

October 2024 | Wood Innovations Program Funding Opportunities

FY 2025 WOOD INNOVATIONS FUNDING PROGRAM SUMMARIES

Grant Program	Community Wood Program	Wood Innovations Grants	Wood Products Infrastructure Assistance	Temporary Water Crossing – Skidder Bridges
Funding Source and Amount:	Up to \$6 million: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Division J; 2025 Appropriations TBD;	Up to \$8 million: BIL Division J; Inflation Reduction Act (IRA); 2025 Appropriations TBD	Up to \$20 million: BIL (Section 40804(c)3)	Up to \$11 Million: BIL (Section 40804(b)5)
Authorization:	2018 Farm Bill (P.L. 115-334); BIL (P.L. 117-58)	2018 Farm Bill (P.L. 115-334); BIL (P.L. 117-58); IRA(P.L. 117-169)	BIL (P.L. 117-58)	BIL (P.L. 117-58)
Intent:	Support local economies by funding turn-key ready-to-implement projects that either expand the number of thermally led wood energy systems or build or expand innovative wood products manufacturing facilities.	Stimulate, expand, and support U.S. wood products and wood energy markets.	Financial assistance to facilities that: 1) purchase and process byproducts from ecosystem restoration projects in areas at risk of unnaturally severe wildfire or insect or disease infestation. 2) substantially decrease the cost of conducting restoration projects involving vegetation removal on Federal and Tribal lands. 3) procure significant percentage of facility feedstock (~50%) from federal or tribal land.	Support the establishment of temporary bridge rental programs with States and Indian Tribes to protect water resources and reduce water quality degradation during forestry related operations requiring temporary water resource crossings.

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Request for Proposal Open Date:	October 20-26, 2024 (tentative)			Rolling Applications Open: Reviews 3x / year
Submission Deadline:	December 18, 2024 5pm Local Time	December 11, 2024 5pm Local Time	December 18, 2024 5pm Local Time	Last Friday of December, April, and August
Estimated Award Announcement:	Approximately May 2025			30 days after rolling application deadline
Estimated Date of Award Execution:	Approximately September 30, 2025			90 days after rolling application deadline
Project Length:	2 – 3 years, not to exceed 5			
Eligible Applicants:	Eligible applicants are for-profit entities; state, local, and tribal governments; school districts; community, not-for-profit organizations; institutions of higher education; and special purpose districts (e.g., public utilities districts, fire districts, conservation districts, and ports).			Eligible applicants are State Governments and Indian Tribes.
Individual Award Ceiling:	Typically, up to \$1 million (federal funds cannot exceed 35% of total capital costs for the project). Up to \$1.5 million when given prior approval from Regional Coordinator (federal funds cannot exceed 50% of total capital costs.	Typically, up to \$300,000 (except for highly significant projects). Up to \$1 million for a stationary wood energy system rated greater than 5 Megawatts in thermal output.	\$50,000 - \$1,000,000.	Up to \$500,000 annually.
Match Requirement:	No formal match required. Leveraging is required – applicant must provide remainder of funds from non-federal sources.	100% match required. For every \$1 of Forest Service funds requested, applicant must provide \$1 of non-federal match.	No match required. 25% match receives additional preference scoring.	No match required.

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Program Goals:	 Expand thermally led community wood energy or innovative wood product opportunities. Improve forest health. Stimulate local economies. 	 Reduce hazardous fuels and improve forest health on National Forest System and other forest lands. Reduce costs of forest management on all lands. Promote economic and environmental health of communities. Reduce the occurrences of catastrophic wildfire. Improve forest health through supporting the facilities that can utilize the byproducts forest management activities. 	 Provide financial assistance to facilities that purchase and process byproducts from ecosystem restoration projects. Support ecosystem restoration projects in areas at risk of unnaturally severe wildfire or insect or disease infestation that are in close proximity to wood processing facilities. Reduce the costs of forest management on Federal and Tribal lands. 	1. Support the establishment of temporary bridge rental programs for portable bridges, bridge mats, or other temporary water crossing structures, to minimize stream bed disturbance on non-Federal land and Federal land.

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Allowable Use of Forest Service Funds (include but are not limited to):	 Costs to install a thermally-led community wood energy system or build or expand an innovative wood product facility as long as those costs don't fall under any of the specific prohibitions. Purchase of stationary equipment. Architecture and engineering design, inspections, legal work, and permitting costs associated with real property. 	 Fairly broad. Stationary or permanently installed wood processing and manufacturing equipment. Architecture and engineering design, inspections, legal work, and permitting costs associated with real property. Facility engineering, permitting, or design costs. Applied research and demonstrations considered. Stationary wood energy system rated greater than 5 Megawatts, thermal output. 	 Eligible costs to establish, reopen, retrofit, expand, or improve a sawmill, wood energy, or other wood-processing facility. Facility engineering, permitting, or design. Mobile equipment purchases will be allowed for Indian Tribes only. Stationary or permanently installed wood processing and manufacturing equipment. 	 Purchase cost of each bridge including delivery, freight, and other charges. Program administrative costs to support the grant are limited to 15% of total bridge costs. Training, education, and program education materials are limited to 3% of total bridge costs. Maintenance costs are limited to 10% of total bridge costs.
Forest Service Funds Cannot Be Used For:	Movable or mobile equipment (except for Tribal applicants in WPIA); basic research; self-marketing, self-promotion; Forest Service participation; program income; general operating costs; construction; capital costs that create federal interest in real property (e.g., land, permanent land improvement, permanent structures that are immovable/fixed to the land); purchasing or improving real property, relocation expenses and payments associated with real property; site work; demolition and removal; or contingencies. Community Wood Program Cannot Fund: Community wood energy systems > 5 MW capacity			Permanent bridges and bridge structures.

Note: Proven commercially viable technologies are most competitive. <u>Buy USA clause</u>: Projects must provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States.