

# American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

---

## A Guide to Implementation in Georgia

Based on Information Available as of July 2, 2009

Prepared by:

Senate Budget and Evaluation Office  
Suite 208 Paul D. Coverdell Legislative Office Building  
18 Capitol Square  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
(404) 463-1970  
(404) 463-0346 FAX

# Additional Resources

---

## Federal Government

### **[www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov)**

For grant information at the federal level, the Obama Administration has developed [recovery.gov](http://recovery.gov) to track how stimulus funds are spent. From the homepage, reports can be accessed from each of the federal agencies. After selecting an agency, information on that agency's grant programs can be viewed. It is important to remember that much of this information includes regulations specifically for the federal agency and that different rules and regulations exist for recipients of funds.

## Georgia

### **[www.stimulus.georgia.gov](http://www.stimulus.georgia.gov)**

To track funds at the state level, Governor Perdue has developed a website for Georgia. The website includes information on state agency contacts, funds received by the state, and a general summary of the Recovery Act. The website will continually be updated as new information becomes available.

# Human Services

---

## Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program

### Individual Benefit Increase

**Funds to Georgia:** \$6,700,000

**State Implementation Process:** WIC serves women and children in families with an income at or below 185 percent of the federally defined poverty level who are at risk for nutritional deficiencies. In Georgia, WIC services are provided through eighteen health districts and two contract agencies. The process for individuals to obtain services in Georgia has not changed. Individuals wanting to apply for WIC services should contact the State WIC Office at 1-800-228-9173 or their local health department. To locate the closest health department/WIC clinic, go to the WIC website listed below.

**Contacts:** Candace Jones, WIC Director, Georgia Department of Human Resources, [cjones2@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:cjones2@dhr.state.ga.us), 404-657-2900

**Website:** <http://health.state.ga.us/programs/wic/index.asp>

## Technology Grants for State WIC Program

**Funds to Georgia:** Competitive Grants

**Dates Available:** Applications were due May 26, 2009 for Planning and Implementation Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) grants and June 26, 2009 for Management Information Systems (MIS) and Technology Grants to Food and Nutrition Services.

**State Implementation Process:** The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC will provide \$100 million nationally to state agencies to implement management information systems, support state studies on clinic and local agency equipment and processing systems (EBT systems), and replace hardware. The Georgia Department of Community Health applied on behalf of the state for these funds. Specific requirements for each grant can be found on the US Department of Agriculture recovery website listed below.

**Website:** <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns/recovery/recovery-wic.htm>

## National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$4,420,793

**Dates Available:** Funds were approved for disbursement on June 11, 2009. Grant recipients are encouraged to spend the funds by the end of September 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** The NSLP grants are for the purchase of school food service equipment. Georgia will provide competitive grants to School Food Authorities (SFA) based upon need

for equipment assistance within participating schools. Priority is given to schools in which 50 percent or more of the students are eligible for free lunch or reduced-priced meals. Georgia Department of Education (DOE) accepted online applications from SFAs until April 15, 2009. On June 11, 2009, the DOE Board approved the list of awardees. Of the 144 systems that applied, 138 received funds. Six systems were disqualified because less than 50 percent of students received free or reduce meals. To receive funds, systems must send DOE the invoice for the food service equipment and will be reimbursed for either the amount on the invoice or the award amount, whichever is less. If grant recipients cannot spend funds by the end of September 2009, they are encouraged to contact DOE to make special arrangements.

**Contacts:** Valerie Bowers, DOE, vabowers@doe.k12.ga.us, 404-463-4515

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$666,000,000 in benefits to Georgia residents  
 \$10,500,000 for program administration

**Dates Available:** On April 1, 2009 monthly benefits for current SNAP recipients increased. Funds will remain available until expended.

**State Implementation Process:** The Recovery Act increased the maximum benefit for SNAP by 13.6 percent. Starting April 1, 2009, households began receiving an increase in their monthly SNAP allotment to spend on groceries equivalent to the amounts below:

People in Household	Increase
1	+ \$24
2	+ \$44
3	+ \$63
4	+ \$80
5	+ \$95
6	+ \$114
7	+ \$126
8	+ \$144
Each extra person	+\$18

The Georgia Food Stamp program receives these federal funds and provides monthly benefits to low-income households to help pay for the cost of food. Funding for increased administrative costs is included in the state's allocation. This portion of the ARRA funds will be used by Georgia to support technology services to upgrade the new COMPASS (online application) website.

**Contacts:** Individuals interested in determining eligibility status can use the online tool at [www.snap-step1.usda.gov](http://www.snap-step1.usda.gov) or call the Georgia Sate Information/Hotline Number at 1-800-869-1150 (outside metro area) and 404-657-9358 (inside metro area).

**Website:** <https://compass.ga.gov/selfservice/>

## Senior Nutrition Program

**Funds to Georgia:** \$1,625,678 for Congregate Nutrition and \$800,334 for Home-Delivered Nutrition

**Dates Available:** Funds were released March 18, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** The Georgia Department for Human Services (DHS) administers the program for the state of Georgia. The Recovery Act requires a 25 percent non-federal match requirement, 10 percent of which must be from state funds. Funds will be used for meals for seniors at a high risk for nursing home placement that are not yet Medicaid eligible; seniors who have recently been discharged from hospitals, rehabilitation centers, or nursing home; and seniors who have not yet been approved for Social Security Disability or Supplemental Security Income.

**Contacts:** Jamie Cramer, Manager of DHS Division of Aging Services, jacramer@dhr.state.ga.us, 404-657-5322

## The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$3,248,917 for food grants and \$814,265 for administrative purposes

**Dates Available:** Funds were made available March 1, 2009 and must be obligated by September 30, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** TEFAP is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of low income persons in Georgia, including the elderly, by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost. The Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) must pass-through or expend 40 percent of additional administrative funds on behalf of emergency feeding organizations (EFO) and must match funds they retain or distribute to organizations that are not EFOs. DHS plans to use these funds to contract with community action agencies and food banks to support the costs of distributing emergency food supplies. Details of this process are not yet available.

**Contacts:** DHS contact: 404-463-2607 or 404-463-8042

**Local Food Banks Website:** [http://dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/DHR-DFCS/DHR-DFCS\\_TEFAP/Food%20Banks7-10-06.pdf](http://dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/DHR-DFCS/DHR-DFCS_TEFAP/Food%20Banks7-10-06.pdf)

## Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$82,847,052

**Dates Available:** Funds are available through September 30, 2010 and must be obligated within two years and expended within three years.

**State Implementation Process:** CCDBG funds are used for low income families who need child care services to work. The ARRA funds must be used to supplement state general funds, though funds fall under the discretionary portion of the CCDBG regulations giving states greater flexibility. The Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) has a plan for using the additional ARRA funds:

- To provide up to two years of child care for parents who return to school or participate in

training programs to improve their vocational skills.

- \$6.8 million of the funds must be set aside for quality care and \$4 million for activities that improve the quality of toddler/infant care. The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) is the lead state agency for quality assurance/infant and toddler services and will receive these funds. DHS will work with DECAL to use some of the quality assurance funds to target the development of on-site child care at businesses and schools.

**Contacts:** To find a Child Care Resource and Referral Agency in your county call 1-888-893-4582 or 912-382-9919. For general information call 1-800-869-1150 or 404-657-3434.

