

Arkansas Rural Community Grant Programs
Fiscal Year 2017, Cycle I
Contact: Amy Fecher, 682-1121

Programs:

The Arkansas Rural Community Grants are made up of the following programs with examples of eligible projects noted:

Arkansas Rural Community Development Grant

- Construction or renovations to publicly owned buildings (civic, community, recycling, senior and youth centers, libraries, museums, etc.);
- Parks and other recreational facilities (baseball and softball fields, landscape/beautification projects, picnic areas, jogging/walking trails, etc.).

Arkansas Rural Community Fire Protection Grant

- Construction of new fire facilities;
- Purchase of fire protection equipment and/or vehicles;
- Rehabilitation/Retrofitting of newly acquired equipment and vehicles;
- Renovation of existing facilities

Grant Review Process:

Each grant application is date stamped and assigned a control number upon receipt to the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, Division of Rural Services (DRS). The grants are then reviewed in the order they are received. The reviewer uses a standard checklist to review each application. Applicants submitting their applications prior to the application deadline are notified of application deficiencies and are given the opportunity to submit additional materials prior the application deadline. Applicants postmarking their application on the date of the deadline are eligible and are reviewed by the same process. All complete applications as of the application deadline are then checked against the previous grant awards database to determine if the community currently has an active grant. Applications are then entered into a database to generate lists and total requests. Copies of complete and eligible applications with a computerized listing are then forwarded to a six-person review committee made up of members of the Arkansas Rural Development Commission (ARDC) appointed by the ARDC Chairperson. The ARDC Grants Review Committee meets and reviews the grants with staff members with their recommendations. Recommendations are entered into the grant database and a listing of all complete and eligible grant applications with funding recommendations is forwarded to all members of the ARDC. The ARDC then meets, discusses the recommendations, and approves final funding recommendations that are forwarded to the Governor for approval.

Cycle I FY 17 Information:

Amount Available for Distribution for Rural Community Grants: \$261,512.35

Amount Requested under the Rural Community Grant Program: \$381,539.35

Arkansas Rural Community Grant Programs

Funding Recommendations By Program

FISCAL YEAR: 2017 CYCLE 1

APPLICANT	COUNTY	REQUESTED	NARRATIVE	SEN1	REP	FUNDED	AMOUNT
Community Development							
Alread Extension Homemakers Club	Van Buren	\$2,180.00	Alread Extension Homemakers Club is requesting \$2,180.00 to install a second french drain on the west side, make improvements to the grade at the east end of the building and repair the porch roof leak.	Standridge	Drown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$2,180.00
Bethesda	Independence	\$3,151.00	Bethesda is requesting \$3,151.00 for improvements to the Bethesda Community Center. Removal of existing floor tile in foyer and kitchen and replace, paint, install new a/c, ceiling fan, ice maker and exhaust fan.	Collins-Smith	Michelle Gray	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$3,151.00
Big Flat	Baxter	\$15,000.00	Big Flat is requesting a \$15,000.00 grant to install a concrete pad, electrical work and installation of a generator for the city of Big Flat water system.	Irvin	Payton	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
Bonanza	Sebastian	\$12,300.00	The city of Bonanza is requesting \$12,300.00 to purchase a storm siren.	Files	Richmond	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$12,300.00
Bono	Craighead	\$15,000.00	The city of Bono is requesting \$15,000.00 to renovate the current 4-H youth center.	Cooper	Ladyman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000.00
Cave City	Sharp	\$10,087.84	The Cave City Branch of the Sharp County Library is requesting \$10,087.84 for relocating and expansion and to purchase bookcases, furnishings, technical equipment, and other misc. items.	Collins-Smith	Michelle Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
Cherry Valley	Cross	\$15,000.00	Cherry Valley Food Pantry is requesting \$15,000.00 to complete the interior of the new food pantry.	Caldwell	Nicks	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00

