



USDA Rural Development – VT/NH  
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# News Release

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## USDA Rural Development Accepting Community Development Grant Applications for 2021, Technical Assistance & Training

*Mid-February Webinars to Guide Submissions of RCDI and CFTAT Grant Applications, Due Late March*

**MONTPELIER, VT, January 28, 2021** – USDA Rural Development is now accepting applications for two community funding programs: [Rural Community Development Initiative grants](#) (RCDI) and [Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training grants](#) (CFTAT).

**Electronic applications** via [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) are due Monday, **March 22 @ 12AM EST**.  
**Paper applications** by mail are due Monday, **March 29 @ 4PM EST**.

Informational webinars on both programs are set for February (follow the links to register):

[CFTAT webinar](#) – **Tuesday, February 16 @ 2-3PM EST**

[RCDI webinar](#) – **Thursday, February 18 @ 2-3PM EST**

CFTAT grants provide funding for technical assistance and/or training with respect to identifying and planning for essential community needs. RCDI grants are awarded to help low-income communities and community development organizations support economic development.

Public bodies and non-profits are eligible for grant funding through both programs, while RCDI also accepts applications from qualified private organizations. Recent projects include:

- **Northern Forest Center** – Recipient of a \$188,547 RCDI grant in 2019 to expand broadband access and digital literacy within rural communities in VT, NH and ME.
- **New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority** – Used \$110,498 in 2020 CFTAT funding to provide energy-related assistance in rural NH communities.

For questions and guidance regarding RCDI and CFTAT grant applications, please contact USDA RD Community Programs Director Dianne Drown at (802) 828-6083 or [Dianne.Drown@usda.gov](mailto:Dianne.Drown@usda.gov).

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports housing, infrastructure improvements, business development, high-speed internet access, and community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care. For more information, visit [www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov). If you'd like to subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit our [GovDelivery subscriber page](#).

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