## **Community Service Block Grant (CSBG)**

**Funds to Georgia:** \$26,896,180

**Dates Available:** Funds were made available on April 10, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** The Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) will use these funds to target services in two areas: Housing and Employment. DHS will prioritize the use of these funds for three high risk groups: children aging out of the foster care system (independent living), clients dealing with behavioral health issues, and clients with disabilities. DHS plans to spend funds evenly among these target groups. More information will be available soon.

**Contacts:** Jeff Blankenship, DHS Division of Family and Children Services, JLBlanke@dhr.ga.gov, 404-463-8047

# Emergency Assistance

---

## Emergency Food and Shelter for Homeless Program (EFSP)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$3,261,412

**Dates Available:** On April 9, 2009, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced funding available through the ARRA for the EFSP.

**State Implementation Process:** The Recovery Act provided additional funds to respond to the increase in need for emergency services. Funds will be awarded by the EFSP National Board to local boards and state set-aside committees. Award materials were mailed to eligible recipients on April 24, 2009, including instructions and deadlines.

When a jurisdiction is funded, the local board must advertise the availability of funds. Local nonprofit organizations or government agencies may apply. The local board is responsible for considering all applications and determining which organizations will receive funds.

Program funds are used to provide the following, as determined by the local board in funded jurisdictions: food, lodging, one month's rent or mortgage payment, one month's utility bill, minimal repairs to a mass feeding or sheltering facility, and equipment necessary to feed or shelter people.

**Funded Jurisdictions:** <http://www.efsp.unitedway.org/EFSP/wc.dII?EFSP~fundedcounties~13~AR>

# Energy and Environment

---

## Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) Program

**Funds to Georgia:** \$4,970,000

**Dates Available:** Funds must be obligated by September 30, 2010.

**State Implementation Process:** LUST sites contain contamination from petroleum products or other hazardous substances released from underground tanks either through spills, overflows, or leaks. ARRA funds will be used to pay for activities at shovel-ready sites to assess and cleanup underground petroleum leaks. These funds may be used to oversee the assessment and clean up of leaks, to directly pay for the cleanup of federally regulated tanks where the responsible party is unknown, unwilling, or unable to clean the site or to respond if the cleanup is an emergency.

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources (EPD) is responsible for regulating underground storage tank sites in Georgia. EPD has contractors already on retainer and a list of projects ready for funding.

**Contacts:** Richard Swanson, EPD, richard\_swanson@dnr.state.ga.us, 404-362-2582

**Website:** <http://www.gaepd.org/index.html>

## Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$54,775,000 (DWSRF), \$66,261,000 (CWSRF), and \$669,600 (Water Quality Management Planning)

**Dates Available:** Funds became available from the federal government on April 16, 2009.

### State Implementation Process:

#### CWSRF and DWSRF

The Recovery Act increased funding to the existing CWSRF and DWSRF loan programs. The Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA) will administer this funding in conjunction with its annual program allocation. GEFA applied in late March to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to receive these funds.

The Recovery Act requires that no less than 50 percent of assistance made with ARRA funds be provided in the form of additional subsidies. GEFA will provide 40 percent principle forgiveness to non-rural communities, 70 percent principle loan forgiveness to rural communities (OneGeorgia eligible communities), and 60 percent principle loan forgiveness for “green” projects. Twenty percent of ARRA funds must be used for green projects, which includes green infrastructure, energy or water efficiency, and environmentally innovative activities. Project funds must be obligated by February 16, 2010 or those funds will be redistributed.



GEFA's application process for both CWSRF and DWSRF has not changed and there is no deadline for submission. Application information can be found on GEFA's website.

### **Clean Water Act (CWA) Water Quality Management Planning (WQMP)**

The WQMP is an environmental management grant program awarded by the EPA directly to the environmental agencies in each state. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will receive \$669,600 for WQMP. EPD plans to use the funds to implement the state water plan which was approved by the General Assembly in 2008. The state water plan consists of assessing water resources and assisting in the development of regional water plans.

**Contacts:** Kevin Kelly, GEFA, [kkelly@gefa.ga.gov](mailto:kkelly@gefa.ga.gov), 404-584-1053 and Bob Scott, EPD, [bob.scott@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:bob.scott@dnr.state.ga.us), 404-675-6233

**Website:** [www.gefa.org](http://www.gefa.org)

### **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)**

**Funds to Georgia:** \$45,556,900 (for large communities directly from the federal government) and \$21,630,700 (through GEFA with at least 60 percent for small communities)

**Dates Available:** The competitive application process will not begin until the US Department of Energy (US DOE) has awarded ARRA funds to GEFA. This award is expected no sooner than July 12, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** The purposes of the EECBG Program are to reduce fossil fuel emissions, decrease total energy consumption, improve energy efficiency in transportation, construction, and other energy consuming sectors, spur economic growth, and create and retain jobs. Cities with a population less than 35,000 and counties with a population less than 200,000 should apply directly to Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA). Municipalities with larger populations should apply directly to US DOE.

GEFA has received guidelines from US DOE regarding the spending of EECBG stimulus funds. GEFA is currently developing guidelines for the implementation of these grants to small local governments. As more information becomes available, it will be provided on the GEFA website.

State applications were due to US DOE by May 26, 2009, and local government applications for large municipalities were due to US DOE by June 25, 2009.

**Contacts:** David Gipson, [dgipson@gefa.ga.gov](mailto:dgipson@gefa.ga.gov), 404-584-1007

**Website:** <http://www.gefa.org/Index.aspx?page=476>

### **Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)**

**Funds to Georgia:** \$124,756,312

**Dates Available:** The competitive application process will not begin until the US Department of Energy (US DOE) has awarded ARRA funds to Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA). This award is expected no sooner than July 12, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** WAP is the primary energy conservation organization for low-income individuals, which provides free energy conservation measures to eligible households. WAP is administered according to US DOE guidelines and operates in all of Georgia's 159 counties. These funds will be distributed through GEFA to local energy programs. Weatherization services are provided throughout the state of Georgia by 22 local providers. The providers include local community action agencies, city and county government entities, and other nonprofit agencies.

The ARRA lowers the eligibility income threshold from 150 percent of the poverty rate to 200 percent and increases the limit on the amount of assistance from \$2,500 to \$6,500. The funding ceiling for training and technical assistance is changed from 10 percent to 20 percent. Families whose annual income is 200 percent above the federal poverty level are eligible for weatherization assistance. A family of four with an annual income of \$40,000 would be eligible.

GEFA has received guidelines from US DOE regarding the spending of WAP. On May 12, 2009, GEFA submitted an application to US DOE. Approval of the application and the awarding of funds to GEFA are expected no sooner than July 12, 2009.

**Contacts:** Cherry Ivey, cherry@gefa.ga.gov, 404-584-1049

## State Energy Program (SEP)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$82,495,000

**Dates Available:** The competitive application process will not begin until the US Department of Energy (US DOE) has awarded ARRA funds to the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA). This award is expected no sooner than July 12, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** SEP provides grants to states with three goals in mind: 1) increase energy efficiency so energy costs and consumer, business, and government consumption decreases; 2) reduce reliance on imported energy; 3) improve electricity and fuel supply reliability and energy service delivery; and 4) reduce the impacts of energy production and use on the environment.