APPLICANT	COUNTY	REQUESTED	NARRATIVE	SEN1	REP	FUNDED	AMOUNT
Chester	Crawford	\$2,850.00	The Town of Chester is requesting \$2,850.00 to hire a contractor to build forms, pour and finish approximately four inches of concrete over the existing foundation of the Chester Farmers Market.	King	Harris	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$2,850.00
Concord	Cleburne	\$4,125.00	City of Concord is requesting \$4,125.00 for grading, compaction, and overlay on 6,200 feet of parking area and driveway at the Concord Senior Center/Community Center.	Irvin	Payton	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
Gentry	Benton	\$15,000.00	Gentry is requesting \$15,000.00 to install a walking trail within the Flint Creek Nature Center Trailhead.	J. Hendren	Douglas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000.00
Greene County Rescue Squad	Greene	\$15,000.00	Greene County Rescue Squad is requesting \$15,000.00 to purchase a hybrid trailer. This trailer includes a 25 ft manual lift led light tower, a portable 17,500 watt generator and a portable gas powered air compressor.	Johnson	Ratliff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000.00
Humnoke	Lonoke	\$6,134.50	The City of Humnoke is requesting \$6134.50 to purchase two new sewer pumps to replace unreliable pumps.	Dismang	Bennett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$6,134.50
Joiner	Mississippi	\$15,000.00	Joiner is requesting \$15,000.00 to cover a gap in funds for their trails of life grant project with Parks and Tourism.	Burnett	Hodges	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
Leachville	Mississippi	\$15,000.00	Leachville is requesting \$15,000.00 to remove old tennis courts and replace with basketball court with seating.	Burnett	Wallace	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000.00
Logan County	Logan	\$15,000.00	Logan county is requesting \$15,000.00 for funds to purchase a new chipper for the road department. The chipper would be used for road maintenance and also for debris cleanup following severe weather.	Stubblefield	Eubanks	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
Magness	Independence	\$1,346.55	Magness is requesting \$1,346.55 to install more impact material for the safety of the children for the park equipment.	Collins-Smith	Sturch	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
Ozone	Johnson	\$5,820.00	Ozone is requesting \$5,820.00 for a new floor and ceiling tiles for hallway and all rooms on the southside of the school house/community building.	Stubblefield	Overbey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$5,820.00

APPLICANT	COUNTY	REQUESTED	NARRATIVE	SEN1	REP	FUNDED	AMOUNT
Ramsey	Dallas	\$2,500.00	Ramsey Community is requesting \$2,500.00 to purchase historical markers for communities that have historical credibility.	Maloch	Wardlaw	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$2,500.00
Salem	Fulton	\$7,880.50	City of Salem is requesting \$7,880.50 to purchase a storm siren system.	Irvin	Baltz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$7,880.50
Sulphur Rock	Independence	\$9,182.00	Sulphur Rock is requesting \$9,182.00 for the purchase of an emergency generator for the city's Waste Water Treatment Plant. ADEQ is requiring the city to have a back up power source to comply with state law.	Collins-Smith	Sturch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$9,182.00
Thornton	Calhoun	\$14,223.00	Thornton is requesting \$14,223.00 to purchase a trackhoe to repair line leaks, dig trenches, and put in new customer meters.	Pierce	Wardlaw	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$14,223.00
Turner	Crawford	\$7,060.00	Turner Community is requesting \$7,060.00 to construct a 24x40 pavillion at the Turner Community Center and replace the carpeting in the community center.	King	C.Douglas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$7,060.00
Total requested		\$208,840.39		Recommendation total		\$133,281.00	

APPLICANT	COUNTY	REQUESTED	NARRATIVE	SEN1	REP	FUNDED	AMOUNT
Fire Protection							
Albion	White	\$5,000.00	Albion is requesting \$5,000.00 to purchase new basic firefighting equipment such as hose appliances, vehicle equipment mounts, dump tank, master stream device, generator, and cutting torch.	Irvin	Farrer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$5,000.00
Appleton	Pope	\$4,110.35	Appleton Fire Department is requesting \$4,110.35 for a 2,000 gallon water tank with complete plumbing valves, and fittings, to be used for transporting water via truck.	Standridge	Drown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$4,110.35
Country Village Community	Lincoln	\$14,468.04	Country Village Community in Lincoln County is requesting \$14,468.04 to build a single bay beside the existing small building for their truck and equipment.	Cheatham	Holcomb	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
Floral	Cleburne	\$4,602.00	Floral Fire Department is requesting \$4,602.00 to provide electrical service to the substation.	Irvin	Payton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$4,602.00
Jasper	Newton	\$9,217.00	The city of Jasper volunteer fire department is requesting \$9,217.00 to purchase turnout gear and SCBA tanks.	Standridge	Branscum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$9,217.00
Johnson County Rural #2	Johnson	\$15,000.00	The Johnson County #2 is requesting \$15,000.00 to improve the quality of the facilities of Rural Fire District #2 to better meet the needs of the members and community.	Stubblefield	Overbey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000.00
Lewisville	Lafayette	\$15,000.00	Lewisville is requesting \$15,000.00 to build a new fire station.	Hickey, Jr.	Jean	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000.00
Marked Tree	Poinsett	\$12,702.00	The city of Marked Tree is requesting \$12,702.00 to purchase jaws of life.	Burnett	Tosh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$12,702.00
Mount Holly	Union	\$15,000.00	Mount Holly is requesting \$15,000.00 to build a 40x60 sub station in Marysville Community.	Pierce	Shepherd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000.00
NEBCO Fire/EMS	Benton	\$15,000.00	NEBCO Fire & EMS is requesting \$15,000.00 to replace an out of service fire boat for Beaver Lake.	Bledsoe	Hodges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000.00

