

Resource Guide American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

**Job Preservation & Creation ♦ Infrastructure Investment ♦
Energy Efficiency & Science ♦ Assistance to the Unemployed ♦
State & Local ♦ Fiscal Stabilization**



**Prepared by the Office of
Congressman Rubén Hinojosa**

March 9, 2009

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March 9, 2009

Dear Friend:

The United States is currently facing the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression. In an effort to jumpstart our economy, Congress passed and President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. For Texas, it couldn't come at a more critical moment.

Generally speaking, this legislation provides nearly \$800 billion in federal spending and tax cuts to create and save jobs as well as provide assistance to Americans who are currently unemployed. Since the size of the Recovery bill is so large, I have created this guidebook, which compiles information on many federal programs and funding opportunities available to individuals, communities and businesses in Texas as a result of the recovery package.

This guide is by no means comprehensive in the coming days I strongly encourage you to visit www.recovery.gov for further information on how to access Recovery funds. It is critical that our families, businesses and municipalities have the information they need to access these funds as quickly as possible.

Furthermore, it is likely most grant, loan and contracting seekers will have to register their organization with the government to apply for funds. I encourage you to visit www.grants.gov and the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) website at www.ccr.gov to learn how to register your organization.

I hope you'll find this information helpful. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to call my office at (202) 225 - 2531. Again, I also encourage you to visit www.recovery.gov for more information. I'm confident that together we can ensure Texas comes out of this crisis stronger and better prepared to meet the challenges that await us.



Rubén Hinojosa
Member of Congress

Recovery Funding Through **Federal Agencies**

U.S. Department of Agriculture – www.usda.gov/recovery

Program: Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband
Funding Agency: Rural Utilities Service
Federal Funding: \$2.5 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: Funding is available through grants, loans and loan guarantees for broadband infrastructure throughout the country. 75 percent of the area to be served by such funds shall be in a rural area without sufficient access to high speed broadband service.

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit www.grants.gov and <http://www.usda.gov/rus/>

U.S. Department of Transportation – www.dot.gov/recovery

Program: National Surface Transportation
Funding Agency: Supplemental Discretionary Grants
Federal Funding: \$1.5 billion

Description: These funds will be used to award grants on a competitive basis for projects across all surface transportation modes that will have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area or a region.

How to Apply: Funds will be awarded through competitive grants from the U.S. DOT. Please visit www.grants.gov and http://www.dot.gov/citizen_services/grants_loans/ as more information will be posted as it becomes available.

Program: Public Transportation
Funding Agency: Federal Transit Administration
Federal Funding: \$6.9 billion
Texas Funding: \$371,915,095

Description: These funds will be administered through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). 80% of the funding will be distributed through the FTA's urbanized formula, 10% of the funding will be through FTA's rural formula, and 10% will be through FTA's growing states and high density formula.

How to Apply: Formula funding through FTA to states and qualifying cities.

Program: Rail Transportation: Intercity and High Speed
Funding Agency: US Department of Transportation, Railroad Administration
Federal Funding: \$8 billion

Description: Funds will be for the Capital Assistance to States Program and the High Speed Passenger Rail Program. The Capital Assistance to States Program is open for capital

improvements and planning activities necessary to support improved or new intercity passenger rail service.

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed by grants through the U.S. Department of Transportation/Federal Railroad Administration. Grant information will be available at www.grants.gov and <http://www.fra.dot.gov/us/content/1954>

Program: Grants-in-Aid for Airports
Federal Agency: Federal Aviation Administration
Federal Funding: \$1.1 billion

Description: Funds the planning, development, and administrative costs of a safe and efficient national airport system to satisfy the needs of the aviation interests of the United States. This includes airport improvement grants for development projects that enhance capacity, safety, and security, as well as for aircraft noise compatibility planning and programs. Recovery funding will be used to issue discretionary grants to airports, with priority given to those projects that can be completed within two years.

How to Apply: Announcements of grants will be posted on www.recovery.gov to ensure transparency.