Under the 2009 SEP, GEFA intends to create several funding opportunities for state agencies, local governments, and private-sector entities. Grants for the private-sector will be awarded through an open, competitive application process. According to the GEFA state plan, the distribution of SEP funds is as follows:

- State Facilities Retrofit Program - \$65,000,000
- Clean Energy Property Grant Program (GA HB473) - \$4,495,000
- Renewable Energy Grants - \$4,000,000
- Commercial Energy Efficiency Grants - \$2,000,000
- Industrial Energy Efficiency Grants - \$2,000,000

- Residential Energy Efficiency Grants - \$2,000,000
- Governor's Energy Challenge - \$1,132,976;
- Energy Building Codes Update & Compliance - \$1,000,000
- Program Management - \$867,024

On May 12, 2009, GEFA submitted the application for ARRA SEP funds to the US DOE. US DOE is expected to approve the application and award funds to GEFA no sooner than July 12, 2009. Once GEFA receives US DOE approval for its SEP state plan, GEFA will release guidance and application forms for SEP programs. Up-to-date information will be posted on the GEFA website.

**Contacts:** Richard Ross, GEFA, richard@gefa.ga.gov, 404-584-1031

**Website:** <http://www.gefa.org/Index.aspx?page=476>

## Energy Efficient Appliance Rebates

**Funds to Georgia:** Approximately \$8 million

**State Implementation Process:** Consumers will be eligible for rebates for purchasing Energy STAR certified appliances for homes and businesses. The Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA) is currently awaiting guidelines from the US Department of Energy regarding how the Energy Efficiency Rebates are to be allocated. As more information becomes available, it will be provided on the GEFA website.

**General Inquiries:** [energy@gefa.ga.gov](mailto:energy@gefa.ga.gov)

**Website:** <http://www.gefa.org/Index.aspx?page=476>

# Economic Development

---

## Economic Development Assistance Programs

**Funds to Georgia:** Competitive Grant

**Dates Available:** The US Economic Development Administration (EDA) awarded all funds by June 30, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** The Recovery Act provided funds for an existing grant program administered by EDA. Funds were allocated to the region through formula. Then the Atlanta Regional Office distributed funds, estimated at \$20 million, based on the number of jobs each project intends to create, as well as other economic factors to eight states within the southeast. Governmental entities, political subdivisions, institutes of higher education, and nonprofits were eligible to apply. Funds can be used for public works projects, building construction, and building acquisition as long as the building is to remain a public entity. EDA did not have a formal ARRA application round, but instead funded existing or new applications with the additional funding. More information can be found on EDA's website.

**Contacts:** Jonathan Corso, Economic Development Representative for Georgia, jcorso@eda.doc.gov, 404-730-3023

**Website:** [www.eda.gov](http://www.eda.gov)

## Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP)

**Funds to Georgia:** Competitive Grant

**Dates Available:** The Federal Government released guidelines in June 2009. The state asked for the first round of projects to be submitted by May 1, 2009. Additional deadlines will follow.

**State Implementation Process:** The Recovery Act included two separate allocations for Broadband Technology, one administered by the US Department of Commerce and the other by the US Department of Agriculture. The Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) is coordinating the broadband program statewide. While entities will apply directly to each federal agency, Georgia hopes to coordinate the state's efforts and prioritize projects with the greatest impact. A board of state agencies has been assembled to help GTA in their effort. The board includes representatives from the Governor's Office, the Department of Community Health, the Georgia Emergency Management Authority, the OneGeorgia Authority, the Public Service Commission, and the Office of Student Achievement.

GTA recently posted the guidelines it is encouraging corporations and nonprofits to follow if they intend to apply for these funds. For communities interested in applying for ARRA funds, GTA has asked that those communities register online and provide a short description of their proposed projects.

The federal government must first award a contract to provide program assistance services. Once that is finalized, there will be several solicitations for proposals. The schedule is as follows:

- March – June 2009 Procurement for Grants Program Assistance Services
- June 2009 Award Contract for Grants Program Support
- April – June 2009 Preparation for Initial Solicitation for Proposals
- June 2009 Publish Notice of Funds Availability
- Sept – Dec 2009 Initial Proposal Processing and Review
- December 2009 Initial Grant Awards Made
- Oct – Dec 2009 Second Solicitation for Proposals
- April – June 2010 Third Solicitation for Proposals
- September 2010 All Awards to Be Made

**Contacts:** Rich Calhoun, Program Director, Georgia Technology Authority, 404-463-5906

**Website:** [www.georgiabroadband.net](http://www.georgiabroadband.net)

# Criminal Justice

---

## Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants (Byrne/JAG Grant)

### Statewide Byrne/JAG Grant

**Funds to Georgia:** \$36.2 million

**Dates Available:** Letters of intent for the local portion were due June 1, 2009, and applications are due September 1, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** The grant regulations require the state to split the statewide allocation into two portions: 60 percent for the local portion and 40 percent for the statewide portion. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), which administers the grant for the state, took \$1.5 million from the local portion and added it to the state's Victim Services Grant. CJCC hopes to use the \$1.5 million to fund District Attorney Victim Witness Programs. The remaining local share will be distributed to each of the 49 judicial circuits. Each circuit will receive a base allocation of approximately \$265,000 and then can receive up to a total of \$500,000 depending on property crime rates.

CJCC is encouraging each judicial circuit to form a unified planning group to determine how funds should best be used in the circuit. This planning group should include local units of government and all components of the criminal justice system. Each unified planning group will apply jointly and prioritize projects that are most important to that circuit, though if this collaboration does not occur, local government units are able to apply individually and will compete against other applicants within the circuit for funds. Non-profit organizations are not eligible to receive direct awards unless a unit of government applies on behalf of the organization. Both the joint letters of intent and the individual letters were due June 1, 2009. After letters of intent are received, agencies will have until September 1, 2009, to complete an application, though funds will be distributed on a rolling basis as applications are received. CJCC began notifying agencies about the process in April 2009, so eligible agencies should be aware of the grant opportunities and the application process.

For the statewide share, Safe Georgia developed a list of potential projects and budget reductions to restore. On July 17, CJCC approved the Governor's recommendations to fund the following projects:

- Department of Juvenile Justice - \$1,885,228 for twenty Juvenile Probation and Parole Specialists
- Department of Public Safety - \$3,011,233 for thirty new troopers through the Trooper School
- Department of Driver Services - \$727,105 for criminal intelligence analysts
- Georgia Bureau of Investigation - \$1,815,234 for toxicology crime lab specialists and equipment
- Office for Children and Families - \$731,250 for systems of care for victims of sexual exploitation
- Public Safety Training Center - \$350,000 for drug interdiction training for local law enforcement
- Board of Pardons and Paroles - \$2,163,000 for Residential Substance Abuse Treatment providers, \$720,000 for housing stipends for inmates eligible for parole but without current residence plans, and \$1,700,000 for CONS infrastructure to complete an automated clemency application.

**Contacts:** Robert Thornton, CJCC, 404-657-1956

**Website:** <http://cjcc.ga.gov/>

### **Local Byrne/JAG Grant**

**Funds to Georgia:** \$22.8 million

**Dates Available:** Deadline passed May 18, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** Of the \$59 million that Georgia received in Byrne/JAG Grant funding, \$22.8 million will be awarded directly from the US Department of Justice (DOJ) to cities and counties. A list of funding amounts for eligible cities and counties has been published by the DOJ. The amount of each award was calculated by a formula that considered both population and crime rate.

**Contacts:** Robert Thornton, CJCC, 404-657-1956

**Website:** <https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov>.

### **Byrne Competitive Grant Program**

**Funds to Georgia:** \$2,858,492

**Dates Available:** Deadline passed April 27, 2009. Once funds are approved, agencies can initiate activities and begin spending funds.

