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FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Agency: Denali Commission

Date: February 3, 2023

Title: Program Grants

Announcement Type: New Grant

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number: DC-WP-23-001

Assistance Listing: 90.100 Denali Commission Program

Application Deadline: April 14, 2023, 11:59 PM AKST

Application Submittal: Submit on grants.gov – see page 15

Description: The Denali Commission is soliciting applications for rural infrastructure projects and workforce/economic development programs.

Applications must contain three components to be eligible for funding consideration:

1. Completed Application Checklist
2. Signed and dated Application Form
3. Application Package

Please read the instructions carefully and in their entirety before starting the application process.

Applicants may direct administrative questions to:

Janet Davis
Grants Officer, Denali Commission
jdavis@denali.gov
(907) 271-1414 or (907) 271-3036

Applicants may direct program related questions to the relevant Program Manager, listed on the Denali Commission website at https://www.denali.gov/about/our-staff/.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT DC-WP-23-001

1. Background

The Denali Commission (Commission) was established in 1998 as an independent federal agency to promote rural development throughout Alaska. The Commission is funded primarily via federal congressional appropriation and guided by its annual Work Plan. The Commission also receives transfers from the State of Alaska, other federal agencies, and other funders. In addition, the Commission was provided funding in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 "BIL").

The Commission has various mechanisms for implementing funding including needs assessments and competitive applications. This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) announces competitive based funding.

2. Statutory Authority

The statutory authority for this solicitation is Section 305 of the Denali Commission Act of 1998, which authorizes the Commission, acting through the Federal Co-Chair, to award grants. The funding authority for grants under this FOA is provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103); Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328); and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58).

3. Eligibility

Eligible projects must benefit residents of the State of Alaska. Eligible applicants include municipal, borough, state, and tribal governments; Indian Tribes as defined by Title 25 US Code § 5304; regional housing authorities; universities; regional tribal non-profit organizations; and non-profit organizations. For-profit Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) entities may apply; however, grant income is considered income and, therefore, taxable.

4. Federal Award Information

The Commission will form review committees comprised of at least three Commission staff and/or subject matter experts to evaluate proposals by program area per the evaluation guidelines in Section 8. The review committees put forward their recommendations for funding based on the evaluation criteria for consideration by the Federal Co-Chair. The Federal Co-Chair is authorized to make awards and will do so based on the review committees' recommendations and other relevant considerations. In addition, the Federal Co-Chair has the discretion to change funding levels by program area and may do so in response to demonstrated need. The Commission reserves the right, consistent with agency policy and guidance, to make additional awards under this announcement using funds appropriated by other laws (e.g., future appropriations or transfers), partially fund proposed projects, and/or adjust the period of performance of proposed projects as appropriate.
The Commission will release funds via Financial Assistance Awards (FAA). An FAA is a document that describes the agreement between the Commission (the federal awarding agency) and the recipient. It includes the information stipulated in 2 CFR 200.211 as follows:

- Federal award performance goals
- General federal award information

- General terms and conditions
- Federal awarding agency specific terms and conditions
- Federal awarding agency requirements

The Commission manages all FAAs using a publicly available Interactive Project Database. The Commission's standard Terms and Conditions are provided as Exhibit 1. Recipient guidelines and requirements are provided in *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements (RGR)*.

Note to Applicants

NEW: The Build America, Buy America Act is a new law that requires that all iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in federal infrastructure projects are produced in the United States. These provisions apply to all infrastructure projects funded by Federal Financial Assistance Awards.

In developing the FAA and prior to award, successful applicants are required to submit certain forms and certifications, including Standard Form (SF) 424, also referred to as the Application for Federal Assistance, and a Pre-Award Risk Assessment Questionnaire. In addition, successful applicants are required to:

- register in the System for Award Management (SAM),
- provide a valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), and
- maintain an active SAM registration with up-to-date information. https://www.sam.gov

Pre-award negotiations between the Commission and the successful applicant will determine the exact award amount. Pre-award costs are generally unallowable; however, pre-award costs may be allowed as a result of pre-award negotiations between the Commission and the successful applicant. Incurring pre-award costs is at the applicant's own risk. The period of performance will be determined on a project specific basis and aligned with the project schedule.

5. Funding Restrictions

Award funds may not be used for lobbying or intervention in federal regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings. Award funding must be authorized by the statutory authority and may not be used to sue the federal government or any other government entity. In accordance with applicable law, regulation, and policy, any recipient of funding must agree to comply with restrictions on using award funds for unauthorized lobbying, fundraising, or political activities (i.e., lobbying members of Congress or lobbying for other federal grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts). The Commission reserves the right to make financial decisions regarding actions or costs incurred that are contrary or damaging to the intent and purposes of the award objectives. All costs incurred under this program must be allowable under 2 CFR 200, Subpart E.

6. Funding Timeline

The Commission anticipates the following schedule for the award making process under this FOA:

Anticipated action	**Anticipated date of activity**
FOA publication	February 3, 2023
FOA deadline	April 14, 2023, 11:59 PM AKST
Application review and award determination	Spring 2023
Applicant notification	June 2023
Award negotiation	Summer/Fall 2023
Award execution and availability of funding for project activity	January 2024

7. Funding Opportunity Description and Program Information

This FOA announces the availability of funds for the following program areas and solicits proposed projects throughout rural Alaska from eligible applicants. The Commission is limiting applications: Any one applicant is eligible to submit ONE application per community per program area and must submit a separate Application Checklist (Exhibit 2) designating the program area for each application.

