



The American  
**RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT**  
Act of 2009

Guide to Federal Funds & Grants

Prepared by the Office of

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Fourth District of Arkansas

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 18, 2009

Arkansas is a great place to call home. We are surrounded by some of the most beautiful land in the world and live with some of the friendliest, most hardworking people in America. Over the past few decades, we have made our schools more competitive, our roads and bridges better, and our communities safer. Unfortunately, the nation's current economic crisis threatens much of the progress we have made over the past twenty years.

We are facing the toughest economic times since the Great Depression. Every sector of the economy and government at every level has been affected. In response to the mounting crisis, Congress passed and President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in February 2009. The ARRA is an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create or save millions of jobs, give 90 percent of Americans an immediate tax cut, invest in our local communities and address long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century. In Arkansas, this legislation will save or create 31,000 jobs and will invest nearly \$3 billion in our state.

The ARRA is a great example of government working together at all levels – federal, state and local – to help working families weather this economic storm. I created this guide to help you get the critical funding you need during these tough economic times. Arkansas is sometimes the last to feel the effects of a recession, and, unfortunately, we are usually among the last to recover. That is why it is important we work together and invest in our communities so that we can stop the bleeding and move toward complete recovery.

Please review this guide carefully and see how the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act can help your community, business or organization. For more information, please visit the national recovery website at [recovery.gov](http://recovery.gov) or the Arkansas recovery website at [recovery.arkansas.gov](http://recovery.arkansas.gov).

Online copies of this guide can be found on my website at <http://ross.house.gov>. You can also e-mail me at [mike.ross@mail.house.gov](mailto:mike.ross@mail.house.gov) to have an electronic copy e-mailed to you directly.

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## Congressman Mike Ross’s Economic Stimulus Handbook

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**Program Funding Provided From  
The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009**

**U.S. Department of Agriculture**

***Program: Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband***

**Funding Agency:** Rural Utilities Service

**Federal Funding:** \$2.5 billion U.S.

**Description:** Funding is available through grants, loans and loan guarantees for broadband infrastructure throughout the country. Seventy five percent (75%) of the area to be served by such funds shall be in a rural area without sufficient access to high speed broadband service.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency.

Visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and <http://www.usda.gov/rus/>

**Federal Website:** [http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/?navid=USDA\\_ARRA](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/?navid=USDA_ARRA)

## **U.S. Department of Transportation**

**Federal Website:** <http://www.dot.gov/recovery/>

### ***Program: National Surface Transportation Supplemental Discretionary Grants***

**Funding Agency:** U.S. Department of Transportation

**Federal Funding:** \$1.5 billion

**Description:** These funds will be used to award grants on a competitive basis for projects across all surface transportation modes that will have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area or a region. The funding levels listed in this document are estimates based on the most recent information received to date. The funding levels listed in this document are estimates based on the most recent information received to date.

**How to Apply:** Funds awarded through competitive grants from the U.S. DOT. Visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) & [http://www.dot.gov/citizen\\_services/grants\\_loans/](http://www.dot.gov/citizen_services/grants_loans/) Information will be posted as it becomes available.

### ***Program: Public Transportation***

**Funding Agency:** Federal Transit Administration

**Federal Funding:** \$6.9 billion

**Arkansas Funding:** \$28.4 million, to be obligated in 180 days

**Description:** These funds will be administered through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). 80% of the funding will be distributed through the FTA's urbanized formula, 10% of the funding will be through FTA's rural formula, and 10% will be through FTA's growing states and high density formula.

**How to Apply:** Formula funding through FTA to states and qualifying cities.

### ***Program: Rail Transportation: Intercity and High Speed***

**Funding Agency:** US Department of Transportation: Federal Railroad Administration

**Federal Funding:** \$8 billion

**Description:** Funds will be for the Capital Assistance to States Program and the High Speed Passenger Rail Program. The Capital Assistance to States Program is open for capital improvements and planning activities necessary to support improved or new intercity passenger rail service.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed by grants through the U.S. Department of Transportation / Federal Railroad Administration. Grant information will be available at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and <http://www.fra.dot.gov/us/content/1954>.

**Federal Agency:** *Federal Aviation Administration*

**Grants-in-Aid for Airports:** \$1.1 billion

Funding levels listed in this document are estimates based on the most recent information received.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be used by the FAA to provide discretionary airport grants to repair and improve critical infrastructure at our nation's airports.

### ***Program: Federal Aviation Administration (Upgrade power system)***

**Federal Funding:** \$200 million

Upgrade the FAA's power systems: \$50 million

Modernize aging en route air traffic control centers: \$50 million

Replace air traffic control towers and TRACONS: \$80 million

Install airport lighting, navigation and landing equipment: \$20 million

**How to Apply:** Funds will be used by the FAA's discretion for the purposes listed above.

***Program: Amtrak***

**Amtrak funding:** \$1.3 billion

**How to Apply:** This funding will solely be provided to Amtrak. Funds will be used by the U.S. Department of Transportation for improvements for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK). \$450 million will be spent for security improvements. No more than 60% of the remaining funds will be spent in the Northeast Corridor. It requires that funds be awarded within 30 days of enactment and that all projects funded be completed within two years.

***Program: Fixed Guideway Infrastructure Investment***

**Federal Agency:** Federal Transit Administration

**Federal Funding:** \$750 million

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed through an existing authorized formula for capital projects to modernize or improve existing fixed guideway systems.

***Program: Capital Investment Grants***

**Federal Agency:** Federal Transit Administration

**Federal Funding:** \$750 million

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed on a discretionary basis for New Starts and Small Starts projects that are already in construction or are nearly ready to begin construction. The funding levels listed in this document are estimates based on the most recent information received to date.

## **Army Corps of Engineers Funding**

***Federal Agency: Army Corps of Engineers***

**Federal Funding:** \$4.6 billion

**Funding by Army Corps Program:**

- Investigations: \$25 million
- Construction: \$2 billion
- Mississippi: \$375 million
- Operations and Maintenance: \$2.075 billion
- Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program: \$100 million

**Description:** The Corps of Engineers provides construction and operation and maintenance of the nation's flood control and navigation infrastructure, as well as the construction environmental restoration projects. The Army Corps of Engineers will receive \$4.6 billion in Recovery funding for backlogged projects.

- The Fourth Congressional District is included in two Army Corps Districts: Local cities and counties should contact your Army Corps' District Representative about programs currently on the Army Corps list.

**Vicksburg District:** Barbara A MVK Petersen, (601) 631-7154

**Little Rock District:** 501-324-5551

## Department of Commerce

**Federal Website:** <http://www.commerce.gov/Recovery/>

***Program: Economic Development Assistance***

**Funding Agency:** Economic Development Administration

**Federal Funding:** \$150 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** The program's funding is first distributed regionally on a formulaic basis based on high unemployment or low per capita income, and then each region actively seeks competitive applications. \$50 million will be used for economic adjustment assistance to help communities recover from sudden and severe economic dislocation and massive job losses due to The funding levels listed in this document are estimates based on the most recent information received to date.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Investments.xml>

***Program: Broadband Technology Opportunities Program***

**Funding Agency:** National Telecommunications and Information Administration, United States Department of Commerce

**Federal Funding:** \$4.7 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** Funding is provided to award competitive grants to accelerate broadband deployment in unserved and underserved areas and to strategic institutions that are likely to create jobs or provide significant public benefits. \$200 million shall be used for competitive grants for expanding public computer center capacity. \$250 million shall be for competitive grants for innovative programs to encourage sustainable broadband adoption. Internet service providers would be required to provide open access to broadband networks built using the federal funds.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/> or <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/top/grants/grants.htm>.

***Program: Scientific and Technical Research and Services***

**Funding Agency:** National Institute of Standards and Technology

**Federal Funding:** \$780 million

**Description:** Of that total, \$360 million would be for research and development facility construction grants, and \$240 million for research grants, additional research fellowships and advanced research and measurement equipment and supplies.

## **Department of Justice**

**Federal Website:** <http://www.usdoj.gov/recovery/>

### ***Program: Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution***

**Funding Agency:** Office on Violence against Women

**Federal Funding:** \$225 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** Funding for Violence against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs will be available until September 30, 2010. \$175 million is for the STOP Violence against Women Formula Assistance Program. \$50 million is for transitional housing assistance grants.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. State and local units of government, non-profit non-governmental victims' services programs may apply. Visit

[http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/stop\\_grant\\_desc.htm](http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/stop_grant_desc.htm) for STOP Violence Against Women program and [http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/thousing\\_grant\\_desc.htm](http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/thousing_grant_desc.htm) for the transitional housing assistance grants.

### ***Program: Byrne Competitive Grants***

**Funding Agency:** Office of Justice Programs

**Federal Funding:** \$225 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** The funding is for competitive, peer-reviewed grants to units of State, local, and tribal government, and to national, regional, and local non-profit organizations to prevent crime, improve the administration of justice, provide services to victims of crimes, and support critical nurturing and mentoring of at-risk children and youth.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

### ***Program: Rural Law Enforcement***

**Funding Agency:** Office of Justice Programs

**Federal Funding:** \$125 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** The funding is for grants to combat the persistent problems of drug-related crime in rural America. Funds are available on a competitive basis for drug enforcement and other law enforcement activities in rural states and rural areas, including for the hiring of police officers and for community drug prevention and treatment programs.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) or <https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/>.

### ***Program: Victims Compensation***

**Funding Agency:** Office of Justice Programs

**Federal Funding:** \$100 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** The funding is for formula grants to be administered through the Justice Department's Office for Victims for Crime to support State compensation programs for victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, drunk driving, homicide and other crimes.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) or <https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/>

### ***Program: Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program***

**Funding Agency:** Office of Justice Programs

**Federal Funding:** \$50 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** The funding will help State and local law enforcement agencies enhance investigative responses to offenders who use the Internet, online communication systems, to sexually exploit children.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/> <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/programs/ProgSummary.asp?pi=3#Funding>

## National Science Foundation

**Federal Website:** <http://www.nsf.gov/recovery/>

***Program: Robert Noyce Scholarship Program***

**Funding Agency:** National Science Foundation

**Federal Funding:** \$60 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** The program seeks to encourage talented science, technology, engineering, and mathematics majors and professionals to become K-12 mathematics and science teachers. The program provides funds to institutions of higher education to support scholarships, stipends, and academic programs for undergraduate STEM majors and post-baccalaureate students holding STEM degrees who commit to teaching in high-need K-12 school districts. The funding levels listed in this document are estimates based on the most recent information received to date.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5733](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5733) or [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)

***Program: Math and Science Partnerships***

**Funding Agency:** National Science Foundation

**Federal Funding:** \$25 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** The Math and Science Partnership (MSP) program is a major research and development effort that supports innovative partnerships to improve K-12 student achievement in mathematics and science. MSP projects are expected to raise the achievement levels of all students and significantly reduce achievement gaps in the mathematics and science performance of diverse student populations.

