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Buncombe County is committed to building a healthy, safe, well-educated, and thriving community that is equitable and sustainable.

The following Grant Overview information is a summary of key grant information designed to help your organization determine whether any of Buncombe County's grant programs might be right for you.

If your organization decides to pursue funding though one or more of these grant programs, it's important to visit Buncombe County's grant website at <u>buncombecounty.org/grants</u> for full details.

The website includes complete guidelines for each grant program, including info such as:

- Funding priorities
- Eligibility guidelines
- Link to application form
- Application questions
- Scoring criteria

- Timelines
- Funding contracts
- Support for grantees (e.g. workshops & consultations
- County staff points of contact

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are critical to our grants processes, and Buncombe County encourages participation from organizations led by and providing service to people of color/BIPOC individuals and other historically marginalized populations.



Grant Program

Affordable Housing Services Program (AHSP)

Purpose

To ensure comprehensive opportunities for affordable and safe housing as a foundation for healthy and thriving families and neighborhoods.

Funding

Total	To Be Determined (FY2024 allocation was \$2.3M, Bond balance \$25.9M)
Source	County Funds; County Affordable Housing Bond Funds

Awards

Amount	Maximum amounts vary. See the <u>AHSP Program Description</u> for more details.
Length	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025
Restrictions	Funding includes both grants and loans. Applicants must be able to: (1) administer eligible affordable housing projects with funds provided under the AHSP, and (2) deliver proposed projects in accordance with AHSP guidelines and requirements.

Eligibility

Organizations	 For-profit corporations, partnerships, or sole proprietors Private incorporated nonprofit agencies with IRS 501(c)(3) or similar
	designation
	 Public nonprofit agencies and government agencies
Projects	Project eligibility varies based on program:
-	Construction Loan Program (Loan)
	 Down Payment Assistance Program (Loan)
	Construction Grant Program (Grant)
	New Start Program (Grant)
	 Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program (Grant)
	Administrative Support Program (Grant)
	Emergency Repair Program (Grant)

Application

Process	Must apply through the online grant software before the application deadline.
Elements	Proposed Project Summary; Populations Served; Past Experience; Conflicts of Interest; Down payment Assistance; Tenant-Based Rental Assistance; Emergency
	Repair Details; New Start Program; Administrative Support Program; Construction Project Details; Attachments

Due Date January 26th, 2024



Grant Program

Aging Services Program

Purpose

To encourage and maintain independence for persons age 60 and above as well as provide protection for older adults.

Funding

Total	FY25 amount TBD (FY24 amount was \$2,240,578)
Source	County, State, and Federal funding

Awards

Amount	There are no restrictions on the amount of funding requested or granted to an organization or project.
Length	1 year
Restrictions	Must serve clients age 60 and over; HCCBG allows for funding to support 20 community-based services. To see the whole list of eligible programs see <u>allowable services</u> (pg. 4), as well as, <u>service standards</u> required with each program.

Eligibility

Organizations	Public or Private Nonprofit Agencies or Organizations; Governmental
	Organizations; Contracted For-Profit Organizations
Projects	Must serve clients over the age of 60 and above, and their unpaid primary
	caregivers in need of in-home and community based services

Application

Process	Apply to grant software, no late applications will be accepted.
Elements	Overview; Program Proposal; Coordination; Performance Measures; Diversity,
	Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility; Addendum; Attachments

Due Date February 23, 2024



Grant Program

Clean Water Fund

Purpose

The Clean Water Fund provides funding to nonprofit and government organizations working to improve water quality in Buncombe County. This fund supports Buncombe County's strategic plan vision of "high quality air, water, farmland and renewable energy for future generations."

Funding

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Total	\$100,000
Source	County Funds

Awards

Amount	1-3 projects with each project ranging from \$30,000 - \$100,000
Length	Projects must close out by June 30, 2025
Restrictions	 Must operate in Buncombe County with most of the impact intended for Buncombe County waterways. Nonprofits must have been in active operation as an incorporated nonprofit for a minimum of two (2) years. A match from other agencies is required. Projects that focus on water quality studies and testing are not eligible.

Eligibility

Organizations	Nonprofit or government organizations (including Council of Governments)
Projects	 Funds can be used for new construction, repair, restoration, plantings, etc. Construction drawings and engineering studies are eligible for funding; however, shovel ready projects are preferred. Projects should describe an existing water quality issue and proven method for addressing the issue from an existing Watershed Management Plan that adequately meets USEPA's 9-Elements of Watershed planning or implement an alternative to a watershed-based plan in the form of a Summar of Nine Elements compiled from planning documents.

Application

Process	Apply through grant software or paper application. No late applications will be accepted.
Elements	Water Quality Impact and Need for Project; Primary Location; Geography Served; Population Served; Project Plan; Results; Leveraging; Partnership & Community buy-in; Other Public Benefits; Equity; Organizational Capacity; Budget Narrative; Budget Form; Sustainability; Current Board of Directors

Due Date	January 29, 2024 by 5:00pm
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Grant Program

Community Recreation Grants

Purpose

The purpose of the Buncombe County Recreation Services Grants Program is to provide funding to qualified organizations within Buncombe County interested in partnering with our department to carry out our mission through the promotion of recreational fitness, health and wellness initiatives as well as community-based activities and capital improvements that increase recreational and educational opportunities for the communities served.

