

# About the Community Forestry Assistance Grant Program

The Community Forestry Assistance (CFA) Grant Program prioritizes projects that improve urban tree canopies, promoting equitable distribution statewide. Unlike the IRA-funded Urban & Community Forestry Grants, funding is not restricted to disadvantaged communities. CFA grants offer a maximum award of \$25,000 with a 20% match requirement, totaling \$100,000 allocated for projects across Nevada. Projects funded through this initiative are supported through a collaboration with the [United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\) Forest Service \(USFS\)](#).

## Key Dates

- **Application Portal Opens:** December 9, 2024
- **Applications Due:** February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, by 11:59 PM PST
- **Award Notification:** February 23, 2025

## Application Process

All applications must be submitted by 11:59 PM PST on February 9, 2025, through the [online grant portal](#). No paper applications will be accepted. Please see the CFA Grant Guidelines PDF on the CFA Grants webpage for detailed information about the IRA grant. Please contact the NDF UCF Program Coordinator, Danielle Hensley, with additional questions:

[NDF-UCFGrants@forestry.nv.gov](mailto:NDF-UCFGrants@forestry.nv.gov), 702-683-0639

## Legislative Authority

The USDA Forest Service, through the Community Forestry Assistance Act of the 1990 Farm Bill, has allocated approximately \$100,000 in funding to the Nevada Division of Forestry for statewide distribution.

## Eligibility Criteria

Community Forestry Assistance Grants are available for projects to be implemented across Nevada. There is no requirement to prioritize underserved communities.

Eligible projects must also meet Federal and State Program objectives for Urban Forestry, as outlined in the [Ten Year National Urban and Community Forestry Action Plan](#) and/or the [2020 Nevada Forest, Range, and Watershed Action Plan](#). See Table 1 for a list of eligible entities and activities.

## Grant Opportunities

Applicants can submit proposals for Program Development and Tree Canopy Management Grants and/or Planting and Education Grants.

### ***Program Development & Tree Canopy Management***

- **Purpose:** To support projects that may take longer than one year to implement, or that require greater funding due to their complexity
- **Funding Request Range:** \$5,000 - \$25,000 per project
- **Grant Delivery Method:** Subgrant award from NDF
- **Communities Served:** Statewide
- **Eligible Entities:**
  - Local governments
  - Tribal governments
  - Non-profit organizations with 501(c)(3) status
  - Public educational institutions
- **Eligible Activities (not an exhaustive list):**
  - Tree care worker education
  - Municipal or community tree canopy planning and management
  - Planting and demonstration projects
  - Urban forest resiliency
  - Urban forest equity
  - Urban wood utilization
  - Workforce development
  - School greening
  - Encouraging public valuation of tree benefits (education)
- **Cost in Kind/Match Requirement:** 20%
- **Project Time Frame:** Up to 2 years

### ***Planting & Education***

- **Purpose:** To support single site or focused projects. OR to provide direct purchasing support to initiatives by entities that lack the resources, staff and/or infrastructure to process subgrants.  
**Funding Request Range:** \$1,000 - \$10,000 per project
- **Grant Delivery Method:** Subgrant award from NDF OR NDF direct purchase of materials.
- **Communities Served:** Statewide
- **Eligible Entities:**
  - State agencies

- Counties
- Educational institutions
- Tribal governments
- Non-profit 501(c)(3) status
- Neighborhood associations
- Civic groups
- Religious groups
- **Eligible Activities (not an exhaustive list):**
  - Trees
  - Planting supplies (soil amendments, mulch, tree protection), irrigation (no hard line).
  - Tree-care training opportunities (e.g., arborist certification training for staff)
  - Educational materials

**Cost in Kind/Match Requirement:** 20%

**Project Time Frame:** Up to 1 year

## Eligible Lands

Eligible applicants may apply for funding for a project to be conducted on non-Federal lands, including but not limited to those owned by state and/or local governments, Homeowner Associations, private landowners, and tribal governments.

## Evaluation and Ranking

### Priority Projects

Projects that meet any of the following criteria will receive priority:

- Municipalities applying that maintain currency on their Tree City USA qualifications.
- Projects which move communities from “developing” to “managing”<sup>[1]</sup> their community forests by meeting USFS standards.
  - Tree Ordinance
  - Professional Forestry/Arboriculture Staff
  - Tree Advisory or Advocacy Groups
  - Tree Management Plan based on inventory data
- Projects that are tied to water conservation, extreme heat mitigation, or reduction in energy use.

## Evaluation Criteria

Only applications that meet all requirements will be reviewed. Project proposals will be evaluated by the individual project goals and quality, and clarity of project methods, goals, and outcomes as written in the application. The grant review policy promotes a process whereby each grant application submitted is independently evaluated on its own strengths and merits.

## Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by members of the Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council and Nevada Division of Forestry staff. If conflicts of interest exist, a recusal process will be followed. The Nevada Division of Forestry reserves the right to reject all proposals. Partial funding for projects may be awarded.

## Additional Resources

### Strategic Plans to Reference

- National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council Ten-year Urban Forest action plan: <https://urbanforestplan.org/>.
- Nevada Division of Forestry Forest, Watershed, and Rangeland Action Plan: <https://forestry.nv.gov/natural-resource-management/state-frwap>

### General Resources

- International Society of Arboriculture: [www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com)
- Arbor Day Foundation Tree City USA Program: [www.ArborDay.org](http://www.ArborDay.org)
- USDA Forest Service: [fs.usda.gov/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf](https://fs.usda.gov/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf)
- Tree care and selection how-to: [www.treesaregood.com](http://www.treesaregood.com)
- [www.treecaretips.org](http://www.treecaretips.org)
- [ANSI Z60.1 Standards for Nursery Stock](#)
- [ANSI A300 Standards for Tree Planting and Tree Care](#)

### Species Selection Recommendations

- <https://selecttree.calpoly.edu/>
- <https://www.snwa.com/assets/pdf/water-smart-plant-list.pdf>
- <https://www.aztrees.org/Native-Trees-AZ-NM>

## **Non-Discrimination Statement**

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