**How to Apply:** Institutions of higher education, local K-12 institutions and their local partners may apply for these competitive merit based grants. Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5756&org=NSF](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5756&org=NSF) or [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

## Department of Education

**Federal Website:** <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/index.html>

### ***Program: Impact Aid***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Education

**Federal Funding:** \$100 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** This funding is for construction of schools that educate “federally-connected students or have federally-owned land.” Disbursement will be made to local school jurisdictions that are “financially burdened by federal activities.”

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) or <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grants-apply.html?src=fp>.

### ***Program: Innovation and Improvement***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Education

**Federal Funding:** \$200 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** All the funding provided is for the Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) program. This program supports efforts to develop and implement performance-based teacher and principal compensation systems in high-need schools. A high-needs school is defined as a school with more than 30% of its enrollment from low-income families which is based on eligibility for free or reduced priced lunches or other poverty measures permitted by the state. Local Education Agencies including charter schools that are LEA’s in the State may apply.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grants-apply.html?src=rt> or <http://www.ed.gov/programs/teacherincentive/index.html>.

### ***Program: Rehabilitation Services and Disability Research***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Education

**Federal Funding:** \$680 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Arkansas Funding:** \$6.589 million for vocational grants, \$242.9 for independent living grants, and \$353.5 million for older blind individuals.

**Description:** \$540 million is available for Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants and \$140 million for Independent Living Programs. Of the funding available for Independent Living Programs, \$18.2 million will go to State grants, \$87.5 million to Independent Living Centers and \$34.3 million for Services for Older Blind Individuals.

**How to Apply:** All registered vocational rehabilitation service providers may apply. For independent living programs, all non-profit organizations that run centers for independent living are eligible to apply. To apply for funding for Services for Older Blind Individuals, agencies serving individuals who are blind may apply. Grants will be distributed by the federal agency.

Visit <http://www.ed.gov/programs/cil/index.html> or [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) .

### ***Program: Student Financial Assistance***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Education

**Federal Funding:** \$15.84 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

**Arkansas Funding:** \$284.4 million - Pell Grants & \$1.558 million in Work Study.

**Description:** \$15.64 billion of the funding will go to Pell Grants and \$200 million will be allocated for College Work-Study. The maximum Pell Grant award will be raised to \$5,350.

**How to Apply:** Applicants for a Pell Grant should visit <http://www.ed.gov/programs/fpg/index.html> or [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) or

<http://studentaid.ed.gov> or [www.students.gov](http://www.students.gov) to obtain application and further information.

***Program: Institute of Education Sciences***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Education

**Federal Funding:** \$250 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description: Who is this applicable to? Who is eligible?** Up to \$5 million may be used for State data coordinator and for awards to public or private organizations or agencies to improve data coordination.

**How to Apply:** Institutions of Higher Education may apply. Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/grantsearch/index.asp>

## **Department of Homeland Security**

**Federal Website:** <http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/recovery.shtm>

### ***Program: State and Local Programs***

**Funding Agency:** Federal Emergency Management Agency

**Federal Funding:** \$300 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** \$150 million is for the Public Transportation Security

Assistance and Railroad Security Assistance, including Amtrak security and \$150 million is for Port Security Grants. The bill waives the cost-share for Port Security Grants funded in this Act. Priority will be given to construction projects which address the most significant risks and can also be completed in a timely fashion.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed by the federal agency directly to transit agencies. Eligible agencies will be determined by the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI). Visit

<http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/psgp/index.shtm#1> for Port Security Grants and

<http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/tsgp/index.shtm> for Transit Security Grants and [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)

### ***Program: Firefighter Assistance Grants***

**Funding Agency:** Federal Emergency Management Agency

**Federal Funding:** \$210 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** Funding is provided for modifying, upgrading or constructing non-Federal fire stations, not to exceed \$15,000,000 per grant.

**How to Apply:** Local fire departments may apply through the Firefighter Assistance Grants

**Program.** Funds will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/>

### ***Program: Disaster Assistance Direct Loan Program Account***

**Funding Agency:** Federal Emergency Management Agency

**Federal Funding:** \$5 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** These loans will apply to calendar year 2008 disasters to exceed \$5 million and equal no more than 50 percent of the operating budget of local governments if that government has suffered a loss of 25 percent or more in tax revenues.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed by the federal agency. This is available to areas that have received a disaster declaration at the federal level. Visit <http://www.fema.gov/government/recovery.shtm>

## **Department of Defense**

**Federal Website:** <http://www.defenselink.mil/recovery/>

### ***Program: Near Term Energy Efficiency***

#### **Technology Demonstrations and Research**

**Funding Agency:** Department of Defense

**Federal Funding:** \$300 million U.S.

**Description:** \$75 million each will be allocated to Army, Air Force, Navy and Defense-Wide for Research, Development, Test and Evaluation projects, including pilot projects, demonstrations and energy efficient manufacturing enhancements. Funds are for improvements in energy generation and efficiency, transmission, regulation, storage, and for use on military installations and within operational forces. Funding is to include research and development of energy from fuel cells, wind, solar, and other renewable energy sources to include biofuels and bioenergy.

**How to Apply:** Pursue a procurement opportunity with the Department of Defense.

[http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/cpic/cp/docs/guide\\_to\\_dod\\_contracting\\_opportunities\\_us\\_20070425.pdf](http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/cpic/cp/docs/guide_to_dod_contracting_opportunities_us_20070425.pdf)

## **Department of Housing and Urban Development**

**Federal Website:** <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/>

### ***Program: Supplemental Grants to Public Housing Authorities for Capital Needs***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Federal Funding:** \$4 billion

**Description:** This funding will provide financial assistance to Public Housing Authorities (PHA) to implement much needed capital improvements in public housing.

**How to Apply:** \$3 billion would be administered through the current grant process and \$1 billion would be administered through a new competitive grant process. The process would provide funding to projects that rehabilitate units to improve energy efficiency, increase affordable housing projects that are ready-to-go, and address the housing needs of senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Projects that can award contracts, based on bids, within 120 days from the date that funds are available to the recipients would be given priority. Details for the competitive grants will be available at [www.HUD.gov](http://www.HUD.gov) or [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

### ***Program: Public Assisted Housing Stability and Energy Efficiency***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Federal Funding:** \$2.25 billion

**Description:** This funding provides funding for energy-efficient renovations and retrofits of Section 202, Section 811, and Section 8 units.

**How to Apply:** Public housing authorities are eligible to apply through a competitive bid process. A local housing agency can attach up to 20% of its voucher assistance to specific housing units if the owner agrees to either rehabilitate or construct the units, or the owner agrees to set-aside a portion of the units in an existing development. For further details and to apply visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) or [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov).

### ***Program: HOME Investment Partnerships Program***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Federal Funding:** \$2.25 billion

**Description:** Funding provided through this account will help to rehabilitate and construct housing, as well as fill financing gaps caused by the credit freeze. Funds are distributed by formula. It is administered by the Arkansas Development Finance Authority (ADFA). This program provides assistance to tenants whose incomes are 60% or below of the area median income, adjusted for family size. This allocation of funds is for use solely in conjunction with the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program for gap financing. 75% of these funds must be committed within 1 year of passage of the Act, and project owners must spend 75% of the funds within two years. The remaining 25% must be spent within 3 years. Any funds not spent according to these requirements must be redistributed within the state.

**How to Apply:** **State and local governments are eligible to apply.** For further details and to apply visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) or [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov).

### ***Program: Emergency Food and Shelter Program***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Homeland Security

**Federal Funding:** \$100,000,000

**Arkansas Funding:** \$ 11.2 million in additional funding

**Description:** The program is governed by a national board composed of representatives of the American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; United Jewish Communities; Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.; The Salvation Army; and United Way of America. The Board is chaired by a representative of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). **How to Apply:** The national board will allocate these additional funds to local agencies through an established federal formula based on unemployment, population and poverty data.

## **Small Business Provisions**

**Federal Website:** <http://www.sba.gov/recovery/>

***Program: Small Business Provisions***

**Funding Agency:** Small Business Administration

**Federal Funding:** \$730 million

**Description:** Of that amount, this program provides \$636 million for new direct lending and guarantee authorities under the Small Business Administration's (SBA) 504 certified development company (CDC) program, which provides growing businesses with long-term; fixed-rate financing for major fixed assets, such as land and buildings. Additional provisions for small businesses can be found in the tax section of this document.

**How to Apply:** Competitive grants can be obtained through the Small Business Administration at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) or [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov). The SBA would be authorized to guarantee up to 90 percent of small business loans originating under the 504 program, and to refinance such loans.

**Website:** <http://www.sba.gov/recovery/>

## **Financial Services**

**Federal Website:** <http://www.treas.gov/recovery/>

***Program: Community Development Financial Institution Programs***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Treasury

**Federal Funding:** \$100,000,000

**Description:** The Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Program was established by the Reigle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 to use federal resources to invest in and build the capacity of CDFIs to serve low-income people and communities lacking adequate access to affordable financial products and services.

**How to Apply:** An organization wishing to apply must be either already certified as a CDFI or be able to become certified by the Fund within two years of its application. For further details on how to become certified and to apply visit

[http://www.cdfifund.gov/what\\_we\\_do/programs\\_id.asp?programID=7](http://www.cdfifund.gov/what_we_do/programs_id.asp?programID=7).

## **Department of Health and Human Services**

**Federal Website:** <http://www.hhs.gov/recovery/>

### ***Program: Community Health Centers***

**Funding Agency:** Health Resources and Services Administration, which is an office within the Department of Health and Human Services

**Federal Funding:** \$500,000,000

**Description:** These funds are to be used to support new sites and service areas, to increase services at existing sites and to provide supplemental payments for spikes in the uninsured. Grants for new sites and services are to be two years in length. The Conferees specifically encourage funding currently approved community health centers applications.

**How to Apply:** **This funding is for community health centers.** Grants will be available through HRSA and will be awarded directly to community health centers. Community Health centers can apply through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) or <http://www.hrsa.gov/>.

### ***Program: National Health Service Corp***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services through HRSA

**Federal Funding:** \$300,000,000

**Description:** This funding will be used for extending service contracts and operations. Funding will also go to training programs for the primary care medicine and dentistry fund, the public health and preventative medicine program and scholarship.

**How to Apply:** Additional information can be found at <http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/>.

### ***Program: Head Start***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services

**Federal Funding:** \$1 Billion

**Description:** Head Start funds will be allocated according to current statutory formula. HHS will work with local Head Start grantees in order to manage these resources to sustain FY 09 awards through FY10.

**How to Apply:** For more information and to apply visit [www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov) or [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

### ***Program: Early Head Start***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services

**Federal Funding:** \$1.1 billion

**Description:** Early Head Start (EHS) is a federally funded community-based program for low-income families with infants and toddlers and pregnant women. Its mission is simple: to promote healthy prenatal outcomes for pregnant women, to enhance the development of very young children, and to promote healthy family functioning.

**How to Apply:** These will be competitive grants administered through the Department of Health and Human Services. Apply through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) or [www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov).

### ***Program: Establish a New Initiative to award capacity building grants directly to nonprofits***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Health and Humans Services

**Federal Funding:** \$100,000,000

**Description:** This program will expand the delivery of social services to individuals and communities affected by the economic downturn.

