**R357. Governor, Economic Opportunity.**

**R357-46. Rural Communities Opportunity Grant Rule.**

**R357-46-101. Title.**

This rule is known as the Rural Communities Opportunity Grant rule.

**R357-46-102. Authority.**

This rule is adopted by the office under the authority of Section 63N-4-802.

**R357-46-103. Definitions.**

(1) "Association of governments" means the same as defined under Section 63N-4-801.

(2) "Rural Communities Opportunity Grant" means the same as the additional use of grant money described under Subsection 63N-4-802(4)(b).

(3) "Rural Community" means the same as defined under Section 63N-4-801.

(4) "Competitive Application" means an application that is subject to review, scoring, and comparing against other applications to determine grant awardees against a limited pool of funding.

(5) "County Economic Opportunity Advisory Board" or "CEO Board" means the same as defined under Section 63N-4-801.

(6) "County of the second class" means the same as defined in Section 17-60-104. A county of the second class is not a rural county.

(7) "County of the third class" means the same as defined in Section 17-60-104.

(8) "County of the fourth class" means the same as defined in Section 17-60-104.

(9) "County of the fifth class" means the same as defined in Section 17-60-104.

(10) "County of the sixth class" means the same as defined in Section 17-60-104.

(11) "Municipality of the third class" means the same as defined in Section 10-2-301.

(12) "Municipality of the fourth class" means the same as defined in Section 10-2-301.

(13) "Municipality of the fifth class" means the same as defined in Section 10-2-301.

(14) "Town" means the same as defined in Section 10-2-301.

**R357-46-104. Content of Application and Approval Process.**

(1) The following content shall, at a minimum, be included in each application for a Rural Communities Opportunity Grant:

(a) name of applying community;

(b) tax ID;

(c) name of fiscal agent;

(d) amount of grant funding requested;

(e) responsible contacts':

(i) name;

(ii) full mailing address;

(iii) telephone number; and

(iv) email address;

(f) a scope of work describing the projects and activities the funds will be used for;

(g) a description of expected deliverables and outcomes;

(h) a description of matching funds:

(i) provided by any one or combination of:

(A) a community reinvestment agency;

(B) a redevelopment agency;

(C) a community development and renewal agency;

(D) a private sector entity;

(E) a nonprofit entity;

(F) a federal matching grant;

(G) county or municipality general fund match; and

(H) any other funding source approved by the office; and

(ii) totaling at least:

(A) a 10% match for a county of the sixth class;

(B) a 20% match for a county of the fifth class;

(C) a 30% match for a county of the fourth class;

(D) a 40% match for a county of the third class;

(E) a 10% match for a town in any rural county classification and in a county of the second class;

(F) a 20% match for a municipality of the fifth class in any rural county classification and in a county of the second class;

(G) a 30% match for a municipality of the fourth class in any rural county classification and in a county of the second class;

(H) a 40% match for a municipality of the third class in any rural county classification and in a county of the second class; and

(I) a 40% match for an association of governments; and

(j) any other information requested by the office.

(2) The following documentation shall, at a minimum, be included in each application for a Rural Communities Opportunity Grant:

(a)(i) the entity's W9 form; or

(ii) the county's state vendor number if the county is currently a state vendor;

(b) budget describing proposed uses of grant funds;

(c) letters of support from:

(i) key stakeholders;

(ii) project participants;

(iii) local governments;

(iv)(A) the CEO Board for rural counties;

(B) the planning and zoning commission or municipal economic opportunity advisory board or commission for rural municipalities; or

(C) the General Board for associations of governments; and

(v) any other entity receiving sub-grant funding from Rural Communities Opportunity Grant funds; and

(d) any other documentation requested by the office.

(3) Associations of governments must also submit letters of support from each of its member counties indicating their support of the application.

(4) The office may choose not to fund applicants who have not complied with the reporting requirements for all previous years the community received a Rural County Grant or Rural Communities Opportunity Grant.

**R357-46-105. Funding Distribution and Reporting.**

(1) After GOEO approval of a Rural Communities Opportunity Grant:

(a) no more than 90% of grant funds will be disbursed to a community after:

(i) application approval;

(ii) a contract between the community and the state is entered; and

(iii) the community invoices the office for the funds; and

(b) the remaining funds may be disbursed to a community upon submission of a final report including satisfactory evidence of benchmark achievements toward completion of economic development projects and activities recorded in the grant contract.

(2) The maximum amount of funding a rural community or an association of governments can receive through this grant is $600,000.

(3) Each grant recipient shall submit an annual report containing:

(a) a description of the project, or projects, for which the grant funding is being used or encumbered;

(b) the effectiveness of the award in improving economic development in the community;

(c) how much matching money is being utilized by the community;

(d) a letter from the CEO board or equivalent attesting that:

(i) it is participating in advising the rural community or an association of governments ' governing body throughout the year;

(ii) it approves of the content submitted in the annual report;

(iii) it helped prepare the annual report; and

(iv) minutes from each meeting of the CEO board where the Rural Communities Opportunity Grant was discussed; and

(e) any other information requested by the office.

(4) Grant recipients shall submit a final report and reimbursement request by the contract termination date including:

(a) a description of the completed project;

(b) a report on whether the recipient met the goals and benchmarks detailed in the contract;

(c) a letter from the CEO board or equivalent attesting that:

(i) it participated in advising the county's governing body throughout the year;

(ii) it approves of the content submitted in the annual report; and

(iii) it helped prepare the annual report;

(d) an invoice for the outstanding amount of awarded funding; and

(e) any other information requested by the office.

**R357-46-106. CEO Board Equivalents.**

(1) Rural municipalities shall use a functioning planning and zoning commission or an organized municipal economic opportunity advisory board or commission to fulfill the same advisory requirements of a CEO board.

(2) Associations of governments shall use their Governing Board to fulfill the same advisory requirements of a CEO board.

**KEY: Rural Community Opportunity Grant, RCOG, economic development**

**Date of Last Change: December 3, 2025**

**Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 63N-4-802**