For example, Applicant X may submit one application under the Transportation Program on behalf of Community 1 and one application under the Transportation Program on behalf of Community 2. That same Applicant X may then also apply under the Energy Program on behalf of Community 1 and under the Infrastructure Fund on behalf of Community 1. If applicable, each applicant must prioritize its applications by numbering them 1, 2, 3, etc. on the Application Form (Exhibit 3).

The Commission anticipates the following funding commitments by program area:

Program Area	**Funding commitment via this FOA (up to amount)**
A. Transportation	
Surface Transportation	$15,000,000
Waterfront Transportation	$5,000,000
B. Infrastructure Fund	$10,000,000
C. Energy	$1,500,000
D. Facilities for Healthcare and Community Wellness	$650,000
E. Village Infrastructure Protection	$1,500,000
F. Sanitation	$150,000
G. Housing	$300,000
H. Broadband	$100,000
I. Economic Development	$150,000
J. Workforce Development	$800,000
Total	**$35,150,000**

The Commission intends to make multiple awards as a result of this FOA, subject to the availability of funds, the quality of applications received, and other relevant considerations.

A. Transportation

Applicants may request awards up to $2,000,000 for the "Transportation" program area. The funds made available for this program area come from a federal congressional appropriation via the subcommittee for Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Other Related Agencies. Transportation projects will not be considered under the Infrastructure Fund.

1. SURFACE TRANSPORTATION

The Commission anticipates making seven or more awards for planning, design, engineering, and construction of roads and other surface transportation infrastructure. Airport projects will not be considered. Priority is placed on the construction of essential access routes within remote Alaska Native Villages and other rural communities, and for the construction of roads and facilities necessary to connect isolated rural communities

to a road system.

Consideration of applications will include but is not limited to:

- Road development or improvement
- Road safety improvements, including surface repair, dust control, fence repair, etc.
- Trail upgrades or improvements
- Drainage and/or drainage structure development or improvement
- Bridge development or improvement
- Planning activities and/or design for new or improved transportation projects
- Match funding for a transportation project funded by another grant program
- Other transportation projects except airport projects
- Roads connecting to airports or ports and vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) capacity-building or demonstration projects, are eligible. VTOL projects must prove reduced costs of moving goods to and from rural Alaska.

The costs of repair and upgrade of equipment necessary to complete a project should not exceed 15 percent of the proposed construction project.

Applicants' surface transportation specific project criteria will be evaluated as follows:

Program Specific Evaluation Criteria – Surface Transportation	**Maximum Score (points)**
• Connects isolated rural communities by road or trail or connection to a main road system (10 points) • Improves health and safety (5 points) • Improves access to services (e.g., solid waste disposal site, sewage lagoon, water source, health care facility, airport, or port) (5 points) • Provides access to income-producing activities such as a materials quarry or tourism destination (5 points)	25

2. WATERFRONT IMPROVEMENTS

The Commission anticipates making three or more awards for planning, design, engineering, and construction of docks, waterfront transportation improvements, development, and related infrastructure.

Consideration of applications will include but is not limited to:

- Barge landing, dock, harbor, and/or waterfront development or improvement
- Match funding for a waterfront improvement project funded by another grant program

Applicants' waterfront improvement specific project criteria will be evaluated as follows:

Program Specific Evaluation Criteria – Waterfront Transportation	**Maximum Score (points)**
• Improves health and safety (10 points) • Improves access to services (e.g., solid waste disposal site, sewage lagoon, water source, health care facility, airport, or port) (10 points)	25

• Provides income-producing activities such as a materials quarry or tourism destination (5 points)	

B. Infrastructure Fund

Applicants may request awards of up to $2,000,000 for the "Infrastructure Fund." The Commission anticipates making five or more awards for infrastructure projects and/or programs. Eligible projects include those that fall within the Commission's existing program areas as well as those that are compatible with the Commission's existing program areas (Sections 7. C. through J.) and promote rural development in Alaska. As noted above, transportation projects will not be considered under the Infrastructure Fund. Energy projects considered under the Infrastructure Fund must respond to Energy Program specific criteria (see next section). The funds made available for the Infrastructure Fund come from the BIL.

C. Energy

Applicants may request awards of up to $750,000 for the "Energy" program area. The Commission anticipates making two or more awards. Applicants may request awards greater than $750,000 via the Infrastructure Fund. Consideration of applications will include but are not limited to:

- Repairs to existing community energy infrastructure, including renewable generation facilities, diesel powerhouses, electrical distribution systems, and bulk fuel tank farms
- Funding for unexpected cost overruns on energy projects already underway
- Gap funding (no more than 50 percent of the total project cost) for a project to develop community energy infrastructure that has been approved for funding through an established program at a federal or state agency
- An assessment or pre-feasibility study for a community energy project that, upon its completion, would make the next phases of project development eligible for other grant funding or financing

For this FOA, a "renewable energy project" is one that contributes to the generation of power or heat with wind, solar, biomass, or hydropower resources using methods proven effective in Alaska.

Applicants' energy specific project criteria will be evaluated as follows:

Program Specific Evaluation Criteria – Energy	**Maximum Score (points)**

• Project support for the community's transition to increasing reliance on clean energy and less reliance on diesel (5 points)
• Cost of energy relative to the project's impact (i.e., how much money might be saved from the avoided cost of diesel) (5 points)
• Long term operations and maintenance plan, business plan, and/or local management capacity (5 points)
• Technical Feasibility (5 points)
  • Resource sustainability
  • Technology has been proven in Alaska
  • Acceptable level of technical and environmental risks
	25

• Expected reliability of the proposed energy system • Reasonable and appropriate project development phases • Reasonable expectation of meeting permitting and regulatory requirements • Economic Feasibility (5 points) • Anticipated net savings in fuel consumption, operations and maintenance, and capital costs over the life of the project • Funding/financing plan for balance of costs to complete the project • Other, non-monetary benefits to the community, region, or state that potentially offset insufficient avoided fuel costs	

The funds made available for this program area come from the Commission's regular federal congressional appropriation.

