indirect cost rate (except for those non-Federal entities described in appendix VII, paragraph D.1.b. of 2 CFR Part 200) may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 15 percent of modified total direct costs (MTDC). Applicants proposing the 15 percent de minimis rate should note this election in the budget narrative and justification.

Attachment of Required Documents: Items I.1) through I.4) above are part of the standard application package in Grants.gov and can be completed through the

download application process. Items I.5) through I.9) should be attached to field 15 of the SF-424 form by clicking on “Add Attachments”. Following these directions will create zip files which permit transmittal of the documents electronically via Grants.gov.

II. **Award Administration Information:**

- 1) **Application Review and Award Processing.** The NIST Construction Grants Program Office will conduct an initial screening of each application for completeness and responsiveness to this NOFO. Applications that pass the initial screening will be reviewed by at least one technically qualified, objective reviewer to evaluate the (i) technical soundness and (ii) merits of the application in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 8.G. of the Department of Commerce Federal Financial Assistance Manual (Interim Change 1 dated March 31, 2025). The review will be provided to the Selecting Official for further consideration. The Selecting Official will prepare a final award recommendation for the NIST Grants Officer. The award decisions by the NIST Grants Officer are final.
- 2) **Award Notices.** The Notice of Award (NoA), signed by a NIST Grants Officer, is the official award notice. This notification will be issued electronically to the Authorized Representative of the Applicant.
- 3) **Administrative and National Policy Requirements.**
 - A. **Pre-Award Notice.** The DOC Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements contained in the Federal Register notice of December 30, 2014 ([79 FR 78390](#)), are applicable to this NOFO.
 - B. **Uniform Administrative Requirements.** Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements at 2 C.F.R. 200, implemented by the DOC at [2 C.F.R. 1327.101](#), apply to awards in this program.
 - C. **Terms and Conditions**
 - i. **DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions.** The [DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions](#) (September 22, 2025) will apply to each award in this program.
 - ii. **NIST Standard Terms and Conditions for Construction Projects.** The NIST Standard Terms and Conditions for Extramural Construction Projects (Construction ST&Cs), dated March 17, 2026, as may be periodically updated, will apply to each award issued pursuant to this program and may be accessed at [NIST Standard Terms and Conditions for Construction Projects](#).

iii. **Executive Order 14173: Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity.**

1. This award term implements Executive Order 14173, 90 FR 8633 (Jan. 21, 2025). By accepting a U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) financial assistance Award or Award Amendment (as the case may be) and expending federal funding thereunder, the recipient:
 - a. Agrees that compliance in all respects with all applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws is material to the government's payment decisions for purposes of section 3729(b)(4) of Title 31 United States Code;
 - b. Certifies to the Department that it does not operate any programs promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion that violate any applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws; and
 - c. Further certifies to the Department that it does not participate in any illegal preferences, mandates, policies, programs, activities, guidance, regulations, enforcement actions, consent orders, and requirements, that violate any applicable federal anti-discrimination laws.
2. **Affirmative Duty to Monitor for and to Report Potential Inconsistencies:** The recipient must actively monitor its administration of an award to ensure that its activities do not violate the requirements of such award. At any time during the period of performance of this award, if the recipient believes that any of the activities in its approved scope of work may be inconsistent with the policies as outlined above, the recipient has an affirmative duty to immediately stop work on those potentially inconsistent activities and immediately contact the Grants Officer named in the Notice of Award (NoA) to determine whether the potentially inconsistent activities may proceed under this award. The performance of activities that violate or are otherwise inconsistent with requirements as outlined above will result in appropriate enforcement action pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.339, including the disallowance of costs and possible termination of a portion or all of this award.

D. Limitation of Liability and Enforcement Actions. In no event will NIST or DOC be responsible for application preparation costs. Publication of this announcement does not obligate NIST to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds. NIST reserves the right to halt activity under the award through enforcement procedures under 2 C.F.R. 200.339-.341, Remedies for Non-compliance, if the recipient is not fulfilling the requirements of the project as outlined in the grant award. Non-compliance with a federally

approved project may result in termination of the award as described in 2 C.F.R. 200.339.

- E. **Supporting Documentation.** Prior to award or following the issuance of an award, NIST may require recipients to provide draft copies of sub-tier agreements, including subawards and contracts, as well as subrecipient performance monitoring plans.
- 4) **Audit requirements.** The [DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions](#), Section D.01, and 2 CFR part 200 subpart F, adopted by the DOC through 2 CFR § 1327.101, require any non-federal entity (i.e., including non-profit institutions of higher education and non-profit organizations) that expends federal awards of \$1,000,000 or more in the recipient's fiscal year to conduct a single or program specific audit in accordance with the requirements set out in the subpart. Additionally, unless otherwise specified in the terms and conditions of the award, entities that are not subject to Subpart F of 2 CFR part 200 (e.g., for-profit commercial entities) that expend \$1,000,000 or more in DOC funds during their fiscal year must submit to the grants officer either: (i) a financial related audit of each DOC award or subaward in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards; or (ii) a project specific audit for each award or subaward in accordance with the requirements contained in 2 CFR § 200.507. Applicants are reminded that NIST, the DOC Office of Inspector General, or another authorized federal agency may conduct an audit of an award at any time.
- 5) **Reporting Requirements.** The following reporting requirements described in Sections A.01, Reporting Requirements, of the [DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions](#) apply to awards in this program:
- A. **Financial Reports.** Each award recipient will be required to submit an SF-425, Federal Financial Report, on a quarterly basis for the periods ending March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 of each year. Reports will be due within 30 calendar days after the end of the reporting period. A final financial report is due within 120 calendar days after the end of the project period.
- B. **Performance (Technical) Reports.** Each award recipient will be required to submit a performance (technical) report on a quarterly basis for the periods ending March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 of each year. Reports will be due within 30 calendar days after the end of the reporting period. Technical progress reports shall contain information as prescribed in [2 C.F.R. § 200.329](#) and [DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions](#), Section A.01. A final performance (technical) report is due within 120 calendar days after the end of the project period.
- C. **Property Reports.** From time to time, and in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Requirements and other terms and conditions governing the award, the recipient may need to submit property reports.