**How to Apply:** The guidelines for the grant process will be established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. More information can be obtained at [www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov) and [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

***Program: Health IT***

**Federal Funding Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services

**Federal Funding:** \$19.2 billion

**Description:** This bill promotes the use of health information technology (health IT), such as electronic health records, by: requiring the government to take a leadership role to develop standards by 2010 that allow for the nationwide electronic exchange and use of health information to improve quality and coordination of care; investing \$19 billion in health information technology infrastructure and Medicare and Medicaid incentives to encourage doctors, hospitals, and other providers to use health IT to electronically exchange patients' health information; and strengthening Federal privacy and security law to protect identifiable health information from misuse as the health care sector increases use of health IT.

**How to Apply:** Hospitals and Physician offices will automatically receive these benefits through their CMS reimbursements. Other medical agencies and services can apply for grants through the Department of Health and Human Services to offset the cost of implementing HIT. To apply go to [www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov) or [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

***Program: National Institute of Health (NIH)***

**Federal Funding Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services

**Federal Funding:** \$10 billion

**Description:** \$1 billion of the total allotted money will be distributed as competitive grants through the NIH National Center for Research. These grants will be awarded for construction and renovation of external research facilities.

**How to Apply:** For additional information and to apply for a grant visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) or <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm>.

## Department of Interior

### ***Program: Bureau of Land Management***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Interior – Bureau of Land Management

**Federal Funding:** \$305 million

**Description:** This funding is for the management of lands and resources under the Bureau’s jurisdiction. The Bureau should select the individual projects based on a prioritized process which weighs the capacity of proposals to create the largest number of jobs in the shortest time and which creates lasting value. Projects can include deferred maintenance, abandoned mine and well site remediation, road and trail maintenance, watershed improvement, and high priority habitat restoration.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed at the Bureau’s discretion and not available for applicants.

**Website:** <http://www.doi.gov/recovery/>

### ***Program: Wildland Fire Management***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Interior – Bureau of Land Management

**Federal Funding:** \$15 million

**Description:** Funds will be used for high priority hazardous fuels reduction projects on Federal lands

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed at the Bureau’s discretion and not available for applicants.

**Website:** <http://www.doi.gov/recovery/>

### ***Program: Operation of the National Park System***

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

**Federal Funding:** \$146 million

**Description:** These funds will be used for operations of the national park system. Eligible projects to be funded within this account include, but not limited to, repair/rehabilitation of facilities, trail maintenance projects and other critical infrastructure needs. The selection of individual projects will be selected by the National Park Service. It will be based on a prioritization process that weighs the capacity of proposals to create the largest number of jobs and creates lasting value.

Funds will be distributed at the National Park Service’s discretion & not available for applicants.

**Website:** <http://www.doi.gov/recovery/>

### ***Program: Historic Preservation Fund***

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

**Federal Funding:** \$15 million

**Description:** These funds will be used for historical preservation competitive grants for historically black colleges and universities.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be available through competitive grants administered through the Department of Interior. Check [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) for the announcement of the grant openings.

**Website:** <http://www.doi.gov/recovery/>

### ***Program: Department of Interior - Construction***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Interior

**Federal Funding:** \$589 million

**Description:** Eligible projects include: major facility construction, road maintenance, abandoned mine cleanup, equipment replacement, and preservation and rehabilitation of historic assets.

**How to Apply:** The Department of Interior will have the discretion to award funding for projects currently backlogged.

**Website:** <http://www.doi.gov/recovery/>

***Program: Surveys, Investigations and Research***

**Funding Agency:** United States Geological Survey

**Federal Funding:** \$140 million

**Description:** The surveys should consider a wide variety of activities, including repair, construction and restoration of facilities, equipment replacement and upgrades, national map activities, and other critical deferred maintenance and improvement projects.

**How to Apply:** Discretionary funding will be administered through the United States Geological Survey. Visit [www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov) for more information.

**Website:** <http://www.doi.gov/recovery/>

## **Department of Labor**

**Federal Website:** <http://www.dol.gov/recovery/>

### ***Program: Dislocated Worker Assistance***

#### **National Reserve**

**Funding Agency:** Department of Labor

**Federal Funding:** \$200 million

**Description:** These funds will allow the Secretary of Labor to award national emergency grants to respond to plant closings, mass layoffs and other worker dislocations.

**How to Apply:** These funds can be applied for through the Department of Labor as necessary.

### ***Program: Youth Build***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Labor

**Federal Funding:** \$50 million

**Description:** These funds will allow for expanded services for at-risk youth, who gain education and occupational credentials while constructing or rehabilitating affordable housing.

**How to Apply:** These funds will be distributed through competitive grants through the Department of Labor. Grant information will be available as the Department of Labor administers the program at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

### ***Program: "Green" and Health Care Worker Training***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Labor

**Federal Funding:** \$750 million

**Description:** These funds will be available through competitive grants for worker training and placement in high growth and emerging industry sectors. Grants will be awarded for projects that prepare workers for careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy. Grants will also be available to prepare workers for careers in the health care sector. These grants are also available to train workers for wireless and broadband deployment.

**How to Apply:** The Department of Labor will provide additional information as to How to Apply as they administer this program. Please check [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and [www.dol.gov](http://www.dol.gov) for more information.

### ***Program: Community Service Employment for Older Americans***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Labor

**Federal Funding:** \$120 million

**Description:** The Community Service Employment grants for older Americans are a community service and work based training program created in 1965. Through this program, older workers have access to the SCSEP services as well as other employment assistance available through the One-Stop Career Centers of the workforce investment system. **How to Apply:** Nonprofit organizations may apply. Current grantees will be provided with the additional funding directly from the Department of Labor.

### ***Program: Job Corps***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Labor

**Federal Funding:** \$250 million

**Description:** These funds will support construction and modernization of a network of residential facilities serving at-risk youth. The funds will allow the Office of Job Corps to move forward on a number of ready-to-go projects. A portion of the funds will be available to provide additional training for careers in the energy efficiency, renewable energy, and environmental protection industries.

**How to Apply:** Discretionary funding will be used by the Office of Job Corps within the Department of Labor.

## Department of Energy

**Federal Website:** <http://www.energy.gov/recovery/>

***Program: Biomass from Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$800 million

**Description:** The Department of Energy will disburse this funding through competitive grants and discretionary spending for biomass research and development.

**How to Apply:** Please check <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/biomass/> for additional information as the Department of Energy implements this program. Federal grants can be found at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

***Program: Geothermal from Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Recovery Funding:** \$400 million

**Description:** The Department of Energy will disburse this funding through competitive grants and discretionary spending for geothermal technologies research and development.

**How to Apply:** Please check <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/geothermal/> for additional information as the Department of Energy implements this program. Federal grants can be found at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

***Program: Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$2.8 billion

**Arkansas Funding:** The U. S. Department of Energy has not yet notified the Arkansas Energy Office of its funding allocation, nor any requirements for the funds.

**Description:** The Department of Energy will disburse this funding through competitive grants to local governments that are not eligible entities for grants through the formula. This program will assist eligible entities in implementing energy efficiency and conservation strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions, to reduce total energy use, and to improve energy efficiency in the transportation, building and other appropriate sectors

**How to Apply:** By formula, every city with a population of 35,000 or more; every county with a population of 200,000 or more will receive direct funding from the Department of Energy. Each state is guaranteed to have at least its 10 largest cities and 10 largest counties eligible for formula grants, regardless of population. This program has not been implemented previously. Please check [www.doe.gov](http://www.doe.gov) for additional information as the Department of Energy implements this program. Federal grants can be found at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

**State Agency:** AEDC- Arkansas Energy Office

**Contact Name:** Chris Benson, 501-682-1370, [energyinfo@arkansasedc.com](mailto:energyinfo@arkansasedc.com)

**Federal Agency:** U. S. Department of Energy, James Ferguson, 412-386-6043

***Program: Advanced Battery Manufacturing grants***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$2 billion

**Description:** Domestic manufacturing facilities are eligible for this funding. The Department of Energy will disburse this funding through competitive grants to support the manufacturing of advanced vehicle batteries and components.

**How to Apply:** Please check [www.doe.gov](http://www.doe.gov) for additional information as the Department of Energy implements this program. Federal grants can be found at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

***Program: Alternative Fueled Vehicles Pilot Grant Program***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$300 million

**Description:** Funds will be distributed by competitive grants for the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles through the DOE's Clean Cities program.

**How to Apply:** The Department of Energy will administer these grants on a competitive basis through its Clean Cities Program, to state and local governments, metropolitan transportation authorities, air pollution control districts, and appropriate private entities to be used to purchase and demonstrate alternatively fueled vehicles that utilize fuel cell, electric, or hybrid drive system technologies. Please visit [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov) and [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) for the announcement following the program's implementation.

***Program: Transportation Electrification***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$400 million

**Description:** This funding is for a transportation electrical system construction program, authorized by the 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act, at transportation facilities, including seaports and truck stops.

**How to Apply:** The Department of Energy will administer these grants on a competitive basis. Please visit [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov) and [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) for the announcement following the program's implementation.

***Program: Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate program and Energy Star program***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$300 million

**Description:** This funding will provide rebates for residential consumers for the purchase of residential Energy Star products to replace used appliances with more efficient models.

**How to Apply:** The Department of Energy will administer these rebates through the Energy Star program. Please visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) for more information as the program is implemented.

***Program: Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability-Smart Grid Investment***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$4.5 billion

**Description:** The existing transmission system in the United States requires modernization in light of increasing demand. This funding will provide for research and development, pilot projects, and federal matching funds for the Smart Grid Investment Program to meet the goal of developing a modern electric grid, enhancing security and reliability of energy infrastructure, and facilitating recovery from disruptions to the energy supply. A smart grid is an approach to operating the nation's electricity transmission and distribution system using advanced digital technology to save energy and cost, and to allow demand response, use of storage technologies (including plug-in hybrid batteries), integration of dispersed renewable and distributed generators, enhanced reliability and quicker repair of outages, and improved power quality.

**How to Apply:** There will be a regional demonstration initiative administered through the Department of Energy. There will also be 50% matching grants to states provided by the Department. More information will be available at [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov) and [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

***Program: Fossil Energy Research and Development***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$3.4 billion

**Description:** This funding provides funding for research, development, and demonstration of carbon sequestration, also known as carbon capture projects.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be awarded competitively in the form of grants and contracts. Please check [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov) and [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) for more information as it is announced.

***Program: Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$483 million

**Description:** This funding will create jobs in environmental cleanup and remediation services; address legal requirements with states to perform mandated cleanup activities; and accelerate the completion of capital projects, shortening out-year mortgage costs. Sites related to past nuclear activities are excluded.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be awarded discretionally as well as competitively in the form of grants. Please check [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov) and [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) for more information as it is announced.

***Program: Science***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$1.6 billion

**Description:** The Office of Science at the Department of Energy is the single largest supporter of basic research in the physical sciences in the United States, providing more than 40 percent of total funding for this vital area of national importance. It oversees – and is the principal federal funding agency of – the Nation’s research programs in high-energy physics, nuclear physics, and fusion energy sciences.