D. Facilities for Healthcare and Community Wellness

Applicants may request awards of up to $300,000 for the "Facilities for Healthcare and Community Wellness" program area. The Commission anticipates making three or more awards. Applicants may request awards greater than $300,000 via the Infrastructure Fund.

Consideration of applications will include but are not limited to:

- Repairs and/or improvements to existing facilities for healthcare and/or community wellness
- Funding for unexpected cost overruns on a project already underway
- Gap funding (no more than 15 percent of the total project cost) for a project funded through an established program
- Planning activities and/or design for new or improved facilities for healthcare and/or community wellness
- Other facility projects benefiting community health and wellness

The funds made available for this program area come from the Commission's annual federal congressional appropriation.

E. Village Infrastructure Protection (VIP)

Applicants may request awards of up to $500,000 for the "Village Infrastructure Protection (VIP)" program area. The Commission anticipates making three or more awards. Applicants may request awards greater than $500,000 via the Infrastructure Fund.

This program assists rural communities subject to the environmental threats of erosion, flooding, and/or permafrost degradation. Eligible projects include actions to reduce the risk of damage to public infrastructure and residential housing from local weather events and climate-related hazards and/or repair or replacement of public infrastructure that has been damaged by these hazards. Projects should include actions to reduce future risk and improve local capacity to respond to extreme weather events.

Consideration of applications will include but is not limited to:

- Repair of flood damaged or displaced boardwalks, including anchoring mechanisms to

reduce future flood damage to boardwalks
- Replacement and/or upgrade of damaged utility connections with flexible connections able to tolerate differential movement between the pipe and structure
- Renovation of building foundations to protect public structures from damage due to permafrost degradation, including elements to prevent future damage to the structure from permafrost degradation
- Relocation of public infrastructure and/or residential housing from a flood- or erosion-prone site to a more favorable site
- Removal and disposal of storm and/or flood debris from community roadways
- Implementation of emergency erosion protection measures to prevent localized damage to core infrastructure (large coastal or riverine erosion protection projects including rock revetments or bulkhead works are beyond the scope of this program unless paired with other funding)
- Match funding for a climate adaptation project funded by another grant program
- Other climate adaptation projects

The funds made available for this program area come from the Commission's annual appropriations and BIL appropriation.

F. Sanitation

Applicants may request awards of up to $150,000 for the "Sanitation" program area (water, wastewater, and/or solid waste). The Commission anticipates making one or more awards. Applicants may request awards greater than $150,000 via the Infrastructure Fund.

Consideration of applications will include but is not limited to:

- Repairs and/or improvements to existing sanitation facilities
- Funding for unexpected cost overruns on a project already underway
- Gap funding (no more than 15 percent of the total project cost) for a project funded through an established program
- Planning activities and/or engineering design for new or improved sanitation facilities
- Other sanitation projects

The funds made available for this program area come from the Commission's annual federal congressional appropriation.

G. Housing

Applicants may request awards up to $300,000 for the "Housing" program area. The Commission anticipates making one or more awards. Applicants may request awards greater than $300,000 via the Infrastructure Fund.

Structural problems to achieving affordable housing in rural Alaska are driven by insufficient scale, long supply chains, building inefficiency and imported resources. Eligible projects include those that address the lack of affordable housing and structural challenges of building housing in rural Alaska, including the financing models, construction methods, and partnerships.

Consideration of applications will include but is not limited to:

- Statewide, regional, or community assessment of housing inventory or needs

- Innovative research, design, or planning to address the housing shortage in Alaska
- Funding for unexpected cost overruns on a public housing project already underway
- Gap funding up to 15 percent of the total project cost
- New housing projects
- Housing refurbishment or improvements projects
- Projects that support housing, including, foundations, land preparation, utilities, etc.

The funds made available for this program area come from the Commission's annual federal congressional appropriation.

H. Broadband

Applicants may request awards of up to $100,000 for the "Broadband" program area. The Commission anticipates making one or more awards. Applicants may request awards greater than $100,000 via the Infrastructure Fund. Eligible projects include those that address the lack of affordable broadband and the structural challenges of providing affordable broadband in rural Alaska.

Consideration of applications will include but is not limited to:

- Technical assistance
- Mapping and project planning
- Other broadband projects

The funds made available for this program area come from the Commission's annual federal congressional appropriation.

I. Economic Development

Applicants may request awards of up to $150,000 for the "Economic Development" program area. The Commission anticipates making one or more awards. Applicants may request awards greater than $150,000 via the Infrastructure Fund. Eligible projects include those that create or retain economic activity that may be sustained after the project ends.

Consideration of applications will include but is not limited to:

- Technical Assistance
- Planning activities and/or engineering design
- New business activity
- Resource development or other value-added activity
- Projects that unlock basic sector activity (new money entering an economy)

The funds made available for this program area come from the Commission's annual federal congressional appropriation.

J. Workforce Development

Applicants may request awards of up to $400,000 for the "Workforce Development" program area. The Commission anticipates making two or more awards. Applicants may request awards greater than $400,000 via the Infrastructure Fund. Eligible projects include those that improve human capacity focused on infrastructure improvements in rural Alaska. Projects with the reach and scalability to engage as many people as possible, fill identifiable skills gaps, and may be sustained after the project

ends are preferred.

Consideration of applications will include but is not limited to:

- Expanded scope and reach of existing training programs
- Technology to enhance training programs
- Training for future employees
- Improved access to training programs for rural residents
- Workforce development for pending or planned projects

The funds made available for this program area come from the Commission's annual federal congressional appropriation and the BIL.