Funding

Total	\$100,000
Source	County Funds

Awards

Amount	grants up to \$6,000
Length	1 year
Restrictions	Must operate in Buncombe County, serving primarily Buncombe residents. Grant funds cannot be used to support food and entertainment costs, travel expenses, general office supplies, and/or salaries for any individual or sub-contractor, except for labor costs directly related to an approved capital improvement project.

Eligibility

Organization	Nonprofit
Projects	 a. Improve the quality of life within our community through the promotion of recreational initiatives that emphasizes health and wellness, outdoor recreation, environmental education, athletics, and/or cultural experiences.
	b. Capital improvement projects that increase recreational and educational opportunities for the communities served.c. Operate in Buncombe County serving primarily Buncombe residents

Application

Process	Apply to grant software, no late applications will be accepted. All applications must be complete and include all requested components.
Elements	 Preferred applications will: Foster an atmosphere of inclusivity by extending recreation opportunities to underserved or underrepresented populations such as BIPOC and rural communities. Promote goals highlighted within the Buncombe County Strategic Plan. Promote recreational opportunities that that assist the department with achieving its mission and emphasizes health & wellness, outdoor
	recreation, environmental education, athletics, and/or cultural experiences.

Due Date	March 29, 2024
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Grant Program

Early Childhood Education and Development Fund

Purpose

To ensure that every child in Buncombe County has an equal opportunity to thrive during their first 2,000 days, including access to quality early childhood education.

Funding

Total	Up to \$4,064,330 (including new & carryforward funds)
Source	County funds

Awards

Amount	There are no restrictions on the amount of funding requested or granted to an organization or project.
Length	1-year grant; Multi-year requests considered, up to 3 years.
Restrictions	Organizations must operate in Buncombe County with service to Buncombe County.

Eligibility

Organizations	All organization types are eligible to apply.
Projects	Funding will be allocated for projects working toward the following strategies:
	 Develop the early childhood workforce
	Maintain/enhance existing slots
	Increase slots for enrollment
	Increase quality
	Support Families
	 Enhance the effectiveness of the overall system of early care and
	education
	Requests for capital projects will be restricted to the public-school systems.

Application

Process	Apply to grant software, no late applications will be accepted.
Elements	Funding Request Amount; Budget Narrative and Budget Form; Partial Funding; Multi-Year Funding; Project Name; Strategy; Organization; Need for the Project; Project Plan; Results; Slots; Workforce; People Served; Equity; Collaboration; Sustainability; Other

Due Date February 9, 2024		Due Date	February 9, 2024
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Grant Program

Isaac Coleman Economic Community Investment *This grant program is not accepting applications for FY25.

Purpose

The goal of this investment is to rebuild the health, safety, and self-sufficiency in our communities. These grants are targeted investments in our communities that are currently working to champion equitable opportunity.

Funding

Total	\$500,000
Source	County funds

Awards

Amount	Applicants may request up to \$150,000. Previous awards have ranged from \$43,000 to \$150,000.
Length	3-year grants
Restrictions	Organizations must operate in Buncombe County with service to Buncombe County.

Eligibility

Organizations	Nonprofit organization (or may partner with fiscal agent)
Projects	Funded projects should seek to accomplish the following:
	\circ Equity : Buncombe County defines equity as the state of being just, impartial
	and fair. We define racial equity as when race can no longer be used to predict
	life outcomes and outcomes for all groups are improved.; Employ strategies for
	eliminating racial inequities.
	 Equitable Opportunity: Increase economic growth in communities; Increase
	educational improvement in communities
	\circ Social Capital: Building trust among community members and supporting the
	ability of communities to work together for a common goal; By increasing the
	self-organization of community members toward a shared goal; By increasing
	the capacity of community leaders; To us cultural identity to provide a sense of
	place for communities, bringing them together around cultural pride and
	ownership

Application

Process	Apply to grant software, no late applications will be accepted.
Elements	Funding Request; Lead Organization; Project Plan; Equity; Partnerships; Results; Evaluation; Budget; Sustainability; Other

Due Date	N/A FY2025 is year 2 of current 3 year cohort.
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Grant Program

Juvenile Crime Prevention Grants

Purpose

To develop community-based alternatives to youth development centers and to provide communitybased programming, treatment, counseling or rehabilitation services for youth involved in, or at risk of becoming involved with the juvenile justice system.

Funding

Total	FY2025: \$73,357
	FY2026: \$644,477
Source	State funds: NC Dept. of Public Safety, Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention

Awards

Amount	There are no restrictions on the amount of funding requested or granted
Length	1-2 years. (The JCPC can recommend programs for 1 or 2 year funding awards, dependent on county approval and programs meeting all requirements).
Restrictions	Programs must serve Buncombe County youth. Funding must be used to meet the needs of youth involved in the juvenile justice system first; if there are additional funds they may be used to address prevention needs. The use of these funds require a 30% match.