Independent scientific research provides the foundation for innovation and future technologies. But U.S. federal funding for research and development has declined steadily over the last decade. This funding will support improvements to DOE laboratories and scientific facilities to provide the foundation for research and development efforts.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be awarded by the Department of Energy. Please check [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov) for more information.

***Program: Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$390 million

**Description:** This Fund’s primary mission is to provide decontamination and decommissioning and cleanup of the nation’s three gaseous diffusion plants, namely Tennessee Technology Park in Tennessee, the Paducah GDP in Kentucky, and the Portsmouth GDP near Piketon, Ohio.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be awarded discretionally by the Department of Energy. Please check [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov) for more information.

***Program: Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$400 million

**Description:** Energy to support high-risk, high-payoff research to accelerate the innovation cycle for both traditional and alternative energy sources and energy efficiency as authorized by the America COMPETES Act. The Department of Energy estimates that this amount of funding will support 50,000 jobs through research and construction of laboratory facilities.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be awarded by the Department of Energy. Please check [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov) for more information.

***Program: Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$6 billion

**Description:** This new loan program would provide loan guarantees for renewable technologies and transmission technologies. The \$6 billion is expected to support more than \$60 billion in loans for these

projects. \$10 million from this \$6 billion will support the administrative expenses for the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan program.

**How to Apply:** After implementing this new loan program, more information will be available at [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov).

***Program: Defense Environmental Cleanup***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$5.127 billion

**Description:** This funding will accelerate nuclear waste cleanup at sites contaminated as a result of the Nation's past nuclear activities. This funding will create jobs in environmental cleanup and remediation services; address legal requirements with states to perform mandated cleanup activities; and accelerate the completion of capital projects, shortening out-year mortgage costs.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be awarded by the Department of Energy. Please check [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov) for more information.

## **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

**Federal Website:** <http://www.epa.gov/recovery/>

### ***Program: Hazardous Substance Superfund***

**Funding Agency:** EPA

**Federal Funding:** \$600 million

**Description:** Funds are limited to the Superfund Remedial program. The Superfund Remedial program addresses contamination from uncontrolled releases at hazardous and toxic waste sites that threaten human health and the environment. Of the over 15,000 uncontrolled hazardous waste sites nation-wide, EPA currently has listed 1,255 sites on its National Priority List. It is these sites, selected based on a hazard ranking system, which would benefit from recovery funds.

**How to Apply:** The EPA will award these funds based on the National Priority List for Superfund Remedial sites. Check [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) or [www.epa.gov/superfund](http://www.epa.gov/superfund) for additional information.

### ***Program: Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Account***

**Funding Agency:** EPA

**Federal Funding:** \$200 million

**Description:** Through the Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) Program, EPA provides resources to states and territories for the oversight, enforcement and cleanup of petroleum releases from underground storage tanks. EPA estimates that every year 7,570 new releases occur. Added to the number of sites not yet completed, there could be as many as 116,000 sites requiring clean up actions in 2009.

**How to Apply:** The EPA will award these funds based on their priority lists for the program. Please visit [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) as they continue to administer the program.

### ***Program: Brownfields Projects***

**Funding Agency:** EPA

**Federal Funding:** \$100 million

**Description:** Funds are provided for Brownfields competitive grants to address environmental site assessment and cleanup, 25 percent of which are mandated by law to address petroleum contamination. Funds will capitalize revolving funds and provide low interest loans, job training grants and technical assistance to local governments and non-profit organizations.

**How to Apply:** Eligible entities include state, local and tribal governments, legislatures, general purpose units of local government, land clearance authorities or other quasi-governmental entities and non-profit organizations. Grants will be distributed by federal agency on a competitive basis. Visit [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) or [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) for more information.

### ***Program: Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) Grants***

**Funding Agency:** EPA

**Federal Funding:** \$300 million

**Description:** Created in 2005, the DERA program provides grants and loans to states and local governments for projects that reduce diesel emission. Priority projects include those that maximize public health benefits by significantly reducing particulate matter emissions. The program also targets geographic areas with high air pollution and areas that receive a disproportionate quantity of air pollution, such as truck stops and ports. EPA funds technologies to retrofit emission exhaust systems, such as on school buses and other vehicles, replace engines and vehicles, and establish anti-idling programs.

**How to Apply:** Eligible entities include US regional, State, local, tribal or port agencies with jurisdiction over transportation or air quality and nonprofit organizations that represent or provide pollution reduction or educational services to persons or organizations that operate diesel fleets. Visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) or [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) for more information.

## PROGRAM FUNDING THROUGH THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

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### ***Program: Highway Infrastructure: Road Projects***

**Funding Agency:** Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department

**Federal Funding:** \$27.5 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

**Arkansas Funding:** \$351.5 million for highway/bridges & \$28.40 mil to transit capitol grants.

**Description:** Funds will be used for ready-to-go, quick spending projects for which contracts can be awarded rapidly. Half of the funds must be obligated (contracted) within 120 days.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed by formula to the states. The Arkansas State Highway & Transportation Discretionary Dollars will be directed by the Highway Commission. Questions should be directed to [info@arkansashighways.com](mailto:info@arkansashighways.com) or 501-569-2000.

## **Department of Energy**

### ***Program: Weatherization Assistance Program***

**Funding Agency:** Dept. of Energy (Federal) and AR Department of Human Services

**Federal Funding:** \$5 billion

**Arkansas Funding:** \$48.114 million

**Description:** Assists low-income families reduce their energy costs. Services include attic, wall and basement insulation, blower-door-guided air leakage reduction; heating system repairs or replacement; and health and safety testing. All measures are provided based on an on-site energy audit and on cost-effective guidelines. The program has been expanded to include households at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Maximum allowed per household has been increased from \$2,500 to \$6,500.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be added to the State's Weatherization Program.

**Department of Human Services** - Division of County Operations

**Contact Name:** Thomas Green, 501-682-8715, [Thomas.Green@arkansas.gov](mailto:Thomas.Green@arkansas.gov)

**Who can apply?** Community Action Agencies and other non-profit agencies

**Website:** <http://www.arkansas.gov/dhs/dco/index.html>

### ***Program: State Energy Program***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$3.2 billion

**Arkansas Funding:** \$39.4 million

**Description:** This program is funded by US Department of Energy and operated by the Arkansas Energy Office. It provides funds for existing state energy efficiency projects and helps support the development of renewable energy. Funds are not available by application but may be available on a project by project basis. The Energy Office still awaits instructions on how to use the funds as well as how much will be available to Arkansas. Funds will be distributed at the State's discretion.

**State Agency:** AEDC- Arkansas Energy Office

**Contact Name:** Chris Benson, 501-682-1370

**Contact E-Mail:** [energyinfo@arkansasedc.com](mailto:energyinfo@arkansasedc.com)

**Federal Agency:** U. S. Department of Energy, James Ferguson, 412-386-6043

### ***Program: Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Energy

**Federal Funding:** \$2.8 billion

**Arkansas Funding:** The U. S. Department of Energy has not yet notified the Arkansas Energy Office of its funding allocation, nor any requirements for the funds.

**Description:** The Department of Energy will disburse this funding through competitive grants to local governments that are not eligible entities for grants through the formula. This program will assist eligible entities in implementing energy efficiency and conservation strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions, to reduce total energy use, and to improve energy efficiency in the transportation, building and other appropriate sectors

**How to Apply:** By formula, every city with a population of 35,000 or more; every county with a population of 200,000 or more will receive direct funding from the Department of Energy. Each state is guaranteed to have at least its 10 largest cities and 10 largest counties eligible for formula grants, regardless of population. This program has not been implemented previously. Please check [www.doe.gov](http://www.doe.gov) for additional information as the Department of Energy implements this program. Federal grants can be found at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

**State Agency:** AEDC- Arkansas Energy Office

**Contact Name:** Chris Benson, 501-682-1370, [energyinfo@arkansasedc.com](mailto:energyinfo@arkansasedc.com)

**Federal Agency:** U. S. Department of Energy, James Ferguson, 412-386-6043

## **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

**Program:** *Clean Water State Revolving Funds*

**Funding Agency:** EPA

**Federal Funding:** \$4 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

**Arkansas Funding:** \$25.8 Million

**Description:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's CWSRF program awards annual capitalization grants to states as a long-term source of state financing a) for the construction of publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities, b) for the implementation of non-point water quality management activities, and c) for the development and implementation of comprehensive estuary conservation and management plans. The recovery funds will help address the \$388 billion funding gap.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed by formula to the states.

State Agency: Arkansas Natural Resources Commission

Contact Name: Mike Chandler, 501-682-0547

Contact E-Mail: [mike.chandler@arkansas.gov](mailto:mike.chandler@arkansas.gov)

**Program:** *Drinking Water State Revolving Funds*

**Funding Agency:** EPA

**Federal Funding:** \$2 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

**Arkansas Funding:** \$24.5 Million

**Description:** The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) provides grants, distributed by formula, to states to capitalize their revolving loan funds which then finance drinking water infrastructure improvements. With the recovery funds, states would begin to address the \$274 billion funding gap estimated by EPA

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed by formula to the states.

State Agency: Arkansas Natural Resources Commission

Contact Name: Mike Chandler, 501-682-0547

Contact E-Mail: [mike.chandler@arkansas.gov](mailto:mike.chandler@arkansas.gov)

## Department of Labor

***Program: Workforce Investment Act Formula Grants***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Labor

**Federal Funding:** \$2.95 billion

**Arkansas Funding:** \$145,676,000

**Description:** This funding is for formula grants to states for training and employment services. The \$2.95 billion in federal funding will be divided into services for adults (\$500 million), services for youths (\$1.2 billion), and services for dislocated workers (\$1.25 billion).

Arkansas funding amounts will be: Adults - \$ 5,072,930; Youth - \$ 12,065,555; Dislocated workers – \$ 7,518,483.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed to the states by formula. <http://www.state.ar.us/esd/>

***Program: State Unemployment Insurance***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Labor

**Federal Funding:** \$400 million

**Description:** These funds will be used for reemployment services to connect unemployment insurance claimants to employment and training opportunities that will facilitate reentry to employment. The funds provided will be distributed by the existing formula.

**How to Apply:** Unemployed persons should apply to their local Arkansas Unemployment office found at: <http://www.state.ar.us/esd/>

## National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities

***Program: Grants and Administration***

**Funding Agency:** National Endowment for the Arts

**Federal Funding:** \$50 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** Grant funding will be distributed in direct grants to fund arts projects and activities which preserve jobs in the non-profit arts sector threatened by declines in philanthropic and other support during the current economic downturn. 40 percent of funds will be distributed to State arts agencies and regional arts organizations in a manner similar to the agency's current process. 60 percent of the funds shall be for competitively selected arts projects and activities according to the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the State of Arkansas and by the federal agency to non-profit organizations. Visit <http://www.nea.gov/grants/apply/index.html>.

