

Rhode Island Water and Wastewater Funding Sources

Compiled by the Environmental Finance Center Network, April 2019

Organization	Program (key words)	Gov. Entity	Non- Profit	For- Profit	Purpose or Use of Funds	How to Apply	Website	Contact
<i>Funding Qualifications For All RIIB Programs: Anna M. Coelho-Cortes; acoelho@riib.org; 401-453-4430</i>								
Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank	Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) <i>(water)</i>	✓			The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) is a financing program that provides below-market interest rate loans to community public water systems, nonprofit non-community public water systems, privately organized water suppliers and local governmental units to complete water infrastructure projects.	Request for financing of a facilities plan loan should be submitted in writing by the chief executive officer of the local governmental unit to the Executive Director of the Bank.	https://www.riib.org/dwsrf	Carlene Newman carlene.newman@health.ri.gov 401-222-5960 3 Capitol Hill Providence, Rhode Island 02908
	Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) <i>(sewer)</i>	✓			The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to local government units for water pollution abatement projects in the form of loans with below market interest rates or interest rate subsidies which reduce the cost of financing these projects by at least 33%.		https://www.riib.org/cwsrf	
	Facility Plan Loan Program (FPLP) <i>(sewer)</i>	✓			The Facility Plan Loan Program provides financing to local governmental units for the completion of water pollution abatement project facility plans, and amendments or updates to such plans. These facility plans are a prerequisite for projects seeking to receive financing through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Borrowers can receive up to \$150,000 in financing for a loan term of up to three years at a below-market fixed interest rate.		https://www.riib.org/fplp	Jay Manning jay.manning@dem.ri.gov 401-222-4700 235 Promenade Street, Suite Providence, Rhode Island 02908
	Water Quality Protection Charge <i>(sewer)</i>	✓			The Water Quality Protection Charge (WQPC) program makes funds available to public drinking water suppliers to complete projects that protect sources of drinking water. Eligible projects include the purchase of watershed lands, property surveys and appraisals, water supply system management plans, and other physical improvements that directly protect the quality and safety of public drinking water supplies		https://www.riib.org/RIWPCRF	
	Community Septic System Loan Program <i>(sewer)</i>				The Community Septic System Loan Program is a lending program that provides low-cost, long-term financing to residential property owners for the repair or replacement of substandard or failing septic systems or to replace cesspools when the homeowner wishes to upgrade to a septic system. Financing is interest-free, with borrowers only subject to a \$300 loan origination fee and a 1% annual servicing fee on the outstanding loan balance (differs in some communities).		Communities are able to access funds after completing an On-Site Wastewater Management Plan approved by the Department of Environmental Management.	https://www.riib.org/CSSLP

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Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank	Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (water, sewer)	✓	✓		The Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund makes financing available to public, private and non-profit borrowers for the remediation of properties contaminated with hazardous substances. Conducting environmental cleanups enables these properties to be redeveloped and returned to productive use. Financing terms for loans made through the Brownfields Fund, including interest rates, fees and loan term, are made on a case-by-case basis.	Project applications must be submitted to the RI Department of Environmental Management; Financing applications are submitted to the CEO of Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank.	https://www.riib.org/brlf	Ashley Blauvelt ashley.blauvelt@dem.ri.gov 401-222-2797 Ext. 7026 235 Promenade Street Providence, Rhode Island 02908
	Efficient Buildings Fund (water, wastewater)	✓			The Efficient Buildings Fund (EBF) provides attractive, long-term financing to municipalities and quasi-public agencies for the completion of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. EBF seeks to finance energy retrofits in public buildings that will result in electric and heating savings greater than 20% across all properties receiving improvements.		https://www.riib.org/ebf	Becca Trietch becca.trietch@energy.ri.gov 401-574-9100 One Capitol Hill Providence, Rhode Island 02908
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation (water, wastewater)	✓	✓	✓	The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 (WIFIA) established the WIFIA program, a federal credit program administered by EPA for eligible water and wastewater infrastructure projects. The WIFIA program offers loans with low, fixed interest rates and flexible financial terms. The minimum project size for small communities, population of 25,000 or less, is \$5 million.	The WIFIA application process is two phases. Prospective borrowers must submit a letter of interest for their project to the WIFIA program by the announced annual deadline. For each selected projects, the prospective borrower may submit an application, negotiate loan terms, and close its loan. Please check the WIFIA website for more information about program deadlines.	https://www.epa.gov/wifia	Karen Fligger wifia@epa.gov 202-564-2992 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest Mailcode 4201T Washington, District of Columbia 20460
	Healthy Communities Grant (water, wastewater, stormwater)	✓	✓		This program is EPA New England's main competitive grant program to work directly with communities to support EPA's "Back-to- Basics" agenda to reduce environmental risks, protect and improve human health and improve the quality of life. This program will achieve this through identifying and funding projects that target resources to benefit communities at risk; assess, understand, and reduce environmental and human health risks; increase collaboration through partnerships and community-based projects; build institutional and community capacity to understand and solve environmental and human health problems; advance emergency preparedness and ecosystem resilience; and achieve measurable environmental and human health benefits.	Applicants must apply through www.grants.gov under the funding opportunity. For more instructions, see the website.	https://www3.epa.gov/region1/e/co/uep/hcgp.html	Katie Marrese marrese.katie@epa.gov 617-918-1658 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 Boston, Massachusetts 02109