**State Implementation Process:** Byrne Competitive Grants are similar to JAG grants and are focused on ensuring job growth and job retention. However, instead of providing grants based on a formula, the Bureau of Justice Assistance administers these funds based on a competitive application process. This grant helps state and local communities improve the capacity of local justice systems and may be used for national efforts such as training and technical assistance. Applicants may be national, regional, state, or local public and private entities, including for-profit (commercial) and nonprofit organizations, faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher education, tribal jurisdictions, and units of local government that support the functioning of the criminal justice system. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) applied and received funds to hire 12 forensic scientists and 3 forensic technicians, and to purchase instrumentation to support these positions.

**Website:** <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/recoveryact.html>

## **Rural Law Enforcement**

**Funds to Georgia:** Competitive Grant

**Dates Available:** Deadline passed April 22, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** This grant, which is intended for local government units ineligible to receive a direct allocation from the Byrne/JAG Grants is to support evidence based programs and practices to fight crime and drugs.

**Website:** <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/recoveryact.html>

## **Victim Services Grant**

**Funds to Georgia:** \$7,576,000

**Dates Available:** Deadline passed May 29, 2009. Award recipients will be notified in July 2009. The grant period is from July 2009 to September 2010.

**State Implementation Process:** The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) has decided to administer the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) recovery funds, as well as \$1.5 million in Byrne/JAG Grant funds together in one Victim Services Grant. Applicants will only have to fill out one application and will then be awarded funds from one of the three grants, each with different rules and regulations. Those awarded VOCA funds are required to provide a 20 percent match, while those awarded the VAWA and Byrne/JAG funds are not. Awards will be prioritized depending on how well an applicant meets the following criteria in order: job preservation and restoration, job creation, and other economic growth. Both public agencies and nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply.

**Contacts:** Robert Thornton, CJCC, 404-657-1956

**Website:** <http://cjcc.ga.gov/>

## **COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP)**

**Funds to Georgia:** Competitive Grant

**Dates Available:** Deadline passed April 14, 2009. Awards will be announced no later than September 30, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** CHRP is a grant program administered through the U.S. Department of Justice to provide funds directly to law enforcement agencies for hiring additional career law enforcement officers. Grant funding is based on current entry-level salary and benefits package. Funds are for three years and at the end of the grant period, grantees must retain all sworn officers under the CHRP program. The Georgia Department of Public Safety has submitted an application to fund the 87<sup>th</sup> Trooper School.

**Website:** <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/>

## **Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program Grants**

**Funds to Georgia:** \$947,058

**Dates Available:** Deadline passed April 8, 2009. The award period is for 12 to 24 months.



**State Implementation Process:** The grant program, administered by the US Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), is intended to support the fifty-nine national multiagency, multijurisdictional task forces engaged in investigations, forensic examinations, and prosecutions related to internet crimes against children and technology facilitated child sexual exploitation. Eligible agencies were notified by OJJDP and directed to apply through the Office of Judicial Program's online Grants Management System. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation, the state's only eligible entity, applied and received funds.

**Website:** <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/recoveryact.html>

# Employment and Training

---

## Community Service Employment for Older Americans

**Funds to Georgia:** \$500,000

**Dates Available:** Funds were available on March 19, 2009 and must be used by June 30, 2010.

**State Implementation Process:** The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) provides part-time community service work and training for Georgia's unemployed low-income seniors age 55 and older. Once completed, the program then assists participants in finding paid employment. On March 19, 2009, the US Department of Labor used the ARRA funds to increase the 2008 grants to current grantees to support additional employment opportunities in proportion to their allotment in program year 2008. The funds will allow training and job placement for 50 Georgians. Due to statutory limits, participants must finish the program within two years.

**Contacts:** Jamie Cramer, Manager of DHR Division of Aging Services, jacramer@dhr.state.ga.us, 404-657-5322. For Local SCSEP Contact Information call 1-866-552-4464.

## Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) Funds

**Funds to Georgia:** \$88,282,518

**Dates Available:** The state must expend funds by the end of Program Year 2010, which is June 30, 2011.

**State Implementation Process:** The Workforce Investment Act provides a one-stop system for employment training and services in occupational skills, job readiness, literacy, youth summer employment, and entrepreneurship training programs. Georgia's WIA allocation is split into three categories: \$13,119,015 for WIA Adult Activities, \$31,361,665 for WIA Youth Activities, and \$43,801,838 for WIA Dislocated Workers. The Georgia Department of Labor (DOL) was designated to administer these funds and has distributed the WIA Youth and Adult funds to the state's 20 Local WIA Grantees. The WIA Dislocated Workers funds were distributed according to the State Workforce Plan, with 25 percent retained at the state level to provide rapid response services in case of an emergency. Each allocation is intended to supplement the regular 2008 program allocation.

The stimulus act also changed the age of a youth from 21 and under to 24 and under and initiated a new summer program for youth, increasing the number of individuals eligible for youth activities. Organizations or individuals interested in new opportunities relating to these funds should contact their local One-Stop Center. The list of centers can be found on the DOL website.

**Contacts:** Andrea Harper, DOL, andrea.harper@dol.state.ga.us, 404-232-7320

**Website:** <http://www.dol.state.ga.us/>

## Wagner-Peyser Employment Service

**Funds to Georgia:** \$11,711,489

**Dates Available:** The state must expend funds by the end of Program Year 2010, which is June 30, 2011.

**State Implementation Process:** Wagner-Peyser funds are intended to provide employment services to the unemployed by connecting them to training opportunities and facilitating their transition back into the workforce. These funds were allocated directly to the Georgia Department of Labor (DOL) to supplement the Department's 2008 program allocation. DOL plans to spend the funds slowly over the next two years to help address the growing demand for services. DOL has already hosted two job expos, which brought together state agencies for a one-stop shop for unemployed Georgians. DOL could potentially spend funds on future expos.

**Contacts:** Andrea Harper, DOL, andrea.harper@dol.state.ga.us, 404-232-7320

## Unemployment Insurance

**Funds to Georgia:** An additional \$220 million in unemployment benefits

**Dates Available:** New rates in effect until December 31, 2011

**State Implementation Process:** Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits are temporary income for workers who are unemployed through no fault of their own and who are either looking for another job, have definite recall to their jobs within 6 weeks of the last day worked, or are in approved training. The funding for UI benefits comes from taxes paid by employers. Workers do not pay any costs. Eligibility for benefits is determined based on past wages, reason for job separation, and availability and job search requirements.

During 2009, the Georgia General Assembly passed House Bill 581 bringing Georgia in compliance with ARRA stipulations. The bill increases the amount of time individuals are eligible for benefits, adds \$25 in benefits per week, and allows individuals who have lost their job but taken part-time employment to be eligible for benefits.

Claims for unemployment insurance may be filed at any Georgia Department of Labor Career Center. When filing a claim, you should bring:

- Your social security number as a claim cannot be filed without a social security number
- Employer-issued separation letter or notice, if one was provided
- Names and addresses of all employers for the last 18 months and the dates worked for each
- Proof of immigration status if not a U.S. citizen
- Personal check with account number and bank routing number if you want benefits deposited directly into to a checking or savings account.
- Claims are effective on the date they are filed and are not retroactive to the last day worked.

