

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants can be community-based groups, municipalities, counties, businesses, partnerships, or non-profit organizations.

Are projects at or in partnership with colleges and universities eligible for the grant?

No. Colleges, universities, and eligible organizations (see above) that partner with a college or university are not eligible to apply for the Community Reuse Grant. Please refer to the [College Council Grant](#) for funding opportunities.

Are NYS-licensed cannabis businesses eligible to apply?

Yes, NYS-licensed cannabis businesses are eligible to apply for the grant. However, since this is a heavily regulated industry, if awarded the grant, you will be asked to provide a copy of the license prior to receiving the funds.

What types of projects will be supported?

Examples of reuse projects eligible for the grant include repair programs or events, materials rental and lending programs, materials redistribution, deconstruction and building materials reuse, reuse education and outreach programs, procurement of used or reusable materials, and creative reuse projects.

What is considered reuse?

Reuse is any activity that lengthens the life of an item for its original purpose or a new purpose. Where recycling is the reprocessing of an item into a new input material.

Will applications that support recycling and composting initiatives be considered?

Projects focused solely on recycling or composting will not be considered. However, recycling and composting organizations are eligible to apply if the project includes reuse. For example, using the grant funds to procure ***used materials*** to

support recycling or composting initiatives is permitted as this extends the life of the materials.

Can the funds be used to match future investments?

The Community Reuse grant is intended to support reuse projects and initiatives that will be implemented within 1 year of funds dispersal. If an organization needs to match a portion of funds to receive a larger sum to implement a specific reuse project, the Community Reuse Grant may be used for that purpose as long as the reuse project is implemented, with measurable outcomes, within 1 year from when the Community Reuse Grant funds have been dispersed. There must be a commitment from the other funder that the organization will receive those funds at the time of the application. Applications will not be eligible for the Community Reuse Grant if the organization plans to use the grant funding to match funds for funding that has not yet been secured or applied for.

Can grant funds be used to cover labor and hiring costs?

Grant funds cannot be used to hire new staff or cover employee salaries, stipends, or hourly wages. Funds will also not be awarded to pay for consulting services or 3rd party service contracts.

Is a project budget required as part of the application?

Yes, all applicants must provide a budget outlining how the grant funds will be used to be considered for the grant.

Will incomplete applications be considered?

All application questions must be answered to be considered for the grant. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Will applications submitted after the deadline be considered?

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

When will we be notified if our application was selected?

Grant recipients will be notified in October. All applicants will be notified if their application was selected. Grant recipients will be announced at the NYSAR3 Annual Conference and Trade Show in November. Grant recipients will be invited to attend.

If awarded, when will the funds be available?

Funds will be distributed to grant recipients by the end of the application year. For example, grant recipients that applied for the 2025 Community Reuse Grant will receive funds by the end of 2025.