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USDA Rural Development	Waste and Water Disposal Direct Loans and Grants <i>(water, sewer)</i>	✓	✓		The purpose of this program is to develop water and waste disposal systems in rural areas with populations less than 10,000. Fixed, low interest rates. Repayment - up to 40 years. Grants may be available.	Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Interested applicants should reach out to the Loan Specialist in their area to discuss the project to determine eligibility and then proceed in utilizing the RD Apply process, available here: http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rd-apply	http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program/ri	Rebecca Strohm rebecca.strohm@usda.gov 508-295-5151 ext. 7246 8 Thatcher Lane Wareham, Massachusetts 02571	
	Water and Waste Disposal Guaranteed Loan Program <i>(water, sewer)</i>	✓	✓		The purpose of this program is to provide a loan guarantee for the construction or improvement of water and waste disposal projects serving the financially needed communities of rural areas. This is achieved through bolstering existing private credit structure through the guarantee of quality loans. Guarantees up to 90% available to eligible lenders.		http://www.rd.usda.gov/program-s-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-guarantees/ri		
	Water and Waste Disposal Predevelopment Planning Grants <i>(water, wastewater)</i>	✓	✓		This program assists low-income communities with initial planning and development of an application for USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal direct loan/grant and loan guarantee programs. The maximum is \$30,000 or 75% of the predevelopment planning costs.		http://www.rd.usda.gov/program-s-services/water-waste-disposal-predevelopment-planning-grants/ri		
	Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants <i>(water)</i>	✓	✓		This grant program is designed to assist rural communities that have experienced a significant decline in quantity or quality of drinking water due to an emergency, or in which such decline is considered imminent, to obtain or maintain adequate quantities of water that meets the standards set by the Safe Drinking Water Act.		http://www.rd.usda.gov/program-s-services/emergency-community-water-assistance-grants/ri		
	Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households (SEARCH) <i>(water, wastewater, stormwater)</i>	✓	✓		This program helps very small, financially distressed rural communities with predevelopment feasibility studies, design assistance, and technical assistance on proposed water, waste disposal, and stormwater projects.		https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/search-special-evaluation-assistance-rural-communities-and-households/ri		
	Water and Waste Disposal Revolving Fund <i>(water, wastewater)</i>			✓	This program helps qualified nonprofits create revolving loan funds that can provide financing to extend and improve water and waste disposal systems in rural areas.		https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-revolving-loan-funds/ri		Derek Jones derek.jones@wdc.usda.gov 202-720-9640 1400 Independence Avenue Southwest Washington, District of Columbia 20250
	Communities Facilities Direct Loan and Grant <i>(water, wastewater)</i>	✓	✓		This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings.		https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program/ri		Joanne Demars joanne.demars@ri.usda.gov 401-822-8865 60 Quaker Lane Suite 44 Warwick, Rhode Island 02886