8. Application and Evaluation Criteria

The required application sections are listed as follows. Applications must include all required sections, adhere to the evaluation criteria, and not exceed specified page limits. One page is defined as one side of a standard 8 ½-inch by 11-inch sheet of paper. Applications must have a standard font no smaller than 11-point, margins of at least 1-inch, and numbered pages.

Application Section	Page Limit
A. Application Checklist a. Distressed/Disadvantaged Community Status b. Environmentally Threatened Community Status	2 (required)
B. Application Form	2 (required)
C. Application Package a. Project Narrative b. Scope of Work and Schedule c. Organization, Capacity, and Delivery Method d. Partnerships and Leveraged Funds	4
e. Budget/Resources i. Budget by Cost Category (SF 424) ii. Budget by Task iii. Funding Summary	2
f. Program Specific Responses, as applicable	See instructions
D. Appendix	10
Total	**20**

Evaluation criteria and associated points are summarized in the following table. Applications must address all evaluation criteria in the required Application Checklist (Exhibit 2) or Application Package (below, Sections 8.C., D. and E.), as applicable.

Evaluation Criterion	Maximum Score (points)
Distressed Communities and/or Disadvantaged Communities	10
Environmentally Threatened Communities	10
Project Narrative	15
Scope of Work and Schedule	20
Organization, Capacity, and Delivery Method	10

Partnerships and Leveraged Funds	20
Budget/Resources	15
Total	**100**
Program Specific Evaluation Criteria (if applicable)	25

A. Application Checklist

Each application must include a completed Application Checklist (Exhibit 2). This checklist is intended to assist applicants by ensuring all elements of an application have been prepared and submitted. Applicants must identify population demographics and status as a distressed community, disadvantaged community, and/or Environmentally Threatened Community on the Application Checklist. The Application Checklist must be limited to two (2) pages. Information below:

a. Distressed Communities and/or Disadvantaged Communities (10 points)

Applicants must identify if the community served is distressed and/or disadvantaged.

- Distressed communities are those identified in the Commission's 2022 Distressed Communities Report
- Disadvantaged communities include Alaska Native Villages and communities that are not on the road system (that experience high transportation cost burden and/or low transportation access, high housing costs, high energy costs, limited water access/affordability, and may encounter disproportionate impacts from climate change).

Proposed projects benefiting distressed communities and/or disadvantaged communities will receive 10 preference points (total). For projects that benefit more than one rural community, preference points will be averaged by community designation.

b. Environmentally Threatened Communities (10 points)

Applicants must identify if the community served is an Environmentally Threatened Community, identified as those in the Commission's 2019 Statewide Threat Assessment. Proposed projects benefiting environmentally threatened communities will receive up to 10 preference points. For projects that benefit more than one rural community, preference points will be averaged by community designation.

For this FOA, a community may identify as Group 1 if at least one of its environmental threat rankings (erosion, flooding, or thawing permafrost) is Group 1. Similarly, a community may identify as Group 2 if at least one of its environmental threat rankings is Group 2 and as Group 3 if at least one of its environmental threat rankings is Group 3. See table indicating preference points below:

Group	Preference Points
1	10
2	7
3	4

B. Application Form

Each application must include a completed Application Form (Exhibit 3). This form includes high-level project information, certain acknowledgments and certifications, and a project summary. The Application Form must be limited to one (1) page.

C. Application Package

c. Project Narrative (15 points)

Applications must include a:

- community description, characterizing the community and population served by the proposed project
- problem statement, describing why the proposed project is needed
- project description, presenting the proposed project and how it addresses the problem/need
- impact/value statement, describing the impact and/or value of the proposed project to the community and population served – this may include descriptions of improved sustainability and/or greater community resilience

d. Scope of Work and Schedule (20 points)

Applications must include a:

- concise scope of work, outlining step-by-step tasks using verbs describing accomplishments; an example is provided in Exhibit 4
- timeframe (schedule) showing timelines of tasks and deliverables

e. Organization, Capacity, and Delivery Method (10 points)

Applications must include a:

- description of the applicant's organization, including its structure, leadership, relevant programs, and unique perspective/expertise
- summary of the organization's experience managing federal grant programs and/or similar projects, including the experience of key personnel (resumes may be included in the appendix)
- description of the delivery method, describing how the tasks outlined in the scope of work will be carried out and by whom (information about contractors may be included in the appendix, as appropriate)

f. Partnerships and Leveraged Funds (20 points)

Applications must provide a description of:

- all project supporters and stakeholders, including loans, funding from other sources, and in-kind participation; clarify secured or pending partnerships
- all work to date, for example, funding, community plans, letters of support, agreements with other parties, and/or prior completion of tasks or phases that support the current phase of the project
- future (planned) work with partners to manage and complete the project, including plans for future operations and maintenance

- creative approaches to partnerships that go beyond financial commitment, including community outreach, leveraged resources, or other in-kind support that demonstrate breadth of support

g. Budget/Resources (15 points)

Applications must include a:

- "Budget by Cost Category" table following the SF-424 budget format
- "Budget by Task" table corresponding precisely to the scope of work and explaining project activities that drive expenses
- "Funding Summary" table clearly identifying the amount requested in response to this FOA and all resources coming from other sources

The budget, by cost category and by task, must cover the total cost of the proposed project not just the funding requested of the Denali Commission. The funding summary must show the total funding picture, including the amount requested now, funding coming from other sources, and any remaining gap (if any) so that the total cost of the proposed project is shown in the table. An example "Budget and Funding Summary" framework is attached as Exhibit 5.

