



MaineDOT

2026 Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund

Request for Applications

Overview of the Grant Opportunity

The Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) is seeking applications for the 2026 Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund (MIAF). The purpose of this program is to enable Municipalities, Tribal Governments, and Infrastructure Districts to adapt existing critical infrastructure to reduce vulnerability to climate change impacts, such as sea level rise, increased precipitation, and other related climate risks. **All projects must demonstrate increased resilience to future storm events.** This program is administered by MaineDOT and uses federal funding through the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#) (NOAA) Climate Resilience Regional Challenge (CRRC). These federal funds can be used as match for other federal grants, if that grant program allows it. The availability of making awards is contingent upon the availability of funds from NOAA. NOAA CRRC funds are currently available and continue to be released.

All projects are encouraged to utilize nature-based solutions (NbS) and/or a combination of green (natural) and gray (structural) solutions (hybrid) where applicable; however, NbS is not a requirement for this program.

Eligible properties include publicly owned infrastructure in municipalities, tribal governments, and infrastructure districts. This grant is federally funded; therefore, privately, state-owned, or state-aid infrastructure, including but not limited to state-owned infrastructure within an urban compact area, is not eligible to apply.

Eligible projects include stormwater and water system upgrades, as well as other interventions that support the repair of existing public infrastructure to greatly reduce or eliminate climate impacts. Additional eligible projects may include, but are not limited to:

- Stabilizing coastal or inland shoreland through the use of vegetation and biodegradable materials (**the construction of hard shoreline stabilization structures are not eligible for funding unless they are part of a hybrid green and gray NbS action**);
- Replacing existing stream crossings with structures that comply with MaineDOT's 100-year flood standards and ensure habitat connectivity;
- Adapting stormwater infrastructure to accommodate the increase in extreme precipitation events;
- Scoping and design, and/or construction of wastewater treatment plant upgrades for increased resilience to climate change stressors;
- Transportation resilience projects;
- Upgrading, retrofitting, or relocating existing infrastructure to reduce risk from weather and climate impacts (construction of new facilities is not an eligible activity under this grant opportunity).

Eligible activities include: 1) scoping and design, with a maximum grant limit of \$75,000; 2) construction projects, with a maximum grant limit of \$3,000,000, or a combination of scoping, design, and construction not to exceed \$3,000,000. Applicants are required to provide a minimum of 5% local match (cash or in-kind) of the total project costs. All local match must be raised or appropriated by the entity applying. All local match amounts must be directly related to the proposed project and tasks. Costs incurred prior to the effective date of the grant agreement, including application

preparation costs, will not be considered as part of the match requirements. This grant program is **reimbursement only**.

All projects are subject to NOAA's environmental compliance review before release of funds. Projects must be completed by **September 30, 2029**, and there **will not** be any **opportunity for a no-cost extension**. Projects will be selected following an interagency review, including staff from the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF), Maine Office of Community Affairs (MOCA), MaineDOT, and NOAA. The review panel may consult other state agencies as necessary to complete their evaluations.

Conditional awards should be expected by late Fall 2026. For further information regarding the timeline, please see the Frequently Asked Questions document. If selected for an award, the applicant will enter into a grant agreement with MaineDOT. Recipients of the 2026 Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund, and all vendors and contractors, are subject to the provisions and requirements of the Build America Buy America Act (BABA). **Reimbursement requests will be based on the project schedule and milestones discussed in the grant agreement**. Awarded applicants will be required to submit quarterly reports and a final project report. Quarterly progress reports will include, but are not limited to, a description of project progress, any scheduling changes, and total project costs. The grant agreement will further specify requirements.