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USDA Rural Development	Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan <i>(small business)</i>	✓	✓	✓	This program improves the economic health of rural communities by increasing access to business capital through loan guarantees that enable commercial lenders to provide affordable financing for businesses in eligible rural areas. Lenders such as federal or state-chartered banks, savings and loans, farm credit banks, and credit unions can apply for the program. Businesses can qualify for loan guarantees.	Applications are accepted year round. Interested borrowers should contact their local USDA office to apply.	https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-industry-loan-guarantees/ri	David Brown david.brown@ct.usda.gov 860-902-5377 100 Northfield Dr. Windsor, Connecticut 06095
State of Rhode Island Office of Housing and Community Development	Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) <i>(water, sewer)</i>	✓			The objective of this program is to develop viable communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities, in particular for those of low- and moderate income. Eligible entities include small rural cities and towns; eligible projects include planning and construction.	Eligible applicants can submit an application from January to March, but they must apply through their municipality. (If awarded, funds become available in the fall of the same year.)	http://ohcd.ri.gov/community-development/cdbg/	Laura Sullivan laura.sullivan@doa.ri.gov 401-222-6844 One Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor Providence, Rhode Island 02908
Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce	Public Works <i>(water, sewer)</i>	✓	✓		Empowers distressed communities to revitalize, expand, and upgrade their physical infrastructure, and generate or retain long-term, private sector jobs and investment.	Application packages are available at www.grants.gov . Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until the publication of a new EDA Program Federal Funding Opportunity.	https://www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/	Alan Brigham abrigham@eda.gov 215-316-2965 900 Market Street, Room 602 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107
	Economic Adjustment <i>(water, sewer)</i>	✓	✓		Assists state and local interests in designing and implementing strategies to adjust or bring about change to an economy. The program focuses on areas that have experienced or are under threat of serious structural damage to the underlying economic base.			
National Rural Water Association	NRWA Revolving Loan Fund <i>(water, wastewater)</i>	✓	✓		The Rural Water Loan Fund (RWLF) is a funding program specifically designed to meet the unique needs of small water and wastewater utilities. The RWLF provides low-cost loans for short-term repair costs, small capital projects, or pre-development costs associated with larger projects. The RWLF was established through a grant from the USDA/RUS, and repaid funds used to replenish the fund and make new loans.	Applications can be accessed on website and can be sent by mail or e-mail.	http://nrwa.org/initiatives/revolving-loan-fund/	Brad Steere bsteere@asrwwa.org 860-370-5759 11 High Street, Suite 204 Suffield, Connecticut 06078
CoBank	Rural Water and Wastewater Lending <i>(water, wastewater)</i>	✓	✓	✓	CoBank works with rural water and wastewater not-for-profit systems, municipalities, and investor-owned utility companies to provide interim and bridge financing, refinance of existing debt, term loans for system upgrades, and lines of credit.	Applications are accepted continuously. To apply, complete an online Loan Request Form at: www.cobank.com/h2oloan	http://www.cobank.com/About-CoBank/Industries-We-Serve/Water.aspx	Hunter Hook hhook@cobank.com 303-793-2242 6340 South Fiddlers Green Circle Greenwood Village, Colorado 80111

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Army Corp of Engineers	Section 219: Environmental Infrastructure (water, wastewater)	✓			The Section 219 program provides planning, design, and construction assistance for water- and sewer-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects for local communities throughout the country.	The Corps must have an authorization from Congress to begin a project or study. To get a project or study authorized, applicants must submit a request for assistance to the upcoming Water Resource Development Act. Contact the Corps for more information.	https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Partnership-Agreements/model_ra/section_219/	Dave Wethington david.m.wethington@usace.army.mil 202-761-1878 441 G Street Northwest Washington, District of Columbia 20314
Small Business Administration (SBA)	504 Fixed Asset Program (Certified Development Company) (small business)			✓	The 504 Loan Program provides approved small businesses with long-term, fixed-rate financing used to acquire fixed assets for expansion or modernization. 504 loans are made available through Certified Development Companies (CDCs), SBA's community based partners for providing 504 Loans.	For additional information on eligibility criteria and loan application requirements, please contact your local Certified Development Company (CDC) at: https://www.sba.gov/offices/headquarters/ofa/resources/4049	https://www.sba.gov/offices/headquarters/ofa/resources/4049	Mark Hayward mark.hayward@sba.gov 401-528-4540 380 Westminster Street, Suite 511 Providence, Rhode Island 02903
	7(a) Loan Guarantee (small business)			✓	The 7(a) program is a flexible tool that can be used to finance a variety of business purposes. The proceeds of a 7(a) guaranteed loan may be used to purchase machinery, fixtures, and supplies; make improvements to land and buildings; finance receivables and augment working capital; acquire and start businesses; and refinance existing debt under certain conditions. The regular 7(a) program's maximum loan amount is \$5 million. There is no minimum amount. Other, more specialized 7(a) programs have different terms and guaranty amounts.	Borrowers must submit SBA Form 1919 for a 7(a) business loan to private lenders. The lender will review the application, complete SBA Form 1920, and then submit it to the SBA's Loan Guaranty Processing Center through SBA's E-Tran website.	https://www.sba.gov/document/?program=7(a)	
	Community Advantage Pilot (small business)			✓	Community Advantage is a pilot initiative aimed at increasing the number of SBA 7(a) lenders who reach underserved communities, targeting mission-focused financial institutions which were previously not able to offer SBA loans. The maximum loan size is \$250,000. Guarantee can be up to 85 percent for loans up to \$150,000 and 75 percent for those greater than \$150,000.	All small business applicants must complete SBA Form 1919, Borrower Information Form, and 2449, Community Advantage Addendum. Lenders must complete SBA Form 1920.	https://www.sba.gov/document/?program=7(a)	
	Microloan Program (small business)			✓	The purpose of the Microloan Program is to assist women, low income, veteran, and minority entrepreneurs, and other small businesses in need of small amounts of financial assistance. Under the Microloan Program, SBA makes direct loans to Intermediaries that, in turn, use the proceeds to make small loans to eligible micro borrowers.	For additional information on eligibility criteria, loan application requirements, participating micro lenders please visit www.sba.gov/ri	https://www.sba.gov/tools/local-assistance	