## Department of Education

### ***Program: State Fiscal Stabilization Fund***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Education

**Arkansas Funding:** \$443.9 million, 81.8% (\$363.1million) mandatory education allocation, 18.2% Governor's Discretionary spending (\$80.8 million)

**Federal Funding:** \$53.6 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** \$39.5 billion will be distributed to local school districts using existing funding formulas and will be used for preventing cutbacks, preventing layoffs, school modernization. \$5 billion will go to states as bonus grants for meeting key performance measures in education. \$8.8 billion will go to states for high priority needs such as public safety and other critical services, which may include education and for modernization, renovation, and repairs of public school facilities and institutions of high education facilities.

**Website:** <http://www.arkansased.org/>

**Contact Name:** Heather Gage, 501-682-3667, [heather.gage@arkansas.gov](mailto:heather.gage@arkansas.gov)

### ***Program: Education for the Disadvantaged***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Education

**Arkansas Funding:** \$ 111.1 million

**Federal Funding:** \$13 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** \$10 billion will go toward Title I formula grants and \$3 billion toward School Improvement grants. These funds should be available during school years 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 to help school districts mitigate the effect of the recent reduction in local revenues and State support for education. \$5 billion of the Title I formula grants will be allocated through the targeted formula and the same amount should be allocated through the education finance incentive grant formula. The Department of Education will encourage States to use 40% of their School improvement allocation for middle and high schools.

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed by the Arkansas Department of Education

**Contact Name:** Heather Gage, 501-682-3667, [heather.gage@arkansas.gov](mailto:heather.gage@arkansas.gov)

**Who can apply?** Local Education Agencies. Funds will be distributed through normal formulas to LEAs.

**Website:** <http://www.arkansased.org/>

**Federal Agency:** US Department of Education, Dr. Zollie Stevenson

**Contact Phone:** 202-401-0113

### ***Program: School Improvement Programs***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Education

**Federal Funding:** \$720 million U.S. (Conference Report)

**Arkansas Funding:** \$7.163 Education Technology

**Description:** \$650 million will go toward the Enhancing Education through Technology program and \$70 million for Homeless Children and Youth program. The Secretary of Education will provide each State a grant that is proportionate to the number of homeless students identified as such during 2007-2008 academic year relative to the number of homeless children nationally during the same year. States will award subgrants to local educational agencies on a competitive basis, or using a formula based on the number of homeless students identified in each school district in the state.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency and by the state. Visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) or <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grantsapply>.

**State Agency:** Arkansas Department of Education

**Contact Name:** Heather Gage, 501-682-3667, [heather.gage@arkansas.gov](mailto:heather.gage@arkansas.gov)

**Who can apply?** Local Education Agencies <http://www.arkansased.org/>

**Federal Agency:** US Department of Education, John McLaughlin, 202-401-0962

***Program: Special Education***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Education

**Federal Funding:** \$12.2 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

**Arkansas Funding:** \$112.177 million

**Description:** \$11.3 billion will go toward section 611 of part B, \$400 million will go toward section 619 of part B, and \$500 million for part C of IDEA. The funds will be available during school years 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 to help school districts mitigate the effect of the recent reduction in local revenues and State support for education. Within the amount provided for part C of IDEA, the Secretary of Education will reserve the amount needed for grants under section 643 (e), and allocated any remaining funds in accordance with section 643 (c) of IDEA. IDEA flow-through funding is distributed according to a formula established in IDEA. 50% will be sent to states by the end of March 2009. The remaining 50% will be sent to states between July and October of 2009. State Agency:

**How to Apply:** Funds will be distributed by the Arkansas Department of Education

**Contact Name:** Marcia Harding, 501-682-4221, [Marcia.Harding@arkansas.gov](mailto:Marcia.Harding@arkansas.gov)

**Who can apply?** Local Education Agencies (LEAs)

**Website:** <http://www.arkansased.org/>

Federal Agency: US Department of Education, 202-245-7468

***Program: Qualified School Construction Bonds***

The bill creates a new category of tax credit bonds for the construction, rehabilitation, or repair of public school facilities or for the acquisition of land on which a public school facility will be constructed. There is a national limitation on the amount of qualified school construction bonds that may be issued by State and local governments of \$22 billion (\$11 billion allocated initially in 2009 and the remainder allocated in 2010). There is a national limitation on the amount of qualified school construction bonds that may be issued by Indian tribal governments of \$400 million (\$200 million allocated initially in 2009 and the remainder allocated in 2010). This proposal is estimated to cost \$9.877 billion over 10 years.

**How to Apply:** The taxpayer holding qualified school construction bonds on a credit allowance date is entitled to a tax credit. The amount of the tax credit is determined by multiplying the bond's credit rate by the face amount on the holder's bond. The tax credit will be received when taxes are filed with the IRS.

Visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

## Food Nutrition Services

***Program: WIC (Women's Infants and Children) Contingency***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Agriculture through USDA

**Federal Funding:** \$5 Million

**Description:** WIC provides Federal grants to States for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk.

**How to Apply:** State agencies are responsible for determining participant eligibility and providing benefits and services, and for authorizing vendors. For more information and to apply, please visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and <http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/howtoapply/default.htm>.

**Arkansas Website:** <http://www.healthylarkansas.com/wic/>

***Program: Temporary Emergency Food Assistance***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Agriculture

**Federal Funding:** \$150,000,000

**Arkansas Funding:** \$ Unknown at this time

**Description:** TEFAP provides USDA commodities to states, who distribute the food through local emergency food providers. Available foods vary depending on market conditions

**How to Apply:** States will receive an allotment based on federal formula, which they will distribute. Food Banks and Community Action Agencies will order additional USDA donated foods from a listing of available products. Only the 6 Food Banks and 16 Community Action Agencies will receive these products. For more info contact Lynn Jackson - 501-371-1400, [Lynn.Jackson@arkansas.gov](mailto:Lynn.Jackson@arkansas.gov) or <http://www.arkansas.gov/dhs/dco/index.html>

***Program: National School Lunch Program***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Agriculture through USDA

**Federal Funding:** \$100 Million

**Description:** Funds will be provided to states administering a school lunch program in a manner proportional with each states administrative expense allocation. States shall then provide competitive grants to school food authorities based on the need for equipment assistance. From these grants, priority will be given to schools that have 50% or more of students that are eligible to receive free or reduced priced meals.

**State Website:** <http://cnn.k12.ar.us/index.htm> or 501-324-9502.

***Program: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or Food Stamps (SNAP)***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Agriculture

**Federal Funding:** \$19,900,000

**Arkansas Funding:** \$269 million increase in food stamp benefits.

**Description:** This money will go directly to states to supplement their existing food stamp program. The money will be distributed based on the need of people in their state. The benefits will be given to recipients in April. Low-income Arkansans who are enrolled in SNAP will receive a 13.6% increase in their monthly benefit amount. Federal SNAP benefits are posted directly to the client's EBT card.

**How to Apply:** Persons who need food stamps should contact Arkansas Department of Human Services. <http://www.arkansas.gov/dhs/dco/index.html>

Customer Assistance Unit Contact Phone: 1-800-482-8988

***Program: Childcare and Development Block Grants***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Health & Human Services-Administration for Children and Families

**Federal Funding:** \$2 Billion

**Arkansas Funding:** \$25,133,768

**Description:** Funding for these grants will be distributed to states for quality improvements for infant and toddler care. This funding will enable states to provide child care assistance for an additional 300,000 children in low-income working families who have been suffering from the economic downturn, and is estimated that it will generate paid employment for roughly 125,000 caregivers. Qualified families must meet the following guidelines: working 30 hours or more per week or full time students or a combination of work and school and income must be at or below 60% State Median Income or 156% Federal Poverty Level. A single parent must have an active child support case.

**How to Apply:** To apply for state grants visit the Department of Human Services at

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/ccdf/index.htm>

Contact Name: Ivory Daniels, (501) 682-8763 [ivory.daniels@arkansas.gov](mailto:ivory.daniels@arkansas.gov)

***Program: Congregate Nutrition Services***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services through the Administration on Aging

**Federal Funding:** \$65 Million

**Arkansas Funding:** \$648,133

**Description:** Programs that bring seniors together to eat in group settings.

**How to Apply:** States will automatically receive the funding for disbursement through the current formula. To apply for a state grant please contact

**State Agency:** Department of Human Services - Division of Aging and Adult Services

**Contact:** Beverly Dunlap, 501-683-0968, [Beverly.Dunlap@arkansas.gov](mailto:Beverly.Dunlap@arkansas.gov)

***Program: Home-Delivered Nutrition Services***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services

**Federal Funding:** \$32 Million

**Arkansas Funding:** \$319,081

**Description:** Programs that bring nutritional and dietary safe meals to seniors.

**How to Apply:** States will automatically receive the funding for disbursement.

**State Agency:** Department of Human Services - Division of Aging and Adult Services

**Contact:** Beverly Dunlap, 501-683-0968, [Beverly.Dunlap@arkansas.gov](mailto:Beverly.Dunlap@arkansas.gov)

***Program: Community Services Block Grants***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services

**Federal Funding:** \$1 billion

**Arkansas Funding:** \$13,536,926

**Description:** The Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) is a formula grant that provides funds to States, Territories, etc. so that they may provide supportive services and activities to assist low-income individuals and families to become self-sufficient. States fund these services by making sub-grants to locally based Community Action Agencies that provide services to low-income individuals.

**How to Apply:** This money will be disbursed directly to states who will then allocate the funds to eligible institutions. One percent of state allocations must be used for benefit coordination services. States will receive this money from the Dept. of Health and Human Services. To apply for state grants go to <http://www.arkansas.gov/dhs/dco/index.html> or contact Thomas Green at 501-682-8715, [Thomas.Green@arkansas.gov](mailto:Thomas.Green@arkansas.gov).

## **Funding Directly to Cities Department of Justice**

### ***Program: Byrne-Jag Assistance Grants***

**Funding Agency:** Office of Justice Programs

**Arkansas Funding:** \$22.1 million

**Federal Funding:** \$2 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** The funding is allocated by formula to State and local law enforcement agencies to help prevent, fight, and prosecute crime.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the Department of Justice.

Visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/jag.html>.

### ***Program: COPS Hiring Grants***

**Funding Agency:** Community Oriented Policing Services

**Federal Funding:** \$1 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

**Description:** The grants will go to State, local, and tribal governments for the hiring of additional law enforcement officers, to be available until September 30, 2010. The solicitation for the program – the COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) – is open on-line at [www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov).

- CHRP grant solicitation opens March 16, 2009 and closes April 14, 2009. There is no local match requirement for CHRP, but grant funding will be based on current entry-level salary and benefits packages and therefore any additional costs for higher salaries or benefits for particular individuals hired will be the responsibility of the grantee agency.
- CHRP grants will provide 100 percent funding for approved entry-level salaries and benefits for 3 years (36 months) for newly-hired, full-time sworn officer positions (including filling existing unfunded vacancies) or for rehired officers who have been laid off, or are scheduled to be laid off on a future date, as a result of local budget cuts.
- In addition, there is no cap on the number of positions an agency may request, but awards will be limited to available funding. Please be mindful of the initial 3-year grant period and your agency's ability to fill the officer positions awarded, while following your agency's established hiring policies and procedures. At the conclusion of federal funding, grantees must retain all sworn officer positions awarded under the CHRP grant. The retained CHRP-funded position(s) should be added to the grantees law enforcement budget with state and/or local funds, over and above the number of locally-funded positions that would have existed in the absence of the grant.

