



Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization (NGDISM) Grant Program

Agency U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)
Program Description The Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization (NGDISM) Grant Program's eligible entities are municipality- or community-owned utilities, not including for-profit entities, seeking assistance in repairing, rehabilitating, or replacing high-risk, leak-prone natural gas distribution infrastructure, or in acquiring equipment to reduce incidents and fatalities and avoid economic losses.

Application Due May 22, 2026
Total Funding \$98,000,000 Max Award: \$98,000,000 Min Award: \$10,000

Award Amount 200
Local Match: NO

Eligible Applicants City, township, or county governments; Municipal utilities (owned by a local government); Community-owned utilities (owned by the customers they serve); Federally recognized Tribal governments

- Eligible Activities/Projects
- Construction projects that involve repairing, rehabilitating, or replacing leak prone natural gas pipeline distribution infrastructure. This includes projects related to main lines, service lines, and related components.
- Acquisition of equipment to reduce incidents and fatalities, or to avoid economic losses. This includes projects involving the acquisition of leak detection and line locating equipment.

Review Criteria The overall evaluation will be based on two components: technical review (weighted at 66 percent) and programmatic review (weighted at 33 percent).

1. Construction Projects Technical Review

- Relates to repairing, rehabilitating, or replacing a natural gas distribution pipeline system
- Mitigates risks identified in operator's most recent DIMP
- Addresses highest ranked threat(s) in DIMP
- Demonstrates reduction in incidents and associated costs
- Involves pipe prone to leakage
- Direct and immediate need for funding
- Reasonable and sufficiently detailed project timeline
- Adequate descriptions of design and construction activities

Programmatic Review

- Project included in project prioritization table
- Budget narrative aligns with SF-424C
- Outlines measurable economic impact or growth benefits
- Includes quotes, invoices, or online estimates to justify costs
- Applicant has control or ownership of project site
- Pipe age reflects elevated risk due to age
- Project will create jobs
- Risk assessment under 2 CFR § 200.206 identifies entity as high-risk

2. Equipment-Only Projects Technical Review

- Equipment has potential to reduce incidents, fatalities, and/or avoid economic losses
- Expected multi-year lifespan with manageable maintenance costs
- Mitigates risks identified in operator's most recent DIMP
- Direct and immediate need for funding
- Includes supporting documents (quotes, cost breakdown)
- Unaccounted for gas % higher or lower than national LDC average
- Project proposal includes outputs
- Equipment is a standalone project without construction component

Programmatic Review

- Project included in project prioritization table
- Budget narrative aligns with SF-424A
- Project total aligns with SF-424 and budget narrative
- Clearly defined outputs and objectives
- Describes how equipment will reduce economic losses, incidents, and fatalities
- Pipe age reflects elevated risk due to age
- Includes quotes, invoices, or online estimates to justify costs
- Risk assessment under 2 CFR § 200.206 identifies entity as high-risk

Link: https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/grants/pipeline/natural-gas-distribution-infrastructure-safety-and-modernization-grants
Application Submission Complete application packages are due via Grants.gov no later than 11:59 p.m., PST, May 22, 2026. Applicants must be registered at www.grants.gov to apply online. In addition, applicants must maintain an active registration in the System for Award Management at www.SAM.gov .

BAC Partnership Opportunity
- The Build America Center (BAC) is a technical assistance program funded by the USDOT, offering grant development services to localities at NO CHARGE. For more information, please visit our websites: https://bac.umd.edu/ and https://billlaunchpad.com/

If your agency is interested in exploring this opportunity, contact us at bac@umd.edu for details on collaboration