**Website:** [http://www.dol.state.ga.us/js/unemployment\\_benefits\\_individuals.htm](http://www.dol.state.ga.us/js/unemployment_benefits_individuals.htm)

## Rehabilitation Services

**Funds to Georgia:** \$20,050,211

**Dates Available:** Funds released April 2, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** The Recovery Act included three grants that will be administered by the Georgia Department of Labor (DOL) Rehabilitation Services. The agency is currently engaged in a planning process to ensure that funds are used appropriately and efficiently. For all three grants, DOL will likely contract with private and nonprofit organizations. Interested entities should look for request for proposals from Rehabilitation Services and announcements on the DOL website. For individuals looking for services, ARRA funds will not disrupt the current process, but instead should increase capacity so the agency can serve more customers.

- **Vocational Rehabilitation:** \$18,686,184  
The grant provides services to help eligible persons with disabilities to prepare for and maintain competitive employment, thus becoming productive and independent citizens in their communities. The agency is considering using funds for infrastructure improvement and client services.
- **Independent Living:** \$423,820  
This grant provides services to individuals with disabilities through local nonprofits and consumer organizations. Services are coordinated by the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) and focus on helping individuals become independent. Funds will most likely be distributed through DOL to current partner organizations.
- **Services for Older Individuals Who are Blind:** \$940,207  
This grant is for individuals who are blind over the age of 55. Often these individuals are retired, so the focus is not necessarily employment but more on providing services to ensure these individuals are independent. The agency will most likely use these funds to contract with private and nonprofit organizations to provide services.

**Contacts:** Janelle Wilhite, DOL, [Janelle.Wilhite@dol.state.ga.gov](mailto:Janelle.Wilhite@dol.state.ga.gov), 404-232-3574

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

## Aquaculture Grant Program

**Funds to Georgia:** \$205,200

**State Implementation Process:** The Aquaculture Grant Program is meant to assist aquaculture producers for losses due to the high feed input costs of 2008. Grants to each state were based on the amount of aquaculture feed used by the state in 2007. Once the state receives the funds, the Georgia Department of Agriculture will hold a formal application process to distribute funds. Assistance will be provided to producers that experienced a 25 percent increase in feed costs. Once additional information is available it will be posted on the department's website.

**Website:** [www.agr.georgia.gov](http://www.agr.georgia.gov)

# Health Resources and Services

---

## Health Centers Grants

### FQHC and Rural Clinic Funding

**Funds to Georgia:** Competitive Grants

**Dates Available:** U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) will be releasing funds in increments.

**State Implementation Process:** There are three ways for health centers to apply for new funds made available by the stimulus package. First, health centers can apply through the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH). DCH then applies to HHS on behalf of the health center and handles the administrative aspect of the grant, especially for rural health centers which may lack the capacity to manage grants. Second, health centers can apply directly to HHS. Third, health centers can apply through the Georgia Primary Healthcare Association, which receives funds on behalf of its members and then distributes those funds to health centers. While the funds released so far have been for existing health centers, the Recovery Act also contains funds for new health centers. HHS has yet to release the grant announcements and requirements for these funds.

**Contacts:** Jacqueline Tate, DCH, [dchstimulus@dch.ga.gov](mailto:dchstimulus@dch.ga.gov), 404-651-9928

### 330 Funded Health Centers – Funds for Increased Demand for Services

**Funds to Georgia:** \$6,964,291 to 28 centers.

**Dates Available:** Funds have already been distributed.

**State Implementation Process:** The stimulus package included funds to expand the current health center programs, which include Community Health Centers, Migrant Health Centers, Health Care for the Homeless, and Public Housing Primary Care. Funding is intended to support the expansion of clinic hours, increase the availability of pharmaceuticals, provide outreach and health education, and other vital clinic needs to address the increasing demands of the underserved. The Department of Community Health (DCH) had recently applied for a grant for Migrant Health Centers prior to the enactment of the stimulus package. Once ARRA was passed, the proper channels already existed to easily pass funds from HHS to DCH, and on to health centers. Those funds have already been distributed.

**Contacts:** Jacqueline Tate, DCH, [dchstimulus@dch.ga.gov](mailto:dchstimulus@dch.ga.gov), 404-651-9928

## Health Information Technology (HIT)

**Funds to Georgia:** TBD

**Dates Available:** The state expects to receive additional information on the HIT grant in September of 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has yet to release the requirements and guidelines for the HIT funds. The Department of Community Health (DCH) has been designated as the “pass through” agency for these funds. DCH’s current assumption is that it will receive the state’s allocation and that eligible entities will apply directly to DCH. The Department has begun to create a potential list of projects, but that list is not exhaustive.

**Contacts:** Jacqueline Tate, DCH, [dchstimulus@dch.ga.gov](mailto:dchstimulus@dch.ga.gov), 404-651-9928

## Section 317 Immunization Program

**Funds to Georgia:** \$6,800,000

**State Implementation Process:** The Recovery Act provided funds to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to administer immunization programs nationally through partnerships with state and local health departments. The Georgia Division of Public Health will receive funds on behalf of the state. An implementation plan has not yet been released by the department.

**Contacts:** Yvette Daniels, DCH, [ykdaniels@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:ykdaniels@dhr.state.ga.us)

# Education

---

## Formula Grants to States

The Georgia Department of Education (DOE) received five education grants allocated through formula to each state: Title I, School Improvement, Enhancing Education through Technology, McKinney-Vento (Homeless), and Individuals with Disabilities Education Grants. Regular maintenance of effort and other requirements apply for these grants. A portion of the ARRA funds was made available in April 2009 with funds being distributed at the state level through DOE to local school districts.

**Websites:** <http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/stimulus.aspx>  
<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/index.html>

## Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies (Part A)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$351,366,865

**Dates Available:** On April 1, 2009, \$175,504,146 (50 percent of the total ARRA funds) was released. By September 30, 2009 the remaining 50 percent will be released. All funds must be obligated by September 30, 2011.

**State Implementation Process:** Title I finances additional academic support and learning opportunities for low-achieving children, especially in high-poverty schools. All local governments were required to provide the DOE with a school-by-school listing of per-pupil educational expenditures from state and local sources. Georgia must report this information to the federal government. Of these funds, 4 percent must be used for school improvement grants to Title I schools. Local school district funding levels were approved by the Georgia State Board of Education on April 28, 2009.

**Contacts:** Barbara Lunsford, DOE, [title1@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:title1@doe.k12.ga.us), (404) 657-4209

## Title I School Improvement Grants

**Funds to Georgia:** \$95,567,000

**Dates Available:** All funds will be released by September 30, 2009 and funds must be obligated by September 30, 2011.

**State Implementation Process:** School Improvement Grants are meant to assist schools in identifying reasons for low performance, and to develop strategies to turn around those schools. Of total funds, 95 percent must be allocated to local educational agencies (LEAs), while five percent may be retained by the department for administrative costs. Forty percent of funds must go to middle and high schools. States must give priority to LEAs that serve the lowest-achieving schools, have the greatest need for funds, and show the strongest commitment to ensuring funds are used to enable the lowest-achieving schools to meet goals in school improvement plans. Awards to LEAs must be

between \$50,000 and \$500,000 for each participating school.

