



Build Kansas Program Guidance

September 15, 2023

Purpose

The **Kansas Infrastructure Hub** is Kansas' coordinated approach to identifying best practices nationwide for deploying funds and maximizing Kansas' BIL opportunities. A state agency subcabinet working group has been established and includes representatives from the Kansas Departments of Administration, Agriculture, Commerce, Health and Environment, Transportation, the Kansas Corporation Commission, and the Kansas Water Office.

The **Build Kansas Matching Fund** (Build Kansas Fund) will provide state matching dollars for projects throughout Kansas that successfully apply for Federal grants under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). These funds will enable Kansas communities to move forward with infrastructure projects, including improvements to water, transportation, energy, cybersecurity, and broadband.

The Hub will reach out to Kansas Regional Economic Development Districts (EDDs), state, local, and municipal governments, Tribal governments, private sector entities, and federal agencies to develop partnerships and seek grant funds to strengthen Kansas infrastructure. It's referred to as a "Hub" because it's meant to connect multiple agencies to ensure collaboration and be a resource center for Kansans. The Hub is not a governing body.

Background

On May 15, 2023, Governor Laura Kelly signed Senate Bill 25, the Omnibus Budget, which passed with bipartisan support. A one-time investment of \$215 million is provided to directly support communities in accessing technical support, education, and local match funding for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) grant programs. Under current law, the Fund will provide up to \$200 million in state matching dollars to Kansas entities to apply for a local match program called the Build Kansas Matching Grant Fund. Under current law, the Fund is authorized through State Fiscal Year 2027, which ends June 30, 2027.

The Build Kansas Matching Grant Fund was established to provide matching dollars to Kansas communities applying for grants with a match requirement under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The Build Kansas Fund will enable Kansas communities to move forward with infrastructure projects, including improvements to water, transportation, energy, cybersecurity, and high-speed internet. A portion of these dollars will also be used by the Kansas Infrastructure Hub to provide resources and technical assistance to communities seeking to access BIL funding.



The fund seeks to invest at least \$10 million in each Economic Development District (EDD) and a special geographic designation that includes the Mo-Kan EDD and those counties to the west not currently included in any EDD.

Eligibility

There are three eligibility requirements for the Build Kansas Fund:

- 1) The applying entity must be eligible for **AND** pursuing a viable BIL funding opportunity.
- 2) The BIL funding opportunity **must have** a non-federal match component.
- 3) The primary project zip code must be located in Kansas.

Entities considering Build Kansas Funds must be pursuing a BIL grant opportunity **AND** be eligible for the federal BIL grant opportunity. Eligible entities include counties, cities, federally recognized tribes, community organizations, higher education institutions, and private entities. Many federal grant programs require a local match contribution. A local match is non-federal cash or in-kind contributions that a grantee must contribute toward project costs funded by a BIL grant award. The terms “cost sharing” and “match” are often used interchangeably.

BIL funding opportunities come with “Notice of Funding Opportunity” (NOFO) documents. These documents have a section titled “Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement” that details the amount of matching funds the applying entity needs to provide for the federal government to approve the grant.

Entities can apply for Build Kansas funds if the project’s zip code - defined as the zip code where the majority of the infrastructure being funded is physically located - is in Kansas. If the project falls across state boundaries, the Build Kansas Fund award will be pro-rated based on the percentage of the project located in Kansas. For example, if 90% of the project is located inside Kansas and 10% is located outside Kansas, the project is eligible to receive Build Kansas funds equal to 90% of the match requirement.

Funding Availability

The Hub serves as the processing and clearinghouse for the Build Kansas Fund, for which \$200M in state matching dollars has been appropriated for Kansans to apply for and achieve local match requirements. Under SB 25, the Kansas Infrastructure Hub and Legislative Advisory Committee are required to ensure that Build Kansas Funds are disbursed equitably across Kansas with a minimum investment of \$10M Build Kansas Fund awards for each Regional Economic Development District.

Application

The Build Kansas Matching Grant Fund will accept applications starting [September 15, 2023](#).



Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Applicants pursuing Build Kansas Funds must apply before submitting their application for a BIL funding opportunity through a federal agency.

Applications are being accepted electronically through Submittable, an online application-based program that simplifies the application process.

The application consists of seven (7) parts:

- 1) Application information (e.g., applying entity name, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) program being applying for)
- 2) Eligibility criteria (e.g., project location)
- 3) Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) - Grant Application Information
- 4) Build Kansas Fund - Match Application Information
- 5) Means test (e.g., justification of need, demonstrated past performance)
- 6) Additional information (Draft BIL application or executive summary)
- 7) Terms and Conditions

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. Once reviewed, your entity will be notified if approved for Build Kansas Funds.