Federal Agency: Federal Aviation Administration
Federal Funding: \$200 million
Upgrade the FAA's power systems: \$50 million
Modernize aging en route air traffic control centers: \$50 million
Replace air traffic control towers and TRACONS: \$80 million
Install airport lighting, navigation and landing equipment: \$20 million

How to Apply: Funds will be used by the FAA's discretion for the purposes listed above.

Program: Fixed Guideway Infrastructure Investment
Federal Agency: Federal Transit Administration
Federal Funding: \$750 million
Texas Funding: \$2,609,607

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed through an existing authorized formula for capital projects to modernize or improve existing fixed guideway systems.

Program: Capital Investment Grants
Federal Agency: Federal Transit Administration
Federal Funding: \$742,500,000

Description: Funds will be distributed on a discretionary basis for New Starts and Small Starts projects that are already in construction or are nearly ready to begin construction.

How to Apply: You must be a current recipient to apply for additional funding. The allocation of FTA Recovery funds will be announced via the Federal Register. Government-wide information will also be posted on <http://www.recovery.gov>

Army Corps of Engineers Funding

Federal Agency: Army Corps of Engineers

Federal Funding: \$4.6 billion

Funding by Army Corps Program:

- Investigations: \$25 million
- Construction: \$2 billion
- Operations and Maintenance: \$2.075 billion
- Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program: \$100 million

Description: The Corps of Engineers provides construction and operation and maintenance of the nation's flood control and navigation infrastructure, as well as the construction environmental restoration projects. The Army Corps of Engineers will receive \$4.6 billion in Recovery funding for backlogged projects.

How to Apply: The 15th Congressional District is included in two Army Corps Districts: Local cities and counties should contact your Army Corps' District Representative about programs currently on the Army Corps list.

- Galveston District: (409) 766-3930
- Fort Worth District: (817) 886-1326

Department of Commerce – www.commerce.gov/recovery

Program: Economic Development Assistance Programs

Funding Agency: Economic Development Administration

Federal Funding: \$150 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: The program's funding is first distributed regionally on a formulaic basis based on high unemployment or low per capita income, and then each region actively seeks competitive applications. \$50 million will be used for economic adjustment assistance to help communities recover from sudden and severe economic dislocation and massive job losses due to corporate restructuring. \$50 million may be transferred to federally authorized, regional economic development commissions.

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Investments.xml> or you can contact the Regional Office: 504 Lavaca Street, Suite 1100, Austin, TX 78701-2858. Phone: 512-381-8144

Program: Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

Funding Agency: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, United States Department of Commerce

Federal Funding: \$4.7 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: Funding is provided to award competitive grants to accelerate broadband deployment in unserved and underserved areas and to strategic institutions that are likely to create jobs or provide significant public benefits. \$200 million shall be used for competitive grants for expanding public computer center capacity. \$250 million shall be for competitive grants for innovative programs to encourage sustainable broadband adoption. Internet service providers would be required to provide open access to broadband networks built using the federal funds.

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/> or <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/top/grants/grants.htm>

Program: Scientific and Technical Research and Services
Funding Agency: National Institute of Standards and Technology
Federal Funding: \$780 million

Description: Of that total, \$360 million would be for research and development facility construction grants, and \$240 million for research grants, additional research fellowships and advanced research and measurement equipment and supplies.

How to Apply: Grant announcements will be posted on <http://www.nist.gov/recovery/>

Department of Justice – www.usdoj.gov/recovery

Program: Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution
Funding Agency: Office on Violence against Women
Federal Funding: \$225 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: Funding for Violence against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs will be available until September 30, 2010. \$175 million is for the STOP Violence against Women Formula Assistance Program. \$50 million is for transitional housing assistance grants.

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. State and local units of government, non-profit non-governmental victims' services programs may apply. Visit http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/stop_grant_desc.htm for STOP Violence Against Women program and http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/thousing_grant_desc.htm for the transitional housing assistance grants.