**Contacts:** Clara Keith, DOE, ckeith@doe.k12.ga.us, 404-463-0504

## **Title II Part D Enhancing Education through Technology (EETT)**

**Funds to Georgia:** \$22,071,475

**Dates Available:** All funds will be released by September 30, 2009 and funds must be obligated by September 30, 2011.

**State Implementation Process:** The EETT program is intended to help districts improve student achievement through the use of technology in their schools. These funds are in addition to the regular EETT grants. Of these funds, 25 percent must be used for technology training for teachers. Details are still developing for these funds. While few details have been released, the US Department of Education is planning on releasing both guidelines and funds to the states in July 2009.

**Contacts:** Clara Keith, DOE, ckeith@doe.k12.ga.us, 404-463-0504

## **McKinney-Vento (Homeless) Grant**

**Funds to Georgia:** \$1,873,212

**Dates Available:** Funds were made available on April 10, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** The McKinney-Vento (Homeless) Grant is an existing program established to assist state educational agencies in providing each homeless child with equal access to the same education as other children. The ARRA funds must be awarded by state agencies to local educational agencies (LEAs) competitively or by formula based on number of homeless students. The Georgia Department of Education (DOE) has not yet determined the process for allocating these funds to LEAs. Once the process is decided, information will be made available on the DOE website. States must distribute funds by August 8, 2009.

**Contacts:** Clara Keith, DOE, ckeith@doe.k12.ga.us, 404-463-0504

## **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**

**Funds to Georgia:** \$338,853,225 (Part B Grants \$313,758,336, Part B Pre-School Grants \$10,449,347, and Part C Grants for Infants and Families \$14,645,542)

**Dates Available:** On April 1, 2009 \$169,426,613 (50 percent of the total ARRA funds) was released. By September 30, 2009 the remaining 50 percent will be released. All funds must be obligated by September 30, 2011.

**State Implementation Process:** IDEA is an existing program that assists states in providing a public education to children with disabilities through direct early intervention services and improved educational services for children with disabilities that would otherwise be unavailable.



The Georgia Department of Education had to obligate IDEA ARRA funds to local educational agencies (LEAs) by the end of April 2009. Local school district funding levels were approved by the Georgia State Board of Education on April 28, 2009. An LEA should obligate the majority of these funds during school years 2008-09 and 2009-10 and the remainder during school year 2010-11. All IDEA ARRA funds must be used in a manner consistent with the current IDEA statutory and regulatory requirements.

In order to receive the remaining 50 percent of IDEA, Part B ARRA funds, a state must submit, for review and approval by the US Department of Education, additional information that addresses how the state will meet the accountability and reporting requirements in section 1512 of the ARRA.

**Contacts:** Nancy O'Hara, DOE, nohara@doe.k12.ga.us, 404-657-9963

## Competitive Grants to States

Information on the application process for the following grants will be made available beginning in the fall of 2009. The Georgia Department of Education plans to apply for these funds once guidelines become available.

### Teacher Incentive Fund

**Funds to Georgia:** Competitive Grant

**Dates Available:** All funds will be released by September 30, 2009 and funds must be obligated by September 30, 2011.

**State Implementation Process:** Funds will be used by states and school districts to support, develop, and implement innovative principal and teacher compensation models to support recruitment and retention efforts in high-need schools and subject areas.

**Contacts:** Clara Keith, DOE, ckeith@doe.k12.ga.us, 404-463-0504

### Teacher Quality Enhancement Partnerships

**Funds to Georgia:** Competitive Grant

**Dates Available:** All funds will be released by September 30, 2009 and funds must be obligated by September 30, 2011.

**State Implementation Process:** This program tries to improve the quality of new teachers working in high-need local educational agencies (LEAs) and high-need schools by creating high-quality model Pre-Baccalaureate Teacher Preparation programs and Teaching Residency programs for those qualified to begin teaching.

**Contacts:** Clara Keith, DOE, ckeith@doe.k12.ga.us, 404-463-0504

### Statewide Longitudinal Data System

**Funds to Georgia:** Competitive Grant

**Dates Available:** All funds will be released by September 30, 2009 and funds must be obligated by September 30, 2011.

**State Implementation Process:** The purpose of this program is to enable states to design, develop, and implement statewide, longitudinal data systems to efficiently and accurately manage and analyze individual student data.

**Contacts:** Clara Keith, DOE, ckeith@doe.k12.ga.us, 404-463-0504

## State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) Competitive Grants

These competitive grants will be allocated in part by September 30, 2009 and the remaining portion at some point in the summer of 2010. There are two types of SFSF grants:

**Race to the Top Grant:** Nationwide \$4.35 billion will go to states that have made the most progress toward meeting the four core reforms that ARRA education funds must address:

1. Adopting rigorous college- and career-ready standards and high-quality assessments;
2. Establishing progress tracking systems using the data to make improvements;
3. Increasing teacher effectiveness and providing an equitable distribution of effective teachers;  
and
4. Providing support to turn around the lowest-performing schools.

**Investing in What Works and Innovation Grant:** Nationwide \$650 million will go to local educational agencies and non-profits that have made significant gains in closing achievement gaps to be models of best practices.

## Pell Grants and Work Study

**Funds to Georgia:** \$543,374,565 for Pell Grants and \$4,600,000 for Work Study

**Dates Available:** School Year 2009 – 2010

**State Implementation Process:** The Recovery Act contained additional funds for Pell Grants and Work Study programs. For Pell Grants, ARRA increased the maximum award from \$4,850 to \$5,350. For both programs, interested students should contact the financial aid office at their college or university and fill out the FASFA form. These funds are distributed directly to institutions of higher education, on behalf of their students. Currently, there are 244,000 Georgia students receiving Pell Grants.

**Websites:** <http://www.ed.gov/programs/fpg/index.html>

## Impact Aid

**Funds to Georgia:** \$1,611,497 for Camden County and Liberty County School Districts

**Dates Available:** Formula grants awarded April 2009. Competitive grants regulations will be issued by November 30, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** Impact Aid is for Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) with a large number of children who are dependents of members of the uniformed services or children living on Indian lands. The first portion of Impact Aid was distributed by formula and two Georgia school districts received funds, Camden County and Liberty County. The remaining 60 percent of funds will be distributed in the near future by the US Department of Education through a competitive grant process. Funds must be used for the construction or repair of school facilities.

**Contacts:** Clara Keith, ckeith@doe.k12.ga.us, 404-463-0504

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

# Transportation

---

## Highway Investment

**Funds to Georgia:** \$932,000,000

**Dates Available:** Projects are recommended to be complete by February 17, 2012, but obligated balances are available for expense until September 30, 2015.

**State Implementation Process:** Of the \$932 million the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) received for Highway projects, \$624 million was designated for projects anywhere in the state, \$279 million was for Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) and areas with a population less than 5,000, and \$28 million was set aside for transportation enhancement projects. Of the funds left to the discretion of GDOT, the State Transportation Board approved the following project categories and funding levels.