**Contact Number:** If you have any additional questions, please call 202-514-9079.

**How to Apply:** Grants will be distributed by the federal agency.

Visit <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=46>

## **Housing and Urban Development Programs**

### ***Program: Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Federal Funding:** \$2 billion

**Description:** The Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) is a competitive grant program authorized by the Housing and Economic Recovery Act. The funds, if any are awarded to Arkansas, will be on a competitive application basis through the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC). The program provides loans for the acquisition and rehabilitation or demolition of abandoned and blighted properties. Any NSP awarded to Arkansas will be available statewide to local government, non-profit organizations, public housing authorities, and private developers.

**How to Apply:** The money will be distributed through formula to NSP entitlement communities. For additional information visit: [www.arkansas.gov/adfa](http://www.arkansas.gov/adfa) and click on ADFA programs. In addition to money distributed by formula to NSP entitlement communities, the State of Arkansas will also receive funding to be distributed to non-entitlement communities.

### ***Program: Community Development Block Grants***

**Funding Agency:** Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Federal Funding:** \$1 billion

**Arkansas Funding:** \$ 7.144 million

**Description:** This is money that is distributed to states and counties for community development. Provides grants to eligible cities and counties for economic development projects, for the construction of buildings or for infrastructure. At least 51% of the persons who benefit from the project must be of low to moderate income (LMI). (LMI is defined as less than 80% of the area median income.) The Department of Housing and Urban Development will issue guidelines to the state, and the state will prepare an action plan to explain the proposed distribution methods. After approval of the state plan, HUD will issue a grant to the state. Cities and counties will then be invited to submit lists of eligible projects through their local Planning or Economic Development District. Arkansas expects to receive a total of \$7,144,608 in Supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. Questions about potential projects in each of the entitlement cities should be addressed to the CDBG program office in each city. The fourteen entitlement cities are: Bentonville, Fayetteville, Conway, Hot Springs, Fort Smith, Jacksonville, Jonesboro, Little Rock, North Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Rogers, Springdale, Texarkana and West Memphis.

**How to Apply:** The money will be distributed through formula to entitlement communities. For additional information and to apply, entitlement and non-entitlement communities should visit:

<http://www.arkansas.gov/adfa>

**State Agency:** Arkansas Economic Development Commission

**Contact:** Andrew Pumphrey, (501)682-2558, [apumphrey@arkansasedc.com](mailto:apumphrey@arkansasedc.com)

**Who can apply?** All Arkansas counties and non-entitlement cities

**Who do I apply to?** Submit list of eligible projects to the Planning or Economic Development District in your area

**Website:** <http://www.arkansasedc.com/business-development/grants.aspx>

**Federal Agency:** Housing and Urban Development

**Contact:** James Slater (Little Rock Field Office), (501)324-6375

## Tax Benefits and Programs

### Individual and Family Tax Benefits

#### ***Tax Provisions Program: Computers as Qualified Education Expenses in 529 Education Plans***

Plans are tax-advantaged savings plans that cover all qualified education expenses, including: tuition, room & board, mandatory fees and books. The bill provides that computers and computer technology qualify as qualified education expenses.

**How To Apply:** Families that use 529 Education Plans will now be able to withdraw funds from the 529 account, tax free, to go toward to purchase of computers or computer technology.

#### ***Program: “Making Work Pay” Tax Credit***

For 2009 and 2010, the bill would provide a refundable tax credit of up to \$400 for working individuals and \$800 for working families.

**How to Apply:** Taxpayers will receive this benefit through a reduction in the amount of income tax withheld from their paychecks. Taxpayers may consult with their employer and visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for more information.

#### ***Program: Refundable First Time Home Buyer Tax Credit***

There is an \$8,000 tax credit for first-time home buyers who purchase a home from Jan 1, 2009 to December 1, 2009. It also eliminates repayment obligations that are under current law unless the home is sold within three years of purchase. In that case, the credit would still be subject to the current-law recapture rules.

**How to Apply:** Eligible taxpayers can claim this credit when filing their taxes.

#### ***Program: Child Tax Credit***

A child tax credit is a tax credit based on the number of dependent children in a family. This provision would increase the eligibility of the refundable child tax credit.

**How to Apply:** The provision is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2008. The tax credit will be given after filing for taxes. For more information, visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

#### ***Program: Economic Recovery Payment to Recipients of Social Security, SSI, Railroad Retirement and Veterans Disability Compensation Benefits***

This provision would provide a one-time payment of \$250 to retirees, disabled individuals and SSI recipients receiving benefits from the Social Security Administration, Railroad Retirement beneficiaries, and disabled veterans receiving benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The one-time payment is a reduction to any allowable Making Work Pay credit.

**How to Apply:** For more information, please visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) or [www.treasury.gov](http://www.treasury.gov).

#### ***Program: Refundable Credit for Certain Federal and State Pensioners***

The bill would provide a one- time refundable tax credit of \$250 in 2009 to certain government retirees who are not eligible for Social Security benefits. This one-time credit is a reduction to any allowable Making Work Pay credit. **How to Apply:** For more information, please visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

#### ***Program: Increase in Earned Income Tax Credit***

The earned income tax credit (EITC) is a tax credit for low-income working individuals and families that is refundable for certain taxpayers, meaning it can be claimed even if the credit is worth more than

the taxes owed. This provision would temporarily increase the earned income tax credit from 40% to 45% for working families with three or more children.

**How to Apply:** Taxpayers will receive this credit by claiming the credit on their tax returns. The provision is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2008. For more information about the EITC, please contact [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) or the Office of Congressman Mike Ross.

***Program: Sales Tax Deduction for Vehicle Purchases***

The provision provides all taxpayers with a deduction for State and local sales and excise taxes paid on the purchase of new cars, light truck, recreational vehicles, and motorcycles through 2009. This deduction is subject to a phase-out for taxpayers with adjusted gross income in excess of (\$125,000 (\$250,000 in the case of a joint return).

**How to Apply:** Taxpayers can seek this deduction by claiming the deduction on their 2009 tax return.

***Program: Temporary Suspension of Taxation of Unemployment Benefits***

Under current law, all federal unemployment benefits are subject to taxation. The average unemployment benefit is approximately \$300 per month. The proposal temporarily suspends federal income tax on the first \$2,400 of unemployment benefits per recipient. Any unemployment benefits over \$2,400 will be subject to federal income tax. This proposal is in effect for taxable year 2009.

**How to Apply:** The provision will take effect and suspend the withholding of federal income tax on unemployment benefits automatically.

***Program: Extension of Emergency Unemployment Compensation***

Through December 31, 2009, this provision continues the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program, which provides up to 33 weeks of extended unemployment benefits to workers exhausting their regular benefits.

**How to Apply:** Those receiving unemployment will automatically receive this extension.

***Program: Increase in Unemployment Compensation Benefits***

The bill increases unemployment weekly benefits by an additional \$25 through 2009.

**How to Apply:** Those receiving unemployment will automatically receive this extension.

***Program: Parity for Transit Benefits***

Current law provides a tax-free fringe benefit employers can provide to employees for transit and parking. Those benefits are set at different dollar amounts. This provision would equalize the tax-free benefit employers can provide for transit and parking. The proposal sets both the parking and transit benefits at \$230 a month for 2009, indexes them equally for 2010, and clarifies that certain transit benefits apply to federal employees.

**How to Apply:** Eligible participants will receive information on how to apply through their workplace as this program is implemented.

***Program: Tax Credits for Energy-Efficient Improvements to Existing Homes***

This provision would extend the tax credits for improvements to energy efficient existing homes through 2010. Under current law, individuals are allowed a tax credit equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount paid or incurred by the taxpayer for qualified energy efficiency improvements installed during the taxable year. This tax credit is capped at \$50 for any advanced main air circulating fan, \$150 for any qualified natural gas, propane, oil furnace or hot water boiler, and \$300 for any item of energy efficient building property. For 2009 and 2010, this provision would increase the amount of the tax credit to thirty percent of the amount paid or incurred by the taxpayer for qualified energy efficiency improvements during the taxable year. This provision would also eliminate the property-by-property

dollar caps on this tax credit and provide an aggregate \$1,500 cap on all property qualifying for the credit. It would update the energy-efficiency standards of the property qualifying for the credit.

**How to Apply:** Participants will be able to file for the tax credit on their tax return.

***Program: Alternative Minimum Tax***

This provision would provide more than 26 million families with tax relief in 2009 by extending AMT relief for nonrefundable personal credits and increasing the AMT exemption amount to \$70,950 for joint filers and \$46,700 for individuals.

**How to Apply:** This benefit will automatically go into effect without any action from the taxpayer.

**Energy and Industrial Tax Benefits and Programs**

***Program: Advanced Energy Investment Credit***

This provision establishes a new 30% investment tax credit for facilities engaged in the manufacture of advanced energy property. Credits are available only for projects certified by the Secretary of Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, through a competitive bidding process. The Secretary of Treasury must establish a certification program no later than 180 days after date of enactment, and may allocate up to \$2.3 billion in credits. Advanced energy property includes technology for the production of renewable energy, energy storage, energy conservation, efficient transmission and distribution of electricity, and carbon capture and sequestration.

**How to Apply:** Please check [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov) for more information as the Advanced Energy Investment Credit is implemented.

***Program: Long-term Extension and Modification of Renewable Energy Production Tax Credit***

This proposal would extend the placed-in-service date for wind facilities for three years (through December 31, 2012). This proposal would also extend the placed-in-service date for three years (through December 31, 2013) for certain other qualifying facilities: closed-loop biomass; open-loop biomass; geothermal; small irrigation; hydropower; landfill gas; waste-to-energy; and marine renewable facilities.

**How to Apply:** This proposal extends existing tax credits. Information on how to file can be found at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

***Program: Temporary Election to Claim the Investment Tax Credit in Lieu of Production Tax Credit***

Under current law, facilities that produce electricity from solar facilities are eligible to take a thirty percent (30%) investment tax credit in the year that the facility is placed in service. Facilities that produce electricity from wind, closed-loop biomass, open-loop biomass, geothermal, small irrigation, hydropower, landfill gas, waste-to-energy, and marine renewable facilities are eligible for a production tax credit. The production tax credit is payable over a ten-year period. Because of current market conditions, it is difficult for many renewable projects to find financing due to the uncertain future tax positions of potential investors in these projects. The bill would allow facilities to elect to claim the investment tax credit in lieu of the production tax credit.