APPLICANT	COUNTY	REQUESTED	NARRATIVE	SEN1	REP	FUNDED	AMOUNT
Oak Grove Heights	Greene	\$2,600.00	Oak Grove Heights is requesting \$2,600.00 to purchase five (5) self contained breathing apparatuses.	Johnson	Broadaway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$2,600.00
Quail Creek	Pulaski	\$15,000.00	Quail Creek is requesting \$15,000.00 toward renovating the Quail Creek Vol. Fire/Rescue building. Repairs of building, electrical, plumbing, roofing and rafters, decking, lighting, waterservice, offices and rooms for training.	Chesterfield	Blake	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
Rector	Clay	\$15,000.00	Rector is requesting \$15,000.00 to add additional bays to the current fire station due to lack of space.	Johnson	Jett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000.00
Scott VFD	Lonoke	\$15,000.00	The Scott Volunteer Fire Department is requesting \$15,000.00 to construct an additional bay onto their existing fire station.	Dismang	Bennett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$15,000.00
Western Greene County Fire District	Greene	\$15,000.00	Western Greene County Fire District is requesting \$15,000.00 to replace a 1971 pumper with a late 1990's used truck.		Ratliff	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
Requested total		\$172,699.39		Recommendation total		\$128,231.35	

MEMO

TO: Governor Hutchinson

FROM: Amy Fecher

RE: AEDC Rural Services Funding Recommendations

DATE: September 13, 2017

Approved
ASF

PURPOSE:

To present funding recommendations from AEDC Rural Services for the Arkansas Rural Community, Rural Services Block Grant Program and General Improvement Fund Grants.

BACKGROUND:

Each fiscal year, AEDC Rural Services receives legislative appropriation to award funds from the above named grant programs.

Applications received by AEDC Rural Services are reviewed for eligibility. Eligible applications are reviewed by committees comprised of members of the Rural Services Commission. The committee's funding recommendations are forwarded to the full commission for approval.

COMMUNITIES IMPACTED:

- **Rural Community Grant Program** – Cities and towns with a population of less than 3,000 (no limit on unincorporated areas). Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, community centers, fire stations, parks, storm sirens, storm shelters, beautification projects and any equipment associated. The cap for this grant program is \$15,000 and requires a 50/50 match from all applicants.
- **Rural Services Block Grant Program** – Funding is available to incorporated towns and rural communities with a population of less than 3,000. Additionally, the community population must be at least 51% Low to Moderate income. Eligible projects include: new construction or renovation of community centers, fire stations, or multi-purpose buildings, and the purchase of fire trucks (pumper, tanker, brush or certain service trucks). This grant is made possible through a partnership with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission Grants Division. This cap for this grant program is \$75,000 and requires a 10% match.

PROPOSED FUNDING:

- **Rural Community Grant Program (Attachment A)**
 - o Total Dollars Requested from Complete and Eligible Applications: \$381,539.78
 - o Amount Available for Distribution: \$261,513.00
 - o **Amount of Total Funding Recommendations: \$261,512.35**
- **Rural Services Block Grant Program (Attachment B)**
 - o Total Dollars Requested from Complete and Eligible Applications: \$1,100,060.94
 - o Amount Available for Distribution: \$1,000,000.00
 - o **Amount of Total Funding Recommendations: \$971,204.94**

RECOMMENDATION:

AEDC Rural Services requests your approval on the funding recommendations for the programs listed above. Attachments outlining recommendations for each program are included with this memo.