Eligibility

Organizations	Only local public agencies, 501c3 non-profits, and local housing authorities will be considered for funding. New applicants are required to have an orientation before applying ; contact <u>Hannah.Legerton@buncombecounty.org</u> or <u>Lorraine.Williams@ncdps.gov</u> .
Projects	Funding priorities are based on an annual review of identified needs and possible gaps in the services. The specific program types considered for funding will be announced with the publication of the RFP and will align with NCDPS guidance on <u>effective programming</u> . Applicants are sought who demonstrate program services that are: compatible with research and shown to be effective with court-involved youth; outcome-based; have an evaluation component; and include awareness of and sensitivity to Racial and Ethnic Disparities that exist in the County.

Application

Process	Organizations are required to complete an online application through <u>NC ALLIES</u>
Elements	Application information and self-help videos are linked here and here. Private non-profits are also required to submit: 1) No Over Due Tax form, 2) DPS Conflict of Interest Statement, 3) Agency Conflict of Interest Policy, and 4) Proof of 501(c)(3) status.

Due Date	TBD (applications usually open in January and are open for at least 30 days)
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Grant Program

Open Space Bond: Passive Recreation Lands

Purpose

The Passive Recreation Lands component of the Open Space Bond will fund projects that provide publicly-accessible land, outdoor space, waterbodies, and corridors where passive recreational activities – such as hiking, birding, bicycling, and wildlife viewing - place minimal stress on a site's resources in a designated area.

Funding

Total	The Bond makes available a total of \$30 million. Passive Recreation Lands
	projects will receive a portion of that \$30 million.
Source	County Funds (Open Space Bond)

Awards

Amount	There is no cap on the amount that can be awarded to each project.
Length	All funds must be allocated by 2030.
Restrictions	Project must be located within Buncombe County
	Projects must be accessible to the public
	Projects must include a plan for long-term management and maintenance
	• The following costs are disallowable for the Passive Recreation Lands Bond:
	 Planning, engineering, and design fees
	 Capital improvements for indoor or other active recreation (swimming
	pools, rec centers, gyms, basketball courts, soccer fields, etc.)
	 Long-term operating costs, including staffing
	 Administrative fees, insurance, and outstanding financial obligations

Eligibility

Organizations	 Must be an agency, commission, or instrumentality of the County or municipality within Buncombe County, nonprofit charitable organizations, or educational institution. Other entities may be approved by the County Commission.
Projects	 All projects must make available passive recreation opportunities to the public. Funds can be used for acquisition of land and/or establishment of conservation easements/permanent deed restrictions on property. Funds can be used for putting improvements on land that are compatible with natural resource protection.

Application

Process	Apply online through buncombecounty.org/apply. Paper applications are available at 200 College Street, Asheville NC. No late applications accepted.
Elements	Project overview; project scope and schedule; project summary; acquisition/improvements narrative; alignment with evaluation criteria; applicant experience; budget

Due Date March 31, 2024 by 5:00pm



Grant Program

Strategic Partnership Grants

Purpose

To assist nonprofit organizations working toward outcomes in alignment with Buncombe County's strategic plan.

Funding

Total	\$900,000 - \$1,000,000
Source	County funds

Awards

Amount	Less than 30% of an organization's annual budget. Applicants are limited to request \$80,000 or less
Length	1-year grant. No more than 3 years per project
Restrictions	Organizations must operate in Buncombe County with service to Buncombe County. Projects may not apply for funding from more than one county grant program.
	Application must be submitted to grant program most closely fitting the proposed project.

Eligibility

Organizations	Nonprofit organization in active operation for a minimum of two years (or may partner with fiscal agent)
Projects	 Must align with focus areas of Buncombe County's Strategic Plan: Educated and capable community Environmental and energy stewardship Resident well-being Vibrant economy

Application

Process	Must submit an application through the online grant software before the application deadline.
Elements	Funding Request Amount; Project Name; Focus Area & Category; Need For The Project; Primary Location; Geography Served; Population Served; Project Plan; Results; Equity; Organizational Capacity; Budget Narrative and Budget Form; Sustainability

Due Date February 9, 2024



Grant Program

Tipping Point Grants

Purpose

To help amplify community efforts. These grants will either fuel what is already happening or allow you to develop your own local projects that create pathways to greater resiliency in your community.

Funding

Total	\$100,000
Source	County funds

Awards

Amount	\$5,000 per project
Length	1 year
Restrictions	All funds must be spent or returned to the county by June 30, 2024

Eligibility

Organizations	Nonprofit (or partner with a fiscal agent)
Projects	Projects must connect to "Ensuring Positive Place," "Connecting People," and/or
	"Improving Equitable Opportunity.

Application

Process	Must be submitted before the application deadline through the online grant software.
Elements	Project Description; Vision; Goals; Partners; Budget; Sustainability

Due Date	February 9, 2024
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