**How to Apply:** Participants will be able to file the tax credit on their tax return. For more information, visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

***Program: Repeal Subsidized Energy Financing Limitation on the Investment Tax Credit***

Under current law, the investment tax credit must be reduced if the property qualifying for the investment tax credit is also financed with industrial development bonds or through any other Federal, State, or local subsidized financing program. The provision in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act would repeal this subsidized energy financing limitation on the investment tax credit

in order to allow businesses and individuals to qualify for the full amount of the investment tax credit even if such property is financed with industrial development bonds or through any other subsidized energy financing.

**How to Apply:** Participants will find that the financing limitation for subsidized energy has been removed.

***Program: Tax Credits for Alternative Refueling Property***

The alternative refueling property credit provides a tax credit to businesses (e.g., gas stations) that install alternative fuel pumps, such as fuel pumps that dispense E85 fuel, electricity, hydrogen, and natural gas. For 2009 and 2010, this provision would increase the 30% alternative refueling property credit for businesses (capped at \$30,000) to 50% (capped at \$50,000). Hydrogen refueling pumps would remain at a 30% credit percentage; however, the cap for hydrogen refueling pumps will be increased to \$200,000. In addition, this provision would increase the 30% alternative refueling property credit for individuals (capped at \$1,000) to 50% (capped at \$2,000).

**How to Apply:** Participants will be able to file for this tax credit on their tax return. For more information, visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

***Program: Removal of Dollar Limitations on Certain Energy Credits***

Under current law, businesses are allowed to claim a thirty percent (30%) tax credit for qualified small wind energy property (capped at \$4,000). Individuals are allowed to claim a thirty percent (30%) tax credit for qualified solar water heating property (capped at \$2,000), qualified small wind energy property (capped at \$500 per kilowatt of capacity, up to \$4,000), and qualified geothermal heat pumps (capped at \$2,000). This provision would repeal the individual dollar caps. As a result, each of these properties would be eligible for an uncapped thirty percent (30%) credit.

**How to Apply:** Participants will be able to file for the tax credit on their tax return. For more information, visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

***Program: Plug-in Electric Drive Vehicle Credit***

This provision modifies and increases a tax credit passed into law at the end of last Congress for each qualified plug-in electric drive vehicle placed in service during the taxable year. The base amount of the credit is \$2,500. If the qualified vehicle draws propulsion from a battery with at least 5 kilowatt hours of capacity, the credit is increased by \$417, plus another \$417 for each kilowatt hour of battery capacity in excess of 5 kilowatt hours up to 16 kilowatt hours. Taxpayers may claim the full amount of the allowable credit up to the end of the first calendar quarter in which the manufacturer records its 200,000th sale of a plug-in electric drive vehicle. The credit is reduced in following calendar quarters. The credit is allowed against the alternative minimum tax (AMT). This bill also restores and updates the electric vehicle credit for plug-in electric vehicles that would not otherwise qualify for the larger plug-in electric drive vehicle credit and provides a tax credit for plug-in electric drive conversion kits.

**How to Apply:** Participants will be able to file for the tax credit on their tax return.

***Program: Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (“CREBs”)***

This provision authorizes an additional \$1.6 billion of new clean renewable energy bonds to finance facilities that generate electricity from the following resources: wind; closed-loop biomass; open-loop biomass; geothermal; small irrigation; hydropower; landfill gas; marine renewable; and trash combustion facilities. This \$1.6 billion authorization will be subdivided into thirds: 1/3 will be available for qualifying projects of State/local/tribal governments; 1/3 for qualifying projects of public power providers; and 1/3 for qualifying projects of electric cooperatives.

**How to Apply:** Qualified participants will be able to utilize this bond program as it is developed. Check [www.treasury.gov](http://www.treasury.gov) for additional information after this program is implemented.

***Program: Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds***

This provision authorizes an additional \$2.4 billion of qualified energy conservation bonds to finance State, municipal and tribal government programs and initiatives designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This provision would also clarify that qualified energy conservation bonds may be issued to make loans and grants for capital expenditures to implement green community programs. This provision also clarifies that qualified energy conservation bonds may be used for programs in which utilities provide ratepayers with energy-efficient property and recoup the costs of that property over an extended period of time.

**How to Apply:** Qualified participants will be able to utilize this bond program as it is developed. Check [www.treasury.gov](http://www.treasury.gov) for additional information after this program is implemented.

***Program: Addition of Permanent Sequestration Requirement to CO2 Capture Tax Credit***

Last year, Congress provided a \$10 credit per ton for the first 75 million metric tons of carbon dioxide captured and transported from an industrial source for use in enhanced oil recovery, and \$20 credit per ton for carbon dioxide captured and transported from an industrial source for permanent storage in a geologic formation. Facilities were required to capture at least 500,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year to qualify. This provision would require that any taxpayer claiming the \$10 credit per ton for carbon dioxide captured and transported for use in enhanced oil recovery must also ensure that such carbon dioxide is permanently stored in a geologic formation.

**How to Apply:** New provision does not change the way participants file for the tax credit, just the qualifications to be able to apply for the tax credit.

***Program: Industrial Development Bonds (IDB)***

Under current law, certain manufacturing facilities are eligible for tax exempt bond financing. Section 144(a) (12) (C) specifically limits the definition of a manufacturing facility for the purposes of such financing to facilities that are used in the manufacturing or production of tangible personal property. This provision amends the definition of manufacturing facility to any facility used in the manufacturing, creation, or production of tangible or intangible property described in section 197(d)(1)(C)(iii). Intangible property is any patent, copyright, formula, process, design, pattern, know-how, format, or other similar item. The proposal also clarifies which physical components of a manufacturing facility qualify as "ancillary" and therefore are subjected to a 25% limitation in the amount of bond issuance used to build or re-construct those components.

**How to Apply:** This provision will take effect adding to the definition for tax exempt bonds.

***Program: Treasury Department Energy Grants in Lieu of Tax Credits***

Under current law, taxpayers are allowed to claim a production tax credit for electricity produced by certain renewable energy facilities and an investment tax credit for certain renewable energy property. These tax credits help attract private capital to invest in renewable energy projects. Current economic conditions have severely undermined the effectiveness of these tax credits. As a result, this provision would allow taxpayers to receive a grant from the Treasury Department in lieu of tax credits. This grant will operate similarly to the current-law investment tax credit.

**How to Apply:** The Treasury Department will issue a grant in an amount equal to thirty percent (30%) of the cost of the renewable energy facility within sixty days of the facility being placed in service or, if later, within sixty days of receiving an application for such grant.

## **Health Related Programs**

### ***Health Insurance Assistance Program: COBRA (Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act)***

The bill provides a 65% subsidy for COBRA continuation premiums for up to 9 months for workers who have been involuntarily terminated, and for their families. This subsidy also applies to health care continuation coverage if required by states for small employers. To qualify for premium assistance, a worker must be involuntarily terminated between September 1, 2008 and December 31, 2009. The subsidy would terminate upon offer of any new employer sponsored health care coverage or Medicare eligibility. Workers who were involuntarily terminated between September 1, 2008 and enactment, but failed to initially elect COBRA because it was unaffordable, would be given an additional 60 days to elect COBRA and receive the subsidy. To ensure that this assistance is targeted at workers who are most in need, participants must attest that their same year income will not exceed \$125,000 for individuals and \$250,000 for families.

**How to Apply:** Current law requires employers to work with employees about how to access COBRA and private health plans must also assist former employees in receiving this benefit. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.dol.gov/dol/topic/health-plans/cobra.htm>

### ***Program: Temporary Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) Increase***

The bill increases FMAP funding for a 27-month period beginning 10/1/2008 through 12/31/2010, with an across-the-board increase to all states of 6.2% and a similar increase for territories. A bonus structure (in addition to the across-the-board increase) provides an additional decrease in State financial obligations for Medicaid based on increases in the State's unemployment rate. States will also be required to maintain effort on eligibility.

**How to Apply:** States will automatically receive this benefit.

### ***Program: Temporary Increase in Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Payments***

The bill increases states' FY2009 annual DSH allotments by 2.5 %, and increases states' FY 2010 by 2.5 % above the new FY2009 DSH allotment. After FY2010, states' annual DSH allotments would return to 100% of the annual DSH allotments as determined under current law.

**How to Apply:** DSH hospitals will automatically benefit from this provision.

### ***Program: Extension of Moratoria on Medicaid Regulations***

The bill extends the moratoria on Medicaid regulations for targeted case management, provider taxes, and school-based administration and transportation services through June 30, 2009. The bill also adds a moratorium on the Medicaid regulation for hospital outpatient services through June 30, 2009. The provision includes a Sense of Congress that the Secretary of HHS should not promulgate regulations concerning payments to public providers, graduate medical education, and rehabilitative services.

**How to Apply:** The moratoria will automatically go into effect.

### ***Program: Extension of the Qualified Individual Program***

The bill extends the Qualified Individual program, which assists certain low income individuals with Medicare Part B premiums, through December 31, 2010. The program helps Medicare beneficiaries who have a limited income but are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid with financial assistance to help pay their Medicare premiums.

### ***Program: Prompt Payment Requirements for Nursing Facilities and Hospitals.***

The bill temporarily applies Medicaid prompt pay requirements to nursing facilities and hospitals.

**How to Apply:** This benefit will automatically be provided for Nursing facilities and hospitals. For additional information, contact the Office of Congressman Mike Ross.

## **Business Tax Benefits and Programs**

### ***Program: Incentives to Hire Unemployed Veterans and Disconnected Youth***

Under current law, businesses are allowed to claim a work opportunity tax credit equal to 40 percent of the first \$6,000 of wages paid to employees of one of nine targeted groups; families receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, certain veterans receiving food stamps or disability compensation, certain ex-felons, residents of designated communities, individuals in vocational rehabilitation, certain youths employed during the summer, certain food stamp recipients, certain recipients of SSI, and long-term recipients of family assistance. The bill creates two new targeted groups of prospective employees: unemployed veterans and disconnected youth. An individual would qualify as an unemployed veteran if they were discharged or released from active duty from the Armed Forces during the five-year period prior to hiring and received unemployment compensation for more than four weeks during the year before being hired. An individual qualifies as a disconnected youth if they are between the ages of 16 and 25 and have not been regularly employed or attended school in the past 6 months. This proposal is estimated to cost \$231 million over 10 years.

**How to Apply:** The participating business will receive the work opportunity tax credit when taxes are filed with the IRS. Visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) or <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p954.pdf>.

### ***Program: Extension of Bonus Depreciation***

Businesses are allowed to recover the cost of capital expenditures over time according to a depreciation schedule. Last year, Congress temporarily allowed businesses to recover the costs of capital expenditures made in 2008 faster than the ordinary depreciation schedule would allow by permitting these businesses to immediately write-off fifty percent of the cost of depreciable property (equipment, tractors, wind turbines, solar panels, and computers) acquired in 2008 for use in the US. The bill would extend this temporary benefit for capital expenditures incurred in 2009.

**How to Apply:** The extension of the first-year depreciation deduction is generally effective for property placed in service after December 31, 2008. This benefit can be claimed when filing for taxes.