All costs must be allowable, allocable, and reasonable in accordance with 2 CFR 200 Subpart E. Applicants must provide a budget narrative that clearly explains the various cost elements of the project, the calculations used to derive line-item subtotals, and other funding expected for the project. Applicants must describe funding from other sources, cash or in-kind contributions, and plans to meet any remaining gap (if any). For the "Budget by Cost Category" table, applicants must include the following cost categories, as applicable.

- **Personnel & Fringe:** Include personnel labor rates and fringe benefits as line items in the budget. Only include costs for employees working directly on the grant project. Include the number of staff, type of personnel (job title), hourly wage (or salary), and total cost to the grant. Costs should be consistent with those paid for similar types of work within the applicant's organization. Fringe benefits included in the application must be consistent with benefits paid to all the applicant organization's employees. Fringe benefits are only for the percentage of time devoted to the grant project. This "*Personnel"* cost category is limited to those individuals directly employed by the applicant's organization. The labor cost for individuals working on the project but not employed by the applicant's organization should be included in the "*Contractors"* category below.

- **Travel:** Summarize costs for travel required for project implementation. Provide the purpose, method of travel, number of people traveling, number of days, and estimated cost for each trip. If details of each trip are not known at the time of application submission, provide the basis for determining the amount requested.

- **Equipment:** Include costs for those items which are tangible, nonexpendable, personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of $5,000 or more per unit, unless the applicant has a clear and consistent written policy that results in a different threshold. Include a description, quantity, and unit price for all equipment owned by the applicant's organization that will be charged to the project. Each item of equipment must be identified with its corresponding cost. List fuel, maintenance, and

operator costs under their appropriate headings, such as supplies, contracts, or personnel/labor as appropriate. General-purpose equipment must be justified as to how it will be used during project implementation.

Equipment that costs less than $5,000 should be included under "*Supplies*" or "*Other Direct Costs*." The costs for rented or leased equipment should be included in the "*Contractors*" or "*Other Direct Costs*" category, depending upon the procurement method.

- **Supplies:** Supplies are tangible personal property other than equipment. If supplies are requested, include a justification of why they are needed for project implementation. It is not necessary to document office supplies in detail (for example, reams of paper, boxes of paperclips, etc.). However, applicants should include a quantity and unit cost for higher-cost items such as computers and printers.

- **Contractors:** Include the estimated costs for labor (fully burdened), travel, materials, equipment, and freight for those activities to be performed by an individual or organization, other than the applicant, in the form of a procurement relationship. Applicants should include detailed budget information regarding all known contracts and indicate the basis for the estimated contract costs.

- **Other Direct Costs:** Include costs that do not fit any of the categories mentioned above, such as rent for buildings used to conduct project activities, utilities, leased equipment, employee training tuition, etc. "*Other Direct Costs"* must be itemized.

- **Indirect Costs (unless waived):** Indirect costs are an allowable cost under Commission awards. Indirect costs are incurred for common or joint objectives that benefit more than one project. If claiming an indirect cost rate, the applicant must include, in the Appendix, a signed copy of the negotiated rate agreement valid as of the date of the application. If the rate is not approved by the application due date, provide instead the letter of renewal or letter of request sent to the cognizant agency. A cognizant agency is the Federal agency responsible for reviewing, negotiating, and approving cost allocation plans or indirect cost proposals. Applicants that do not have an approved indirect cost rate agreement can use the 10 percent de-minimis rate referenced in 2 CFR 200.414. For any contract or subgrant to a federal grant, indirect rates may be applied to the first $25,000.

- **Cost sharing/Match:** For construction grants where the Commission is the primary funder (50 percent or more of the total budget), cost sharing (match) is required as follows. (See Section 8.A.a. above for definitions of distressed and non-distressed communities.)

  For distressed communities: Commission funds shall be available for construction projects in an amount not to exceed 80 percent of the project cost. Therefore, a cost share (match) of at least 20 percent of the project cost is required.

  For non-distressed communities: Commission funds shall be available for construction projects in an amount not to exceed 50 percent of the project cost. Therefore, a cost share (match) of at least 50 percent of the project cost is required.

Cost sharing (match) is an evaluation criterion, regardless of amount, as described in the

previous section. "Cost sharing or matching" is defined by 2 CFR 200.306 as "the portion of project costs not paid by Federal funds (unless otherwise authorized by Federal statute)." Detail all funding (resources) coming from other sources and the funding provided by the applicant itself. other investors or shared resources on the project, including the applicant.

When the Commission is not the primary funder, Commission funds may be used to pay a non-federal share (match) on other federal funds.

D. Program Specific Evaluation Criteria (25 points)

See program-specific evaluation criteria, if applicable, under each program area. Programs without program-specific criteria will have a maximum score of 100 points. Applicants must address program-specific evaluation criteria within the project narrative; scope of work and schedule; organization, capacity, and delivery method; and partnerships and leveraged funds sections, as applicable.

E. Appendix

Applicants may provide relevant supporting material such as maps of the service area, photographs, plans, designs, resumes of key personnel, information about contractors, letters of support, and/or other documents in an appendix. The use of maps, photographs, or other figures is encouraged. Supporting material referenced in the application but included in the appendix counts only against the 10-page limit of the Appendix.

9. Application Submission

Applicants must submit applications via www.grants.gov. Applicants must be registered in Grants.gov. Guidance is provided on that website. Email, facsimile or hardcopy applications can be accepted if pre-arranged with Commission staff. The Commission will not consider applications received after the deadline.

Deadline:	April 14, 2023 at 11:59 PM AKDT
Direct Questions to: (Emailed applications may be submitted upon prior approval)	Janet Davis, Grants Officer projects@denali.gov Denali Commission 550 W. 7th Ave, Suite 1230 Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Email Subject Line:	Work Plan Grants – [Program Area]

No new information or instructions will be posted after April 14, 2023. It is the responsibility of applicants to periodically check www.grants.gov for any new information or instructions and comply with any new information or instructions.