- Safety projects – 10 percent of funds, prioritized by accident rates and benefit/cost
- Bridges – 10 percent of funds, prioritized by bridge ratings
- New Capacity Projects – 26 percent, prioritized by project prioritization scores, delayed in the 2008 or 2009 STIP/TIP, supports IT3 strategies
- Maintenance projects – 50 percent (20 percent interstate, 30 percent resurfacing), prioritized by pavement ratings, and average daily traffic counts
- Enhancement projects- 4 percent, (mandatory ARRA category) prioritized by eligibility and readiness

All projects were required to come from an approved State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) or local Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in urbanized areas. GDOT received over 2,500 local project requests, and the agency developed a prioritized short list of projects. These projects had to meet the following criteria:

- Three-year completion priority, so that expenditures can be completed by February 17, 2012
- Provides work in Economically Distressed Areas of the state
- Expedient project delivery with a goal of obligating at least 50 percent of the funds not later than June 17, 2009
- Maximize job creation

On March 19, 2009, the State Transportation Board reviewed and approved a list of 135 ARRA eligible projects with a total cost of \$512 million. This list was submitted to Governor Sonny Perdue to certify as Phase One projects (50 percent of \$624 million must be obligated by June 30, 2009). To date, the Governor has certified over 100 projects for a more than \$374 million. Georgia DOT moved 49 certified projects to let for construction in May 2009. Additional certifications will be sought to meet the impending deadlines. For projects not selected by GDOT, those projects were shared with MPOs for consideration in their selection process.

**Contacts:** Steven Kish, Transit Program Manager, GDOT, [skish@dot.ga.gov](mailto:skish@dot.ga.gov), 404-631-1237

**Project List:** <http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/gastimulus/Pages/Highways.aspx>

## Public Transportation Investment

**Funds to Georgia:** \$144,000,000

**Dates Available:** Grant applications for phase one projects are due in July of 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** Of the \$144 million received by the state for public transportation, MARTA was designated \$7.4 million for fixed guide way modernization. GDOT was appropriated the remaining \$136.2 million to be allocated as follows:

- \$12.3 million for urbanized areas with populations under 200,000,
- \$25.6 million for the non-urbanized parts of the state, and
- \$98.7 million will go directly to larger transit systems in urbanized areas of the state. Funds are included for administration and Georgia DOT plans to use 15 percent (about \$3 million) for administrative purposes associated with grant and project administration.

In order to determine eligible projects, GDOT has issued two calls for projects to the state's transit providers: one for urban and rural (5307 and 5311) public transit projects, and one for intercity bus service projects (5311F) that was due May 4, 2009. Local transit systems must use funding for capital improvements to their transit systems. All transit systems are required by the Federal Transit Administration to maintain 5 year capital improvement plans.

**Contacts:** Meg Pirkle, GDOT, [mpirkle@dot.ga.gov](mailto:mpirkle@dot.ga.gov), 404-631-1417

**Website:** <http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/gastimulus/Pages/PublicTransportation.aspx>

## Airport Discretionary Grant

**Funds to Georgia:** \$8,284,000

**Dates Available:** All projects must be complete by February 2011.

**State Implementation Process:** The ARRA provided the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) with an additional \$1.3 billion for shovel ready airport grants. Prior to passage of the bill, the FAA identified a list of shovel ready projects. Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) identified 17 projects for a total of \$45 million and submitted them to the FAA. The projects had to be ready to begin within 45 days, be ranked 62 or above in the FAA's National Priority System, have completed environmental requirements, be part of the state's Airport Layout Plan, and have been delayed due to a lack of funds. On March 30, 2009, the FAA announced that the Georgia would receive 100 percent federal funding for five projects. No funds are included for administration.

- Adel-Cook County Airport to construct parallel taxiway: \$656,000
- Alma-Bacon County Airport to construct parallel taxiway: \$734,000

- Brunswick-McKinnon-St. Simons Airport for rehabilitation of terminal area apron: \$4,004,000
- McRae-Telfair-Wheeler County Airport to extend runway 3/21: \$890,000
- Peachtree City-Falcon Field Airport to construct Area "C" aircraft parking apron - Phase II: \$2,000,000

**Contacts:** Meg Pirkle, GDOT, mpirkle@dot.ga.gov, 404-631-1417

## **Discretionary Grants for a National Surface Transportation System**

**Funds to Georgia:** Competitive Grant

**Dates Available:** US Department of Transportation (DOT) released the criteria on May 18, 2009. Grant applications are due November 2009 and grants will be awarded in February 2010.

**State Implementation Process:** This grant provides discretionary funds for construction projects for all modes of transportation. A maximum of \$300 million is available to each state and projects must be completed within three years. The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) is currently making a preliminary list of projects. Although until the DOT criteria are released, GDOT is unsure whether it will only consider projects from STIP and TIP lists. The grant will likely allow for a longer planning period so projects do not necessarily need to be "shovel ready." GDOT is not the only eligible entity in the state, though funds are intended for large scale projects which limit the ability of other municipalities to apply.

**Contacts:** Meg Pirkle, GDOT, mpirkle@dot.ga.gov, 404-631-1417

# Housing Programs

---

## Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$19,084,426 (State Allocation) and \$14,540,363 (Local Government Allocation)

**Dates Available:** Funds from the federal government will be granted to the state and local governments on or before September 1, 2009. At least 60 percent of funds must be spent within two years. All funds must be spent within three years.

**State Implementation Process:** The Homelessness Prevention Fund is an existing grant administered by HUD to provide financial assistance and services to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless and to quickly re-house and stabilize those who are homeless. Awards are allocated by the federal government through formula to eligible applicants, which include metropolitan cities, urban counties, and states (for distribution to local governments and nonprofits). Eleven local governments will receive the \$14.5 million and the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) will receive the remaining \$19.1 million on behalf of the state to administer grants to local governments and nonprofits. The local governments, allocated amounts, and phone numbers are listed below:

1. Athens-Clarke County, \$604,969, 706-613-3751
2. City of Atlanta, \$3,441,091, 404-330-6112
3. Augusta-Richmond County, \$927,319, 706-821-1797
4. Clayton County, \$856,410, 770-210-5208
5. Cobb County, \$1,337,048, 770-528-4600
6. Columbus-Muscogee County, \$740,907, 706-225-3914
7. DeKalb County, \$2,359,998, 404-286-3366
8. Fulton County (excluding Atlanta), \$896,069, 404-730-8099
9. Gwinnett County, \$1,713,730, 770-822-5190
10. City of Macon, \$541,299, 478-751-7190
11. City of Savannah, \$1,121,523, 912-651-6520

Based on the timeframes issued with the HUD regulations, DCA does not expect local program implementation to begin before October 1, 2009. DCA will not be directly administering funds, but instead will contract with community based organizations and local governments. Applications were due July 1, 2009.

**Contacts:** Carmen Chubb, DCA Asst. Commissioner, carmen.chubb@dca.ga.gov, 404-679-0607

**Website:** <http://www.dca.ga.gov/housing/specialneeds/programs/HPRP.asp>

## Tax Credit Assistance Program (TCAP)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$54,481,680

**Dates Available:** Seventy-five percent of TCAP funds must be committed by February 2010, 75 percent must be expended by February 2011, and 100 percent of the funds must be expended by February 2012.

**State Implementation Process:** Under this existing program the federal government provides funds to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to be allocated as tax credits to owners of qualified rental properties who reserve units for low-income tenants. DCA will distribute these funds according to the current allocation plan to eligible candidates. Projects awarded tax credits in 2007, 2008, or 2009 are eligible for funding, but DCA must give priority to projects that are expected to be completed by February 2012. Application information and materials can be found on the website listed below.