- D. **Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters.** In accordance with section 872 of Public Law 110-417 (as amended; see 41 U.S.C. 2313), if the total value of a recipient's currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of an award made under this NOFO, then the recipient shall be subject to the requirements specified in [Appendix XII to 2 C.F.R. Part 200](#) for maintaining the currency of information relating to certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings involving the recipient that is reported in SAM.gov.
- E. **Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006.** In accordance with 2 C.F.R. Part 170, all recipients of a federal award made on or after October 1, 2010, are required to comply with reporting requirements under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law No. 109-282). In general, all recipients are responsible for reporting sub-awards of \$30,000 or more. In addition, recipients that meet certain criteria are responsible for reporting executive compensation. Applicants must ensure they have the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the reporting requirements should they receive funding. Also see the [Federal Register notice](#) published September 14, 2010, at 75 FR 55663.

III. **Other Information:**

- 1) **Allowable Costs.** Funds awarded cannot necessarily pay for all the costs that the recipient might incur while carrying out an award. Generally, costs that are allowed include salaries, equipment, supplies, contractual, and other (see *also* Section I.9) if this NOFO), if these are allowable under the award. Allowable costs are determined by reference to the Cost Principles set forth in Subpart E of 2 C.F.R. Part 200, adopted by the DOC pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 1327.101. All cost reimbursement subawards (e.g., subgrants, subcontracts) are subject to those federal cost principles applicable to the particular type of organization concerned. The recipient may request approval of pre-award costs; however, all costs incurred before the Federal awarding agency makes the Federal award are at the recipient's risk.
- 2) **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).** In the event that an application contains information or data that you do not want disclosed prior to award for purposes other than the evaluation of the application, mark each page containing such information or data with the words "Privileged, Confidential, Commercial, or Financial Information - Limited Use" at the top of the page to assist NIST in making disclosure determinations. DOC regulations implementing the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C 552, are found at 15 C.F.R. Part 4, Public Information, which sets forth rules for DOC to make requested materials, information, and records publicly available under FOIA. The contents of funded applications may be subject to requests for release under the FOIA. Based on the information provided by you, the

confidentiality of the content of funded applications will be maintained to the maximum extent permitted by law.

- 3) **Acknowledgment.** Signage associated with construction projects should acknowledge NIST participation.
- 4) **Build America, Buy America Act (BABA).** For additional information on BABA and how it applies to construction awards issued pursuant to this NOFO, please visit [BABA](#).
- 5) **Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM).** Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. part 25, applicants and recipients are required to: (i) be registered in SAM before submitting its application; (ii) provide a valid unique entity identifier in its application; and (iii) continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency, unless otherwise excepted from these requirements pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 25.110. NIST will not make a Federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time that NIST is ready to make a Federal award pursuant to this NOFO, NIST may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant.
- 6) **Intergovernmental Review.** Applications submitted by State and local governments are subject to Executive Order (E.O.) 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," pursuant to which each State designates an entity to coordinate, and review proposed federal financial assistance and direct federal development. All other applicants should consult the Intergovernmental Review State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to determine whether the application is subject to State review pursuant to E.O. 12372.
- 7) **Supporting Documentation.** Prior to award or following the issuance of an award, NIST may require recipients to provide draft copies of sub-tier agreements, including subawards and contracts, as well as subrecipient performance monitoring plans.

IV. Applicant Projects:

The following entities, with corresponding project title and funding amount, are the only eligible applicants for this program. Award amounts reflect a 1% reduction from the appropriated value to account for NIST expenses in administering the award.

Recipient	Project	Value (\$)
Hood College	Biomedical Research and Training Center	2,475,000
Morgan State University	Molecular Biology Research Laboratory	5,445,000
University of Maine	University of Maine Health Science Complex	44,550,000
University of Louisville	Center for Bioscience	69,300,000
University of Kentucky	Healthy Kentucky Research Building	34,650,000
Kansas State University	Bioprocessing & Industrial Value Added Products Equipment Innovation	7,920,000
University of Kansas	University of Kansas Cancer Center	35,640,000
Washington State University	Scientific Research Center	49,500,000
Game Department / Great Bay National Estuarine Research	Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve: Research Facility	4,950,000
Maryland Institute College of Art	Bio-Design Innovation Hub	888,030