10. Application Review, Evaluation, and Selection Process

The Commission will conduct a merit review process per 2 CFR 200.205. First, the Commission will screen applications for eligibility and consistency with program objectives. Only those applications meeting these initial criteria will be forwarded for review. Next, the Commission will form review committees comprised of at least three Commission staff and/or subject matter experts to evaluate applications by program area.

For the transportation program, Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) members assist the review committee. Reviewers will score each application based on the evaluation criteria described in this FOA, and a combined review committee score will be the basis for ranking proposed projects by program area. Lastly, the review committees headed by the Commission Program Managers will put forward their recommendations for consideration by the Federal Co-Chair. The Federal Co-Chair is authorized to make awards and will do so based on the recommendations of the review committees, and other relevant considerations. In addition, the Federal Co-Chair has the discretion to change funding levels by program area and may do so in response to demonstrated need. The Commission reserves the right, consistent with agency policy and guidance, to make additional awards under this FOA and/or partially fund proposed projects.

Applicants will be notified within 10 business days of the approval by the Federal Co-Chair of the review committee's recommendations. The Commission anticipates making notifications in June 2023. Award negotiation will commence Summer/Fall 2023, with final award execution and availability of funds for project activity is expected by January 2024.

The Commission reserves the right to waive minor informalities and to make selections deemed consistent with and in the best interest of the Commission. This includes the right to cancel the solicitation at any time, reject any or all applications, and the right to proceed using a different process based on the Commission's analysis of the overall budget and priorities.

11. Other Information

- Notification that an applicant has been selected pursuant to this FOA is not an authorization to proceed with work or to incur costs. A fully executed FAA signed by the Federal Co-Chair is the authorizing document.

- The Commission is not liable for any costs incurred by applicants prior to issuing an FAA. All costs incurred responding to this FOA are the sole responsibility of the applicant.

- An award pursuant to this FOA does not obligate the Commission to any future award.

- The Commission may require, seek, and use all information it deems appropriate in order to assess the qualifications of applicants. All documents submitted in response to this FOA are considered Public Records under the Alaska Public Records Act.

- If the total value of a recipient's active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all federal awarding agencies exceeds $10,000,000 for any period during the performance period of an award made pursuant to this FOA, then the recipient must comply with reporting requirements related to civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings, in accordance with 2 CFR 200 Appendix XII.

- In accordance with 2 CFR 200.501, recipients that expend $750,000 or more of federal funds in a year must have a single or program-specific audit conducted for that year.

- As required by 2 CFR 200, effective January 1, 2016, the Commission reviews and considers any information about the applicant that is in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS) before making any award in excess of the simplified acquisition

threshold (currently $250,000) over the period of performance. An applicant may review and comment on any information about itself that a federal awarding agency previously entered. The Commission will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to other information in FAPIIS, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics and record of performance under federal awards when completing the review of risk posed by applicants.

12. Acronyms and Abbreviations

The following table lists acronyms and abbreviations used throughout this document.

Acronym or Abbreviation	Definition
ANCSA	Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act
BIL	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, also referred to as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (IIJA)
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
Commission	Denali Commission
FAA	Financial Assistance Award
FAPIIS	Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System
FOA	Funding Opportunity Announcement
FY	Federal Fiscal Year
IIJA	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
RGR	Recipient Guidelines and Requirements
SAM	System for Award Management
SF	Standard Form
TAC	Transportation Advisory Committee
UEI	Unique Entity Identifier
VIP	Village Infrastructure Program
VTOL	Vertical Takeoff and Landing

Exhibit 1. Financial Assistance Award (FAA) General Terms and Conditions

Recipient guidelines and requirements are provided in *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements* (RGR).

EXAMPLE AWARD
Financial Assistance Award Terms and Conditions
Between the Denali Commission and *<Recipient>*
For *<Title of Project>*
Award No. _____

Project Summary

Scope of Work: *<Brief statement summarizing the scope of work>*

Deliverables**:** *<Summarize the primary deliverable(s)>*

Budget: The Commission is making $_____ available for the project via this Financial Assistance Award (FAA). This amount includes all direct, indirect, *<and pre-award costs (if any) authorized pursuant to 2 CFR 200.458>.* Other partners on the project include <_____*, who in total are contributing an additional $*_____*>.* All Commission funding is intended to be used for the scope of work identified in this FAA only. Any funds remaining after the full scope of work has been completed shall be returned to the Denali Commission consistent with 2 CFR 200.345.

Delivery Method**:** *how the project will be accomplished, including relevant comments with respect to phasing, sub-awards, contracts, force account construction, and competitive procurements. If Cooperative Agreement provisions apply, then insert a statement to this affect in the Special Provisions and include specific details in Attachment A.>*

Performance Period: The Period of Performance for this FAA is _____ through _____. In accordance with 2 CFR 200.309 Recipients can only incur obligations or costs against this FAA during the Period of Performance, unless specifically authorized in the Special Provisions (Section 14 of this document). If a project cannot be completed within the approved Period of Performance, an extension request must be made in accordance with the Commission's Recipient Guidelines and Requirements (RGR) document dated September 2018, available at www.denali.gov.

More detailed information on scope, deliverables, budget, funding, project delivery method and/or management plan, schedule and key milestones are included in Attachment A dated _____.

Project Reporting and Commission Site Visits

Progress reports and a close-out report are required under this FAA. Progress Reports shall be submitted at the frequency stipulated in the Special Provisions.