Final Review and Approval

The Build Kansas Fund application will first be reviewed by the Kansas Hub for eligibility. Upon confirmation of eligibility by the Hub, the application will be provided to the Steering Committee for review and approval. After the Steering Committee approval, the Build Kansas Advisory Committee will provide advice and feedback on the applications and will notify the State Treasurer, Steering Committee, and the Kansas Hub of the intent to award funds.

The Kansas Hub will notify the entity of the decision to award funds. Entities awarded funds must provide the Kansas Hub with their federal Notice of Award before Build Kansas Funds can be released.

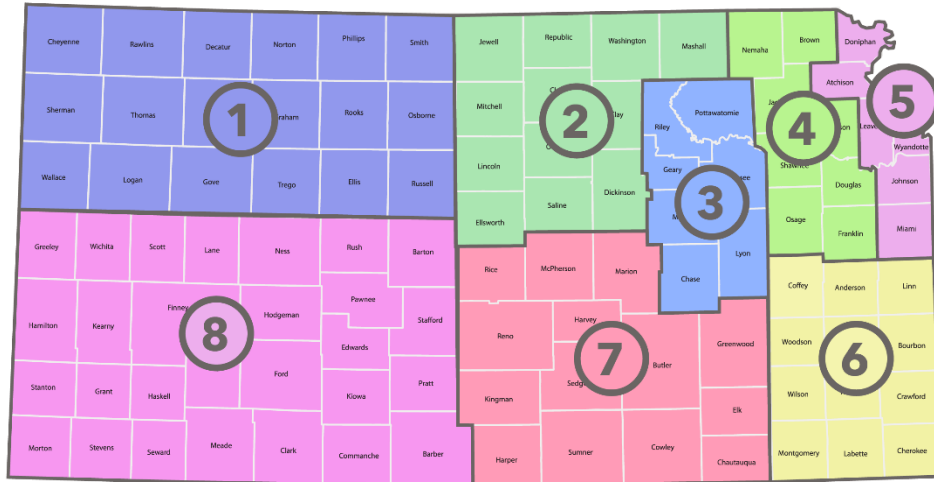
Technical Assistance

The Hub Capacity Extension Team (CET) is offering technical assistance to any eligible entity developing a project located in Kansas that will be funded all or in part by a grant from BIL.

Technical assistance offerings can include program-specific webinars, grants capacity development, and grants management support such as research and grant writing. A member of the CET has been designated to a region using Economic Development Districts (EDD) or Regional Planning Commissions (RPC) to provide direct and dedicated support to each region.



If you are not sure which Economic Development District (EDD) you or your community is located within, please refer to the image below or visit this [website](#) and type in your address.



Regulatory Requirements

If an applicant receives a Build Kansas Fund award, they must comply with the fund's applicable regulatory requirements. Specifically, recipients will be required to use Build Kansas Funds to support the non-federal or "cost-sharing" match requirements of an awarded BIL grant.

Additionally, recipients must submit copies of all federally required reports (progress and financial reports) to the Kansas Hub through Submittable when documents are submitted to the federal agency that oversees the grant. Entities awarded Build Kansas funds should expend funds according to the grant agreement. The Build Kansas Fund expires once all funds are obligated and awarded or the Build Kansas Fund expires.

Contact Information

For questions about the Build Kansas Fund or Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding, please contact your [Regional Point of Contact](#). If you do not know your region, refer to the map above.

1	Northwest Kansas Planning & Development Commission (NWKPDC)	Marie Zaragoza	mzaragoza@wittobriens.com
2	North Central Kansas Regional Planning Commission (NCKRPC)	Kailee Wolterstorff	kwolterstorff@wittobriens.com
3	Flint Hills Regional Council	Jennifer Colton	jcolton@wittobriens.com



4	MO-KAN, MARC, and No EDD	Matt Hanson	mhanson@wittobriens.com
5		Sarah Bingham	sbingham@wittobriens.com
6	Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission (SEKRPC)	Amber Bandish	abandish@wittobriens.com
7	South Central Kansas Economic Development District (SCKEDD)	Leah Russell	lrussell@wittobriens.com
8	Great Plains Development	Phyllis Wahahrockah-Tasi	pwahahrockah-tasi@wittobriens.com
	Tribal Governments	Phyllis Wahahrockah-Tasi	pwahahrockah-tasi@wittobriens.com