### ***Program: Extension of Small Business Expensing***

In order to help small businesses quickly recover the cost of certain capital expenses, small business taxpayers may elect to write-off the cost of these expenses in the year of acquisition in lieu of recovering these costs over time through depreciation. Until the end of 2010, small business taxpayers are allowed to write-off up to \$125,000 of capital expenditures subject to a phase-out once capital expenditures exceed \$500,000. Last year, Congress temporarily increased the amount that small businesses could write-off for capital expenditures incurred in 2008 to \$250,000 and increased the phase out threshold for 2008 to \$800,000. The bill would extend these temporary increases for capital expenditures incurred in 2009.

**How to Apply:** Small business can obtain this credit when filing for taxes.

### ***Program: 5-Year Carryback of Net Operating Losses for Small Businesses***

A net operating loss means the amount by which a taxpayer's business deductions exceed the gross income. Under current law, net operating losses may be carried back to the two taxable years before the year that the loss arises and carried forward to each of the succeeding twenty taxable years after the year that the loss arises. For 2008, the bill would extend the maximum NOL carry back period from two years to five years for small businesses with gross receipts of \$15 million or less.

**How to Apply:** This provision is effective for net operating losses arising in taxable years ending after December 31, 2007. The taxpayer can file for this benefit when filing for taxes.

***Program: Work Opportunity Tax Credit***

Under current law, businesses are allowed to claim a work opportunity tax credit equal to 40 percent of the first \$6,000 of wages paid to employees of one of nine targeted groups. The bill would create two new targeted groups of prospective employees: (1) unemployed veterans; and (2) disconnected youth. An individual would qualify as an unemployed veteran if they were discharged or released from active duty from the Armed Forces during the five-year period prior to hiring and received unemployment compensation for more than four weeks during the year before being hired. An individual qualifies as a disconnected youth if they are between the ages of 16 and 25 and have not been regularly employed or attended school in the past 6 months.

**How to Apply:** Companies can claim this credit when filing their taxes.

***Program: Temporary Reduction of Small Business Corporation Built-In Gains Holding Period from 10 Years to 7 Years***

Under current law, if a taxable corporation converts into an S corporation, the conversion is not a taxable event. An S Corporation pays no corporate level tax. Instead a loss of gain goes directly to their shareholders. When a company converts to an S corporation, they must hold its assets for ten years in order to avoid a tax on any built-in gains that existed at the time of the conversion. The bill would temporarily reduce this holding period from ten years to seven years for sales occurring in 2009 and 2010.

**How to Apply:** This provision will go into effect for businesses for taxable year beginning after December 31, 2008.

***Program: Small Business Capital Gains***

This provision increases the percentage of exclusion for qualified business stock sold by an individual from 50 percent to 75 percent.

**How to Apply:** This provision is effective for stock issued after the date of enactment and before Jan. 1, 2011. Businesses can claim this credit when filing for taxes.

***Program: Delayed Recognition of Certain Cancellation of Debt Income***

Under current law, a taxpayer generally has income where the taxpayer cancels or repurchases debt for an amount less than its adjusted issue price. The amount of cancellation of debt income (“CODI”) is the excess of the old debt’s adjusted issue price over the repurchase price. Certain businesses will be allowed to recognize CODI over 10 years (defer tax on CODI for the first four or five years and recognize this income ratably over the following five taxable years) for specified types of business debt repurchased by the business after December 31, 2008 and before January 1, 2011.

**How to Apply:** Business can claim this when they file for taxes. For information on qualifications, visit [www.treasury.gov](http://www.treasury.gov).

## **State and Local Tax Benefits and Programs**

### ***Program: Extension and Increase in Authorization for Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZABs)***

The bill allows an additional \$1.4 billion of QZAB issuing authority to State and local governments in 2009 and 2010, which can be used to finance renovations, equipment purchases, developing course material, and training teachers and personnel at a qualified zone academy. In general, a qualified zone academy is any public school (or academic program within a public school) below college level that is located in an empowerment zone or enterprise community and is designed to cooperate with businesses to enhance the academic curriculum and increase graduation and employment rates. QZABs are a form of tax credit bonds, which offer the holder a Federal tax credit instead of interest. This proposal is estimated to cost \$1.045 billion over 10 years.

**How to Apply:** The taxpayer holding qualified school construction bonds on a credit allowance date is entitled to a tax credit. The amount of the tax credit is determined by multiplying the bond's credit rate by the face amount on the holder's bond. The tax credit will be received when taxes are filed with the IRS. Visit <http://www.irs.gov/publications/p954/ar02.html#d0e3636>.

### ***Program: Tax Credit Bond Option for State and Local Governments ("Build America Bonds")***

The Federal government provides significant financial support to State and local governments through the federal tax exemption for interest on municipal bonds. Both tax credit bonds and tax-exempt bonds provide a subsidy to municipalities by reducing the cash interest payments that a State or local government must make on its debt. Tax credit bonds differ from tax exempt bonds in two principal ways: (1) interest paid on tax credit bonds is taxable; and (2) a portion of the interest paid on tax credit bonds takes the form of a Federal tax credit. The Federal tax credit offsets a portion of the cash interest payment that the State or local government would otherwise need to make on the borrowing. For 2009 and 2010, this proposal provides State and local governments with the option of issuing a tax credit bond instead of a tax-exempt governmental obligation bond. Because the market for tax credits is currently small given current economic conditions, the bill would allow the State or local government to elect to receive a direct payment from the Federal government equal to the subsidy that would have otherwise been delivered through the Federal tax credit for bonds.

**How to Apply:** Please check [www.treasury.gov](http://www.treasury.gov) for more information as they implement this program.

### ***Program: Unemployment Compensation Modernization***

This provision provides one-time grants to reward and encourage States enacting specific reforms designed to increase UC coverage among low wage, part-time and other jobless workers, as well as provides an additional \$500 million in administrative funding to all States.

**How to Apply:** States will receive this funding to support unemployment compensation modernization.

### ***Program: Temporary Assistance to States with Advances to Unemployment Trust Funds***

This provision temporarily waives interest payments and the accrual in interest on loans received by state unemployment trust funds through December 31, 2010.

**How to Apply:** Application not necessary as interest payments are waived as this program is implemented.

### ***Program: Delay Application of Withholding Requirement on Certain Governmental Payments for Goods and Services***

For payments made after December 31, 2010, the Code requires withholding at a three percent rate on certain payments to persons providing property or services made by Federal, State, and local governments. The withholding is required regardless of whether the government entity making the payment is the recipient of the property or services. Numerous government entities and small businesses have raised concerns about the application of this provision. The provision would delay for one year (through December 31, 2011) the application of the three percent withholding requirement on government payments for goods and services in order to provide time for the Treasury Department to study the impact of this provision on government entities and other taxpayers.

**How To Apply** This provision is effective on the date of enactment.

***Program: New Market Tax Credits***

New Market Tax Credits are given to qualified equity investment made to acquire stock in a corporation or a capital interest in a partnership that is a qualified community development entity (CDE). Under current law, there are \$3.5 billion of New Markets Tax Credits available for each of 2008 and 2009. The provision increases the available credits for 2008 to \$5 billion and the available credits for 2009 to \$5 billion.

**How to Apply:** This tax credit will go directly to state certified CDE's.

***Program: Eliminate Costs Imposed on State & Local Governments by the Alternative Minimum Tax***

The alternative minimum tax (AMT) can increase the costs of issuing tax exempt private activity bonds imposed on State and local governments. Under current law, interest on tax- exempt private activity bonds is generally subject to the AMT. This limits the marketability of these bonds and, therefore, forces State and local governments to issue these bonds at higher interest rates. Last year, Congress excluded one category of private activity bonds (i.e., tax- exempt housing bonds) from the AMT. The bill would exclude the remaining categories of private activity bonds from the AMT if the bond is issued in 2009 or 2010. The bill also allows AMT relief for current refunding of private activity bonds issued after 2003 and refunded during 2009 and 2010.

**How to Apply:** Municipalities will not need to apply; this provision will automatically take effect.

***Program: Modify Speed Requirement for High-Speed Rail Exempt Facility Bonds***

Under current law, States are allowed to issue private activity bonds for high-speed rail facilities. A high-speed rail facility is a facility for the transportation of passengers between metropolitan areas using vehicles that are reasonably expected to operate at speeds in excess of 150 miles per hour between scheduled stops. This provision would allow these bonds to be used to develop rail facilities that are used by trains that are capable of attaining speeds in excess of 150 miles per hour.

**How to Apply:** This provision adds to the definition of an existing bond. More information can be found at [www.treasury.gov](http://www.treasury.gov).

## **Other programs and incentives**

### ***Program: Expansion of Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Programs***

This provision expands current Trade Adjustment Assistance Programs. Among other things, it extends TAA to trade-affected services sector workers and workers affected by off shoring or outsourcing to all countries, including China or India. It increases training funds available to states by 160 percent to \$575 million per fiscal year, creates a new TAA program for trade-affected communities, allows for automatic TAA eligibility for workers suffering from import surges and unfair trade, makes training, healthcare and reemployment TAA benefits more accessible and flexible, and improves the TAA for Firms and TAA for Farmers programs. It reauthorizes all TAA programs (which expired December 31, 2007) through December 31, 2010. Plant closures and mass layoffs affecting 50 or more workers at a single site of employment; Layoffs at several companies in a single local community including layoffs not meeting the single site criterion that, in total, have significantly increased the total number of unemployed individuals in the community. Priority will be given to those applications where the layoffs resulted in an increase of 1 percent in the local area unemployment during the preceding 12 months. Layoffs at multiple locations (multi--company) that occur within a 4--month period and in which each layoff impacts 50 or more workers; Closures and realignments of military installations; Emergencies or disasters that have been declared eligible for public assistance by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); and Special assistance, including health insurance coverage assistance, to trade--impacted workers and other individuals eligible under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002.

**How to Apply:** TAA is administered through the Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration. For more information, visit <http://www.doleta.gov/tradeact/>.

### ***Program: Duty Refund Recollection***

This provision prohibits U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) from demanding that U.S. lumber, steel, and other companies repay duties that CBP collected on Canadian and Mexican imports, and then distributed to the companies between 2001 and 2005.

**How to Apply:** Application not necessary as the program is implemented.

### ***Program: Low Incoming Housing Grants in Lieu of Tax Credits***

Under current law, taxpayers are allowed to claim a low-income housing tax credit for certain investments made in low-income housing. These tax credits help attract private capital to invest in the construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of qualified low-income housing buildings. Current economic conditions have severely undermined the effectiveness of these tax credits. As a result, the bill would allow taxpayers to receive a grant from the Treasury Department in lieu of tax credits.

Under this provision, state housing agencies would receive a grant equal to up to eighty-five percent of forty percent of the state's low-income housing tax credit allocation in lieu of the low-income housing tax credits they would have received. The sub-awards are subject to the same requirements (including rent, income, and use restrictions on such buildings) as the low-income housing tax credit allocations. The grant program would apply to each state's 2009 low income housing tax credit allocation.

**How to Apply:** Qualified housing agencies can apply at [www.arkansas.gov/adfa](http://www.arkansas.gov/adfa)

**State Agency:** Arkansas Development Finance Authority

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