



RURAL & SMALL CITIES PROGRAM FAQs

What services does the Program provide and what are the benefits of participating?

States, counties, municipalities, public authorities, bond banks, and other rural-serving organizations will receive technical assistance from a registered financial advisor to develop ideas to strategically integrate philanthropic capital. Governments, community-based organizations, nonprofits, and other partners that support rural and small cities will participate in a bespoke two-day capacity-building workshop and receive additional training to address key challenges, such as assessing place-based problems, understanding options to finance investments over time, and developing action plans.

Who is eligible to participate?

Governments and organizations that serve rural areas or cities with a population under 100,000 are eligible to participate.

How is the Program funded?

The Program is supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. However, the views presented regarding this program are those of the Public Finance Initiative program team.

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Which types of projects could benefit from the Program's support?

The Program aims to expand access to municipal bonds and revolving loan funds, which finance a very wide range of projects. For example, a state may work with the Program to expand the reach of a revolving loan fund that helps local governments build affordable housing, improve transportation, or recover from floods, among many others!

What is the process to apply for the Program?

[Submit an Interest Form](#) to learn more and get started. Our team will reach out to follow up. If you have questions, please contact us at programs@publicfinanceinitiative.com.

How does the Program measure success?

The Program aims to shift patterns of disinvestment in rural and small jurisdictions by helping participants consider how to strategically integrate philanthropic social investments into their traditional public finance strategies in ways that can grow and unlock their resource base. As a result, we hope to see jurisdictions achieve desired place-based outcomes as their capacity to invest in infrastructure, operations, and the needs of their communities are strengthened.

JOIN US!

- Submit a brief [indication of interest form](#).
- Register for an [information session](#).
- Contact us: programs@publicfinanceinitiative.com.
- Visit our website at: publicfinanceinitiative.com/ruralandsmallcities.

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