Glossary

- **BIL** – Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (also known as the IJA or Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act)
- **Build Kansas Advisory Committee** – 9-member legislative committee responsible for providing advice and consult on utilization of Build Kansas Fund
 - Makeup
 - 1 appointment by Governor: Lindsay Vaughn (D)
 - 3 appointments by Speaker of the House: Shannon Francis (R), Troy Waymaster (R) and Kyle Hoffman (R)
 - 3 appointments by President of the Senate: Tim Shallenburger (R), Ty Masterson – Chair (R), John R, Clays (R)
 - 1 appointment by Minority Leader of House: Helgerson (D)
 - 1 appointment by Minority Leader of the Senate: Usha Reddi (D)
- **Build Kansas Fund** – referred to in legislation as Build Kansas Matching Grant Fund, formerly known as Kansas Infrastructure Leveraging Fund
 - Fund is located at the Kansas State Treasurer’s Office
 - Provides matching dollars to Kansas communities that are applying for grants with a match requirement under BIL.
- **Build Kansas Steering Committee** – commonly referred to as the SC or Subcabinet



- Makeup (Secretary/Executive/President OR their designee)
 - KDHE – Tom Stiles [KDHE] Thomas.Stiles@ks.gov
 - Commerce, Office of Broadband – Jade Piros [KDC] Jade.Piros@ks.gov
 - Agriculture – Lewis, Earl [KDA] Earl.Lewis@ks.gov
 - Administration, Cybersecurity – Jeff Maxon [OITS] Jeff.Maxon@ks.gov
 - Kansas Corporation Commission – Lynn Retz l.retz@kcc.ks.gov
 - Kansas Water Office – Connie Owen connie.owen@kwo.ks.gov
 - KDOT – Calvin Reed calvin.reed@ks.gov
 - Hub Contact (KDOT backup) Vanessa Lamoreaux vanessa.lamoreaux@ks.gov
- **Capacity Extension Team** – Aims to maximize the amount of discretionary Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding that Kansas can secure through diagnostic and coaching services, as well as regional collaboration
- **Coordinating State Agency** – The Kansas Department of Transportation is the state Agency administering the activities that comprise the Kansas Infrastructure Hub or Hub
- **EDD** – Economic Development Districts (8 in total). Otherwise known as Regional Planning Commissions, these entities serve as the geographical boundaries when considering application, award, and investment data/reports. The engagement of the EDD varies by region/EDD. EDD can serve as a coordinating/support entity for the purposes of regional engagement, but variability is anticipated.
 - Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission (NWKPDC)
 - Great Plains Development, Inc.
 - North Central Kansas Regional Planning Commission (NCKRPC)
 - South Central Kansas Economic Development District (SCKEDD)
 - Flint Hills Regional Council
 - Mid-America Regional Council (MARC)
 - Southeast Kansas Regional Planning Commission (SEKRPC)
 - MO-KAN Regional Council (MOKAN)
 - Counties of Nemaha, Brown, Jackson, Jefferson, Shawnee, Douglas, Osage, and Franklin are not covered by an EDD, for the purposes of the Build Kansas legislative language, MO-KAN and these counties are combined into one “district”
- **Hub** – Also known as the Kansas Infrastructure Hub. To be located at the Coordinating State Agency which is currently KDOT
- **Hub Advisory Group** – Also known as the Advisory Group, Kansas Infrastructure Hub Advisory Group, or Hub AG. Composed of private, public, and citizen leaders from across the state of Kansas representing various sectors, interests and/or constituencies.
- **IIJA** – Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (also known as the BIL or Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill)
- **IRA** – Inflation Reduction Act



- **Kansas Infrastructure Hub** – Also known as the Hub. To be located at the Coordinating State Agency with is currently KDOT
- **KDOT** – Kansas Department of Transportation
- **Match** – A portion of the project's cost not paid by federal funds
- **OAR** – Office of Accounts and Reports (located within the Department of Administration)
- **RPC** – Regional Planning Commission
- **Regional Points of Contact** – Individuals from the Capacity Extension Team assigned to a RPC for technical assistance support
- **Submittable** – An online platform being used to collect Build Kansas Fund applications, communicate with applicants, conduct application reviews, and manage post-award requirements.
- **Technical Assistance:** Hands on support to eligible entities that are looking to apply for BIL funding. Assistance is provided by the Capacity Extension Team
- **Treasurer** – Kansas State Treasurer