September 20, 2021

Subject: Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund Guidance Now Available

Dear Capital Projects Fund Recipient,

Today, the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) released guidance for the <u>Coronavirus Capital</u> <u>Projects Fund</u> (CPF) program established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The program allocates \$10 billion for eligible governments to carry out critical capital projects that directly enable work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The <u>Capital Projects Fund Guidance for States</u>, <u>Territories</u>, <u>and Freely Associated</u> <u>States</u> describes in detail how your government may obtain and use these funds. Treasury has published the grant amount allocated to all eligible recipient governments; you can access this information on our website.

A key priority of this program is to make funds available to recipients that would like to make investments in high-quality, affordable broadband infrastructure and other digital connectivity technologies. This pandemic has shown us that broadband infrastructure is indispensable for access to critical services and participation in aspects of daily life, including remote work, telehealth, and distance learning.

At the same time, recipients have flexibility to use funds for certain capital projects other than broadband infrastructure that enable work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options. The guidance provides information about eligible areas for investment and technical standards, and encourages projects in economically distressed areas, supports community empowerment, and encourages strong labor practices.

Although this is not a competitive grant program, states, territories, and freely associated states must first submit a simple application establishing recipient eligibility. **The CPF application portal will open on September 24, 2021.** Treasury will send another email when the application portal is live.

The application must be completed within <u>90 days of the application portal opening (December 27, 2021</u>). To access the application, the individual(s) filling out the application must be registered with ID.me. If you have previously registered with ID.me, use your current email and password.

After Treasury approves the application, recipients will need to sign a grant agreement and submit a grant plan. The execution of the grant agreement will allow recipients to have access to administrative funds for planning and implementation of their grant plan. Treasury will review grant plans for alignment with CPF requirements. The grant plan form will be posted on the CPF website in the coming weeks, along with additional instructions. Grant plans will be due within <u>one year</u> of the application portal opening (September 24, 2022), although Treasury highly encourages submission as soon as possible because funds will be made accessible only when grant plans are approved.

Treasury will make several resources available to assist recipients with accessing CPF funds, including webinars or other information sessions and points of contact in the CPF office. The first webinar will focus on accessing and navigating the Application portal and the Guidance on **September 30, 2021 at 3:00 PM ET**. Interested parties may register <u>here</u>.

If you have questions about the Guidance or the Application Portal or for technical support, please email <u>CapitalProjectsFund@treasury.gov</u>.

## For more information

To learn more about the Capital Projects Fund, including specific allocations, please visit Treasury's <u>Capital Projects Fund website</u>.

To receive updates on Treasury's COVID-19 Economic Relief programs, please sign up here.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Office of Recovery Programs U.S. Department of the Treasury https://www.treasury.gov/CPF