The Closeout Report shall be completed within 90-days of the end of the Period of Performance. All reports must be submitted using the Denali Commission's on-line Project Database System, available at www.denali.gov/dcpdb.

Commission staff or agents of the Commission may make visits to the project site and/or home office to monitor progress during and/or after the Period of Performance. The recipient shall coordinate and make

information available as necessary to facilitate any such site visits.

Refer to the *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements* document for further information related to reports and site visits.

Payments
Payments under this FAA will be made in accordance with 2 CFR 200.305 by electronic transfer in response to a Standard Form 270 (SF-270) "Request for Advance or Reimbursement", submitted by the recipient. At a minimum, all 270's must include summary cost information on labor, materials, contracts/consultants, and indirect costs. Detailed documentation is required for any single expenditure greater than $50,000. If Pre-award Costs and/or Advance Payments are authorized under this FAA, the Special Provisions will indicate so. Requests for reimbursements may be made as needed. Refer to the *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements* document for further information about submitting SF-270's.

Modifications
In accordance with 2 CFR 200.308, the recipient shall report deviations in project scope, budget, delivery method, management plan, schedule, or changed site conditions, and request prior approvals from the Program Manager. The recipient shall also submit written requests to the Program Manager for the replacement of Key Staff identified in the Special Provisions. Refer to the *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements* document for further information about modifying a Financial Assistance Award.

Financial Management, Record Keeping, Internal Controls, and Audits
The recipient must have financial management and record keeping systems that are consistent with 2 CFR 200.302. If the recipient is a State organization, it must expend and account for FAA funds in accordance with applicable State laws and procedures for expending and accounting for the State's own funds.

The recipient must establish and maintain effective internal controls with respect to this FAA that are consistent with 2 CFR 200.303.

In accordance with 2 CFR 200.501, Recipients that expend $750,000 or more of federal funds in a year shall have a single or program-specific audit conducted for that year.

Refer to the *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements* document for further information about financial management, record keeping, internal controls and audits.

Direct and Indirect Costs
All direct costs must be allowable and reasonable. Indirect costs must be allocable based on accepted accounting policies and practices. Indirect costs must be specifically included as a line item or identified with appropriate notes in the approved FAA budget. Refer to 2 CFR 200 Subpart E (Cost Principles) and the *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements* document for further information on direct and indirect costs.

Sub-Awards
All sub-awards and contracts issued by the recipient under this FAA must comply with 2 CFR 200.331 and 332.

Procurements
States: In accordance with 2 CFR 200.317, when procuring property and services under this FAA, a State Recipient must follow the same policies and procedures it uses for procurements from its non-Federal

funds. The State Recipient must also comply with 2 CFR 200.322 and ensure that every purchase order or contract includes any clauses and provisions required by 2 CFR 200.326.
Other Non-Federal Entities: All other non-Federal Recipients, including subrecipients of a State, must follow their own documented procurement procedures, provided that the procedures conform to applicable Federal law and the standards in 2 CFR 200.318 through 200.326. Refer to the *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements* document for further information on this subject.

Acknowledgement of Support
The recipient shall name the Denali Commission as a financial contributor and project/program partner in all media correspondence related to the work supported by this FAA. If Commission funds are used for construction, the recipient shall also display a sign at the construction site that acknowledges the Commission's support. Refer to the *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements* document for further information on this subject.

Real Property and Equipment
The Disposition requirements and restrictions set forth in 2 CFR 200.310 through 200.316 apply, unless specifically altered in the Special Provisions to this FAA.

Any Real Property reporting requirements apply in accordance with 2 CFR 200.329 will be stipulated in the Special Provisions to this FAA.

Conflict of Interest
In accordance with 2 CFR 200.112, the recipient must disclose in writing any potential conflicts of interest to the Commission. In addition, 2 CFR 200.318 requires that Recipients maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of their employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts. Refer to the *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements* document for further information on this subject.

Denali Commission Policies
Recipients may be required to comply with published Denali Commission policies covering topics such as cost match, sustainability, private enterprise, competitive bidding, cost containment, etc. Any specific requirements or deliverables related to these policies will be stipulated in the Special Provisions to this FAA.

Laws and Regulations
Recipients are required to comply with all applicable Federal laws and regulations. General categories of potentially applicable laws and regulations are summarized below. Refer to the *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements* document for further information on specific laws and regulations that may apply.

- Debarment and Suspension
- Whistle-blower Protection
- Non-Discrimination
- Lobbying and Propaganda
- Environmental
- Drug-Free Workplace
- Travel
- Human Rights
- Animal Welfare
- Executive Compensation

Build America Buy America Act

Other Provisions
The United States expressly disclaims all responsibility or liability to the recipient or sub-recipients for the actions of the recipient or sub-recipients resulting in death, bodily injury, property damages, or any other losses resulting in any way from the performance of this FAA, including sub-awards, contracts, or sub-contracts issued in connection with this FAA.

To the maximum extent practicable, considering applicable laws, the recipient shall accomplish the project contemplated by this FAA using local Alaska firms and labor.

All terms and conditions contained in this FAA apply to any sub-recipient under this FAA. Failure to comply with the provisions of this FAA or maintain satisfactory performance may result in additional FAA conditions pursuant to 2 CFR 200.207. This includes but is not limited to: temporarily withholding of payments pending the correction of the deficiency; disallowance of project costs; wholly or partially suspending or terminating the FAA. In addition, failure to comply with the provisions of this FAA may also have a negative impact on the recipient's eligibility for future Federal awards.

