

Arkansas Water and Wastewater Funding Sources

Compiled by the Environmental Finance Center Network, May 2019

Organization	Program (key words)	Gov. Entity	Non- Profit	For- Profit	Purpose or Use of Funds	How to Apply	Website	Contact
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission	Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) <i>(water)</i>	✓			This program provides funding for water projects that further the goals of the Safe Drinking Water Fund (SDWA) Public water systems are eligible to apply, and projects are placed on a priority list before funding is distributed.	Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Check the website for detailed instructions on how to begin the application process.	https://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/divisions/water-resources-development/	Debby Dickson debra.dickson@arkansas.gov 501-682-0547 101 East Capitol, Suite 350 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
	Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program (CWSRF) <i>(wastewater)</i>	✓			Projects will be funded based on their placement in the priority list, which quantifies the relative water quality and/or public health importance of projects. Cities that have executed Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) will have a points preference on the list.			Aaron Hilborn aaron.hilborn@arkansas.gov 501-661-2623 4815 West Markham, Slot 37 Little Rock, AR 72205
	State Set-Aside Fund Program <i>(water)</i>	✓	✓		This program provides small systems technical assistance, state program management, local assistance, and administration funds. Eligible applicants include state programs, public water systems, and non-profits.			https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/drinking-water-capacity-development
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation <i>(water, wastewater)</i>	✓	✓	✓	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
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. Paper applications are accepted, or applicants can register for and use RD Apply. Information is available here: http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rd-apply	https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program/ar	Stephen Lagasse stephen.lagasse@usda.gov 501-301-3265 700 West Capitol Avenue, Room 3416 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
	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.			

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USDA Rural Development	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-services/water-waste-disposal-predevelopment-planning-grants/ar	Stephen Lagasse stephen.lagasse@usda.gov 501-301-3265 700 West Capitol Avenue, Room 3416 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
	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.	Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Paper applications are accepted, or applicants can register for and use RD Apply. Information is available here: http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rd-apply	http://www.rd.usda.gov/program-services/emergency-community-water-assistance-grants/ar	
	Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households (SEARCH) <i>(water, wastewater)</i>	✓	✓		This program helps very small, financially distressed rural communities with predevelopment feasibility studies, design and technical assistance on proposed water and waste disposal projects, that can then be used for the development of an application for USDA Rural Development assistance and predevelopment planning costs.		http://www.rd.usda.gov/program-services/search-special-evaluation-assistance-rural-communities-and-households/ar	
	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 on a rolling basis and can be sent via mail. Contact your local state office to apply.	https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-industry-loan-guarantees/ar	
	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.	Contact the Rural Development program specialist in your state or see contact information.	
Arkansas Economic Development Commission	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) <i>(water, wastewater)</i>	✓			Funding for new service, extensions, or rehabilitation projects is applied for through the General Assistance set-aside of the CDBG program, which also funds a variety of other public infrastructure, public facility, and economic development projects. Eligible applicants are cities or counties only. Projects are competitively scored and must benefit at least 51% low- to moderate-income persons as determined by HUD census data. Awards range from \$200,000 to \$1 million.	Application guidelines and applications are updated annually and posted on website, with a typical deadline of late March. Application workshops will be held throughout the program year.	https://www.arkansasedc.com/community-resources/community-development-block-grant	Jean Noble jnoble@arkansasedc.com 501-682-7389 900 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 400 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201



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Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce	Public Works Program (water, sewer)	✓	✓		This program 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 Economic Development Assistance programs' Federal Funding Opportunity.	https://www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/	Matt Giannini mgiannini@eda.gov 512-516-1878 903 San Jacinto, Suite 206 Austin, Texas 78701
	Economic Adjustment Assistance Program (water, sewer)	✓	✓		This program 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	Revolving Loan Fund (water, wastewater)	✓	✓		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/	Dennis Sternberg info@arwa.net 501-676-2255 P.O. Box 860 Lonoke, Arkansas 72086
Rural Community Assistance Partnership	Communities Unlimited Water/Wastewater Loans (water, wastewater)	✓	✓	✓	Communities Unlimited (CU) provides financing to small, rural communities and tribal nations for water and wastewater projects. CU offers flexible products including: pre-development loans, interim financing, construction loans for system improvements and equipment loans. CU provides fixed – rate loans up to \$500,000 with maturities up to 15 years. Security varies by customer, but is typically a pledge of revenues.	For more information, contact the main office. Applications can be accessed on website. Applications can be sent by e-mail.	https://www.communitiesu.org/index.php/How-We-Help/water-waste-water-loans.html	Deborah Temple deborah.temple@communitiesU.org 479-443-2700 ext. 111 200 River Market Avenue #100 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
CoBank	Rural Water and Wastewater Lending (water, wastewater)	✓	✓	✓	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	Bentley Hodges bhodges@cobank.com 303-793-2139 6340 South Fiddlers Green Circle Greenwood Village, Colorado 80111
Water Well Trust	Loan Program for Household Water Wells				This program aims to provide financing for the construction or rehabilitation of water wells for low income Americans living without access to safe drinking water.	Applications are received year round and can be accessed on the website. <u>Currently, funding for the state of Arkansas is unavailable. However, this is subject to change at any time.</u>	www.waterwelltrust.org	Water Well Trust info@waterwelltrust.org 202-625-4383 P.O. Box 2399 Davidson, North Carolina 28036

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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 and SBA participating lenders.	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	Edward Haddock edward.haddock@sba.gov 501-324-7379 2120 Riverfront Drive Little Rock, Arkansas 72202
	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. SBA's 50% to 90% guaranty helps provide entrepreneurs access to capital.	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 micro loans to eligible borrowers.	For additional information on eligibility criteria, loan application requirements, participating microlenders please visit www.sba.gov/ar	https://www.sba.gov/tools/local-assistance	