**Contacts:** Carmen Chubb, DCA Asst. Commissioner, carmen.chubb@dca.ga.gov, 404-679-0607

**Website:** <http://www.dca.ga.gov/housing/HousingDevelopment/programs/housingTaxCredit.asp>

## Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$10,866,994 to DCA and \$11,108,569 to local jurisdictions

**Dates Available:** Funds must be obligated by September 30, 2010.

**State Implementation Process:** The CDBG program funds local government projects that provide decent affordable housing, public facilities improvements, and create economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income. The Department of Community Affairs (DCA) is the administering agency for this grant. Under ARRA, DCA must prioritize projects that can award contracts within 120 days of the grant agreement. DCA will award funds through a competitive process that rates proposals on the soundness of their strategy, the feasibility of their project, and the potential economic benefits. The deadline for local government to submit applications to DCA for ARRA funding was June 1, 2009. A list of local governments that submitted applications can be found at the website provided below.

**Contacts:** Brian Williamson, DCA Asst. Commissioner, brian.williamson@dca.ga.gov, 404.679.1587

**Website:** <http://www.dca.ga.gov/communities/CDBG/programs/cdbgstimulus.asp>

## Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)

**Funds to Georgia:** Competitive Grant

**Dates Available:** Applications are due July 17, 2009. Funds will remain available until September 30, 2010. Grantees must expend at least 50 percent of each grant within two years and 100 percent within three years of grant award.

**State Implementation Process:** In general, local governments use NSP to purchase abandoned and foreclosed residential properties within low to moderate and middle-income areas and make those renovated properties available to families through various financing mechanisms. On May 4, 2009, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released application information and requirements to applicants. Applications are due to HUD by July 17, 2009. State and local governments and nonprofits can apply for NSP funds. Information on applying through HUD can be found on the HUD website at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov).



The Department of Community Affairs (DCA) is the state agency that will apply on behalf of Georgia and will disperse funds on a competitive basis depending on the level of need and ability to use the funds quickly. Information on applying through DCA can be found on the DCA website listed below. A notice for NSP funds was issued by HUD on June 11, 2009. This notice may affect the way in which Georgia calculates the areas of highest need and target area eligibility for NSP funding. More information will be provided on the website listed below when it becomes available.

**Contacts:** Brian Williamson, DCA Asst. Commissioner, [brian.williamson@dca.ga.gov](mailto:brian.williamson@dca.ga.gov), 404.679.1587

**Website:** <http://www.dca.ga.gov/communities/CDBG/programs/nsp2.asp>

## Public Housing Capital Fund

**Funds to Georgia:** \$112,675,806 (Allocated to Georgia Public Housing Authorities)

**Dates Available:** Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) were given notification of funds availability on May 7, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** The Public Housing Capital Fund provides funds for capital and management activities of local PHAs, including modernization and development of public housing. The funds cannot be used for operations or rental assistance. Public housing authorities must give priority to capital projects that can be awarded contracts within 120 days of the funds becoming available, to the rehabilitation of vacant rental units, or to capital projects that are already underway. Local PHAs can be contacted for more specific information by location within Georgia.

**PHA Award Amounts:** <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/ph/capfund/grants/arra/ga.cfm>

**PHAs Contact Information:** <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/pha/contacts/states/ga.cfm>

## Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA) (Section 8 Program)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$44,627,882

**State Implementation Process:** PBRA provides rental subsidies for eligible tenant families (including single persons) residing in newly constructed, rehabilitated and existing rental and cooperative apartment projects. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will use ARRA funds to provide contract renewals for a full twelve-month cycle. Local Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) will administer PBRA for the state and will use the funds to renew 127 existing contracts for a full year. Local PHAs can be contacted for more specific information by location within Georgia.

**Website:** [www.hud.gov/recovery](http://www.hud.gov/recovery)

**PHAs Contact Information:** <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/pha/contacts/states/ga.cfm>

# Community Development

---

## Rural Assistance through the US Department of Agriculture (USDA)

**Funds to Georgia:** \$346,914,220 has received applications for 329 projects within Georgia as of July 1, 2009.

**Dates Available:** Information, if available, is listed under each loan/grant type.

**State Implementation Process:** Six rural development programs offer loan and grant opportunities to rural communities through the USDA. Funding for the loan and grant programs is allocated to the USDA Georgia Rural Development State Office. Final eligibility determinations are made by the Georgia Rural Development State Office. To request application materials, contact a local Rural Development Office for assistance.

- **Section 502 Guaranteed Loan Program:** These funds are meant to encourage private sector lenders to make affordable home loans in rural America. This program helps low- and moderate-income applicants to purchase a modest dwelling located in a rural area. Applicants may obtain 100% financing and must demonstrate the ability to afford the mortgage payments, including taxes and insurance, which are typically within 29 percent of an applicant's income.
- **Section 502 Direct Loan Program:** The Recovery Act nationally provided \$967,113,096 through this program. Section 502 direct loan program helps low and very-low income applicants who cannot qualify for other credit, including a 502 guaranteed loan, purchase a modest dwelling located in a rural area. These funds will provide additional credit for affordable home loans. Refinancing is also available in limited circumstances for eligible homeowners at risk of losing their homes. Applicants may obtain 100% financing and must be able to afford the mortgage payments, including taxes and insurance, which are typically within 24 percent of an applicant's income.
- **Community Facilities (CF) Direct Loan and Grant Programs:** Georgia received \$23,864,000 in loans and \$1,327,000 in grants to develop essential community facilities (like health care, public safety, and education facilities) in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population. Funds may be used for facility acquisition, construction, renovation, or the purchase of equipment and furnishings. Eligible applicants are local governments, nonprofits, and Indian tribes. ARRA loans and grants are available through FY2010. CF loan and grant applications are processed at the local level. Contact the Rural Development Office for additional information and application materials.

- **Business and Industry (B&I) Guaranteed Loan Program:** This program has received approximately \$3 billion nationally under ARRA to provide additional funds to lenders in connection with program's purpose to improve, develop, or finance business, industry, and employment and improve the economic and environmental climate in rural communities. Funds are available through September 30, 2010.
- **Rural Development's Business Enterprise Grant Program (RBEG):** This program will receive approximately \$20 million ARRA funds nationwide to provide funding for a broad variety of programs that support business development in rural areas. The RBEG program may fund projects as varied as business revolving loan funds, business district infrastructure projects, capital improvement projects, business incubators, and downtown revitalization projects.
- **Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal (WWD) Loan and Grant Programs:** Georgia received \$59,523,000 in loans and \$17,092,000 in grants for rural water and wastewater infrastructure through the existing USDA WWD programs. The WWD provides loans, grants, loan guarantees and technical assistance for drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, and storm drainage facilities in rural areas and cities and towns of 10,000 or less. Eligible applicants are local governments, nonprofits, and Indian tribes. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis. Preference for funding will be given to projects that are ready to commence.

**Contact:** USDA Georgia Rural Development State Office, 706-546-2162

**Rural Office Locator:** <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>

## National Endowment for the Arts

**Funds to Georgia:** \$342,000 (Georgia Council for the Arts Allocation)

**Dates Available:** Funds for the direct grant were distributed on April 1, 2009.

**State Implementation Process:** Direct grants fund art projects and activities. The majority of the funds allocated to the Georgia Council for the Arts will be directed to the Grassroots Arts Program (GAP), the Council's restructured program for the distribution of arts grants into every county in Georgia. The current seventeen GAP Partner Agencies are the only eligible applicants for this first grant opportunity. Applications have already been completed with the expectation that between 35 and 40 jobs in the arts will be retained.

A second grant opportunity will be open to all eligible nonprofit arts organizations after July 1, 2009. This opportunity will be advertised on the Council's website.

**Website:** <http://www.gaarts.org/recovery2009.asp>