Program Manager, Financial Manager & Other Contact Information

Denali Commission	**<Recipient>**
<Name> Program Manager 550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 1230 Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 907-271-xxxx Fax: 907-271-1415 E-mail: @denali.gov	<Name> Project Manager <Address> Phone: 907-xxx-xxxx Fax: 907-xxx-xxxx Email: @
Janet Davis Grants Management Officer 550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 1230 Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 907-271-3036 Fax: 907-271-1415 E-mail: jdavis@denali.gov	<Name> Financial Contact <Address> Phone: 907-xxx-xxxx Fax: 907- xxx-xxxx Email: @

Special Provisions *<Insert relevant special provisions as appropriate>*

Special Provisions Menu:

The following are examples of typical special provision clauses. If the standard language presented below does not fit the situation in a particular FAA, then craft a unique clause accordingly.

Progress Reports: "Shall be submitted on a quarterly basis. The first reporting period is xx Month 20yy to xx Month 20yy, and quarterly thereafter in accordance with the Commission's *Recipient Guidelines and Requirements",* or some other clause with more specific criteria.

Pre-award Costs: Either "n/a", "Project related costs beginning xx Month 20yy", or some other clause with

more specific criteria.

Advance Payments: Either "n/a", "Allowed", or some other clause with more specific criteria.

Key Staff: List key staff names and titles.

Denali Commission Policies: If no specific requirements from the policies listed below apply, then enter "n/a". Otherwise, list the policies that apply, and any specific requirements related to the issues summarized below for each policy. Summarize the requirements in Section 14 of the FAA, or state that they are included within Attachment A to the FAA.

Investment Guidance Policy
Threats related to erosion, flooding or permafrost degradation
Consistency with regional planning documents
Special design phase population/capacity studies
Special design phase life-cycle cost studies
Special design phase cost estimating and/or value engineering studies

Sustainability Policy
Business Plans
R&R Accounts

Community Planning Policy
Consistency with current community planning documents

Open Door Policy
"Completed facility/infrastructure shall be available to all potential users."

Private Enterprise Policy
Planning and/or design phase public vs. private competition analysis

Competitive Bid Policy
Price competition required for projects with total planning, design and construction costs greater than $3 million
Local hire requirements/goals

Cost Containment Policy
Budget and cost estimate detail/justification

NEPA: Either "TypeA.x Categorical Exclusion per Denali Commission National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Procedures published in 45 CFR Part 900 on October 1, 2016, therefore no further NEPA documentation required", or some other clause with more specific criteria in Attachment A".

Cooperative Agreement: Either "n/a", or "___(Recipient)____ agrees to cooperate and collaborate with the Denali Commission during the project. The Commission will participate in those specific activities stipulated in Attachment A."

****

The following provisions are for awards that involve the purchase of equipment, design and/or construction.

Equipment Disposition: Either "n/a", or "When any equipment with a useful life longer than one year and a per unit acquisition cost greater than $5,000 acquired with Denali Commission funds is no longer needed for the originally authorized purpose outlined in this FAA, _____(Recipient)___must contact the Commission for disposition instructions in accordance with 2 CFR 200.313."

Insurance: "The Denali Commission shall be named additional insured on _____(Recipient's)_____ General Liability Insurance Policy, the General Liability Insurance Policy of the prime architectural/engineering firm(s) retained to design the project, the Liability Insurance Policy of the first tier construction firm(s) who will construct the project, and the Liability Insurance Policy of all other independent professional service firms (e.g. land surveyors, geotechnical engineers) with a primary role on the project."

Bonds: Either "n/a" (ex., for projects constructed via force account), or "Bid (if applicable), Payment and Performance bonds in accordance with 2 CFR 200.325."

Ownership and Site Control: Either "n/a", "_____(Recipient)_____ shall develop and execute all necessary documents and agreements required to establish site control and/or right of access to any properties effected by execution of the project", or some other clause with more specific criteria.

Davis Bacon Wages: Either "n/a", "Apply", or some other clause with more specific criteria.

Infrastructure Resilience: Either "n/a", or "Simple use of historical environmental data to inform the design work is not appropriate. Recipient and/or recipient's design professionals shall judiciously account for the potential for increased rates of permafrost thaw, coastal/riverine erosion, and flooding during the design life of the infrastructure."

Real Property Disposition: Either "n/a", or "when the original ownership or lease arrangements for the real property improvements change, or when the real property improvements are no longer needed for the originally authorized purpose, ____(Recipient)____must contact the Commission for approvals and/or disposition instructions in accordance with 2 CFR 200.311."

Real Property Reporting: Either "n/a" or "Applies per 2 CFR 200.329. Reporting will be once every five years, to begin at the end of the performance period and continue through the useful life of the facilities. Refer to Section IX of the Recipient Guidelines and Requirements document for instructions on how to submit the required reports."

Exhibit 4. Template Scope of Work

Scope of Work
Month Day, Year

Project Title:
Period of Performance:

Background: Problem statement, the proposed solution (project), and community served (3 sentences)

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to … (1 sentence)

Tasks:

Task 1 – [Task Name]
Month/Day/Year – Month/Day/Year

Describe the task, including the anticipated level of effort (brief paragraph)
Describe the delivery method; for example, "The applicant will carry out this task with in-house staff." or "The applicant will hire a contractor to perform this task." (1 sentence)
Deliverable(s): [Title of Deliverable(s)]

Task 2 – [Task Name]
Month/Day/Year – Month/Day/Year

Describe the task, including the anticipated level of effort (brief paragraph)
Describe the delivery method (1 sentence)
Deliverable(s): [Title of Deliverable(s)]

Task 3 – [Task Name]
Month/Day/Year – Month/Day/Year

Describe the task, including the anticipated level of effort (brief paragraph)
Describe the delivery method (1 sentence)
Deliverable(s): [Title of Deliverable(s)]