

THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY PLANNING OFFICE

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GRANTS/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

December 30, 2025

NYS Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services

SFY2025-2026 Volunteer Fire Infrastructure & Response Equipment (V-FIRE) Program

<https://www.dhSES.ny.gov/state-funded-programs>

The V-FIRE Grant Program is a state-funded \$25,000,000 competitive grant program that supports the enhancement of the security and safety of the citizens of New York State by providing critical funding to strengthen volunteer fire departments and districts statewide. Eligible applicants can apply for up to \$1,000,000 if proposing projects for construction, renovation, or purchase costs for critical facilities (buildings, training facilities, etc.) that support fire operations, or up to \$500,000 if proposing projects for allowable fire service equipment to upgrade and improve their response capabilities. Eligible applicants: Volunteer Fire Companies, Municipalities (including Fire Districts), and Counties with municipal shared services projects.

Deadline: February 25, 2026

American Express Main Street America

Amex Shop Small Grants Program

<https://mainstreet.org/about/partner-collaborations/amex-shop-small-grant-program>

The Amex Shop Small Grants Program will fund more than 500 grants of \$20,000 each, empowering small businesses to grow, innovate, and support their local communities. Recipients will have a 6-month period in which to complete their projects, so applicants are encouraged to prepare a “ready-to-execute” project plan and a detailed, itemized budget. Applicants must: be 18 years of age or older; be an owner of an eligible small business; and have been an owner of that business on or before January 1, 2025. Small businesses must: be a for-profit, independently owned business; have a start date on or before January 1, 2024; and operate out of a physical “brick-and-mortar” location (see website for more).

Deadline: January 16, 2026

NYS Department of Ag & Markets

Farmers’ Market Resiliency Grant Program

<https://agriculture.ny.gov/rfp-0396-farmers-market-resiliency-grant-program-regional-sub-grant-program-round-4>

Funding will be available for projects that will help enhance current food system resiliency through farmers’ markets, including projects aimed at the development and enhancement of farmers’ market infrastructure, online infrastructure, marketing and outreach efforts, and/or delivery

capabilities across the state. This round of the grant program is structured for larger entities to provide sub-grants to farmers' markets and/or farmers' market vendors in their economic development region (the North Country region includes St. Lawrence, Jefferson, Lewis, Franklin, Clinton and Essex counties). Awardees must make sub-grants available through an open application process for farmers' markets within its economic development region.

Deadline: February 4, 2026

Climate Smart Communities Initiative (CSCI)

<https://climatesmartcommunity.org/funding/>

This is NOT the NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities Program. This program prioritizes funding for communities that include historically disinvested populations at increased risk to climate-related impacts. It is open to US-based project teams composed of a climate adaptation practitioner, a local or regional government entity and a community-based organization. Applicant communities must be facing significant impacts from climate change-related hazards based on environmental as well as socioeconomic considerations. Activities and work proposed must be strictly focused on climate adaptation and resilience.

Deadline: March 12, 2026

NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

<https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/>

It's not too early to plan for the 2026 funding round! Use the link above to look at the programs included in the 2025 round (2025 CFA Available Resources); there have not been significant changes in recent years. Also review 2025 awards; consider reaching out to past successful applicants for advice or even a copy of their application. Annual rounds generally kick off in late May or early June, with a late July deadline.

Canton Community Fund

www.cantoncommunityfund.org

The Canton Community Fund invites applications for grants to support projects that aim to sustain and improve the life of the community. The Fund has provided assistance in a wide variety of areas, including historic preservation and awareness, community beautification, the arts, education, recreation, human services, and programs for youth and senior citizens. The maximum award is \$2000; typically awards are \$1000 or less. Not-for-profit organizations that are located in and serve the residents of the Village or Town of Canton are eligible.

Deadline: Rolling

NYS Department of Ag & Markets – previously listed in the 11/19/25 Grants Notice Companion Animal Capital Projects Fund

<https://agriculture.ny.gov/rfp-0388-companion-animal-capital-projects-fund>

Eligible applicants: Municipal and incorporated not-for-profit pounds, shelters, humane societies, and rescue facilities, excluding rescues operating from a residence, are eligible applicants. Such entities must be a pound or shelter for dogs established and maintained pursuant to Section 114 of NYS Ag and Markets Law or registered pursuant to Section 408 of the Ag and Markets Law.

Deadline: January 30, 2026