

Arkansas Unpaved Roads Grant Program



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Arkansas Unpaved Roads Grant Program

The Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program administered by Arkansas Economic Development Commission, Division of Rural Services

Approximately \$325,000 is expected in fiscal year 2018 for grant projects.



Arkansas Unpaved Roads Grant Program

- Applicants may apply for up to \$75,000
- Required to have at least a fifty percent (50%) match contribution
- Projects focus on:
 - Unpaved road improvements and sediment reduction that is negatively impacting a priority water body



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What Types of Projects are Eligible

Priority Water Bodies In Order of Program Priority

- A water body containing an aquatic species listed as threatened, endangered or a candidate species by the Federal Government;
- A water body that has been determined to be impaired as a result of turbidity or sediment;
- A water body used as a drinking source for people;
- A water body used as an interstate waterway;
- A water body the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission has determined contains a species of greatest conservation need;
- A water body important to agricultural or pasture land use; or
- A water body important to forestry land use



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What Types of Projects are Ineligible

Projects not eligible for funding consideration under the Unpaved Roads Program include, but are not limited to:

- Roadways that have bound surfaces including oil, asphalt, concrete, or any mixture of sealed aggregate
- Roadways that are not negatively impacting a priority body of water
- Public roads that are open to the public for less than eight (8) consecutive weeks
- Any and all private roads

Note: Applicants are not eligible for an Unpaved Roads Grant if the county has an Unpaved Roads Grant currently open. Once the grant has been closed out, applicants are eligible to apply



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- An Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance (ESM) certified person must be in charge of work plan development and project implementation for the applying entity
- ESM training is mandatory for at least one county representative and for the county roads personnel (such as the County's Roads Foreman) most involved with the Program.





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- ESM training for the Program is a one-day course that covers the road maintenance practices employed by the Program
- ESM training is made available at no-cost to potential grant applicants – such as county judges, county roads personnel, and other interested parties
- ESM training must be taken once every 5 years to maintain certification





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Pre-Site Visits

- More than 85% of county roads in Arkansas are unpaved
- Roads are the transportation backbone for many of Arkansas' economic sectors including agriculture, forestry, energy, and outdoor recreation
- Also provide residential access for many of the state's citizens





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Any County in Arkansas, regardless of population, that owns and maintains unpaved public roads is eligible to apply for Program funding





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Arkansas Economic Development Commission

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Deadline: March 8, 2018

