

Jan 16, 2026

## SOI - Rural Transportation Match and Gap Funding Assistance Program

Agency	Denali Commission
Program Description	The Commission announces the availability of match and gap assistance funds for construction-ready rural transportation improvement projects. The Denali Commission is inviting statements of interest for rural Alaska transportation projects in need of local match or gap funding assistance. Many Alaskan communities lack the tax base or resources necessary to meet cost share requirements. This opportunity seeks to provide funding to cover local match needs or address funding gaps, facilitating the completion of transportation projects and supporting infrastructure development in rural communities across the state.
Application Due	5:00 pm Alaska Standard Time on February 13, 2026
Total Funding	\$5,000,000
Award Amount	Max Award: \$1,000,000
Local Match:	Min Award: \$50,000
Eligible Applicants	<p>Yes (30%)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City or township governments</li> <li>Independent school districts</li> <li>Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)</li> <li>County governments</li> <li>Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)</li> <li>Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education</li> <li>Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education</li> </ul> <p>Entities which do not have an active or pending award with the Denali Commission transportation program will be given priority consideration.</p>
Eligible Activities/Projects	<p>Eligible projects must benefit the public in Alaska. Respondents are encouraged to specify construction-ready (permitting substantially complete, design advanced, land secured, etc.) or operational transportation projects and outline the funding match or gap required for their completion. Eligible projects may include new capital improvements, rehabilitation, and reconstruction of existing facilities. Project requests may include but are not limited to the following:</p> <p><b>Surface Transportation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Road safety improvements including resurfacing, dust control, and drainage improvements.</li> <li>“Board” roads and All-Terrain Vehicle trails, seasonal roads and signage enhancements, multi-use trails and walkways for bicycles and pedestrians.</li> <li>Rural transit activities including facility improvements and limited duration operation/maintenance of transit services and vehicles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Waterfront Transportation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improvements to rural port and harbor facilities including floating dock and moorage systems.</li> <li>Boat launch ramps, barge landings, storage and laydown areas, and other adjacent support facilities.</li> </ul> <p>To qualify, projects must demonstrate a need for match funding from another transportation program or require gap funding of 30% or less of the total construction cost. The Commission will consider requests for transportation activities that advance or leverage the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrates project readiness</li> <li>Supports connection to multi-modal transportation options (roads, barges, boardwalks, winter and recreational trails, docks, etc.)</li> <li>Supports planned land use, and the pursuit of housing and economic development opportunities</li> <li>Improves community health and safety, and promotes local and regional connectivity</li> <li>Improves system resiliency to extreme climate trends and natural disasters</li> </ul>
Review Criteria	A review committee of Commission staff and subject matter experts will conduct a conformance review and evaluate statements according to the priorities listed above, beginning to invite successful respondents by about February 20 to submit proposals. Invitations for proposal will give interested parties approximately 30 days to respond with a full proposal. The Transportation Advisory Committee, Commission staff and subject matter experts will evaluate full proposals. The Commission anticipates making awards in late spring 2026. The Commission reserves the right to partially fund projects, subject to the quality of funding assistance requests received and other relevant considerations.
Link:	<a href="https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/361161">https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/361161</a>
Application Submission	send a copy of the Statement of Interest Form to the Commission via email at <a href="mailto:projects@denali.gov">projects@denali.gov</a> with “Rural Transportation Match/Gap SOI Form – Entity Name” in the email subject line
BAC Partnership Opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Build America Center (BAC) is a technical assistance program funded by the USDOT, offering grant development services to localities at <b>NO CHARGE</b>. For more information, please visit our websites: <a href="https://bac.umd.edu/">https://bac.umd.edu/</a> and <a href="https://billaunchpad.com/">https://billaunchpad.com/</a></li> </ul>

*If your agency is interested in exploring this opportunity, contact us at [bac@umd.edu](mailto:bac@umd.edu) for details on collaboration*