Program: Byrne Competitive Grants
Funding Agency: Office of Justice Programs
Federal Funding: \$225 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: The funding is for competitive, peer-reviewed grants to units of State, local, and tribal government, and to national, regional, and local non-profit organizations to prevent

crime, improve the administration of justice, provide services to victims of crimes, and support critical nurturing and mentoring of at-risk children and youth.

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit www.grants.gov

Program: Rural Law Enforcement
Funding Agency: Office of Justice Programs
Federal Funding: \$125 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: The funding is for grants to combat the persistent problems of drug- related crime in rural America. Funds are available on a competitive basis for drug enforcement and other law enforcement activities in rural states and rural areas, including for the hiring of police officers and for community drug prevention and treatment programs.

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit www.grants.gov or <https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/>.

Program: Victims Compensation
Funding Agency: Office of Justice Programs
Federal Funding: \$100 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: The funding is for formula grants to be administered through the Justice Department's Office for Victims for Crime to support State compensation and assistance programs for victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, drunk driving, homicide and other Federal and state crimes.

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit www.grants.gov or <https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/>

Program: Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program
Funding Agency: Office of Justice Programs
Federal Funding: \$50 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: The funding will help State and local law enforcement agencies enhance investigative responses to offenders who use the Internet, online communication systems, or other computer technology to sexually exploit children.

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/> or <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/programs/ProgSummary.asp?pi=3#Funding>

National Science Foundation – www.nsf.gov/recovery

Program: Robert Noyce Scholarship Program
Funding Agency: National Science Foundation
Federal Funding: \$60 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: The program seeks to encourage talented science, technology, engineering, and mathematics majors and professionals to become K-12 mathematics and science teachers. The program provides funds to institutions of higher education to support scholarships, stipends, and academic programs for undergraduate STEM majors and post-baccalaureate students holding STEM degrees who commit to teaching in high-need K-12 school districts

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5733 or www.grants.gov

Program: Math and Science Partnerships
Funding Agency: National Science Foundation
Federal Funding: \$25 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: The Math and Science Partnership (MSP) program is a major research and development effort that supports innovative partnerships to improve K-12 student achievement in mathematics and science. MSP projects are expected to raise the achievement levels of all students and significantly reduce achievement gaps in the mathematics and science performance of diverse student populations.

How to Apply: Institutions of higher education, local K- 12 institutions and their local partners may apply for these competitive, merit based grants. Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5756&org=NSF or www.grants.gov

Department of Education - **<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/index.html>**

Program: Innovation and Improvement
Funding Agency: Department of Education
Federal Funding: \$200 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: All the funding provided is for the Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) program. This program supports efforts to develop and implement performance-based teacher and principal compensation systems in high-need schools. A high-needs school is defined as a school with more than 30% of its enrollment from low-income families which is based on eligibility for free or reduced priced lunches or other poverty measures permitted by the state. Local Education Agencies including charter schools that are LEA's in the State may apply.

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grants-apply.html?src=rt> or <http://www.ed.gov/programs/teacherincentive/index.html>

Program: Rehabilitation Services and Disability Research
Funding Agency: Department of Education
Federal Funding: \$680 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: \$540 million is available for Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants through formula funds and \$140 million for Independent Living Programs. Of the funding available for Independent Living Programs, \$18.2 million will go to State grants, \$87.5 million to Independent Living Centers and \$34.3 million for Services for Older Blind Individuals.

How to Apply: All registered vocational rehabilitation service providers may apply. For independent living programs, all non-profit organizations that run centers for independent living are eligible to apply. To apply for funding for Services for Older Blind Individuals, agencies serving individuals who are blind may apply. Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/index.html> or www.grants.gov

Program: Student Financial Assistance
Funding Agency: Department of Education
Federal Funding: \$15.84 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: \$15.64 billion of the funding will go to Pell Grants and \$200 million will be allocated for College Work-Study. The maximum Pell Grant award will be raised to \$5,350.

How to Apply: All students interested in applying for federal Student Financial Aid should must complete a FAFSA form. Please visit www.fafsa.ed.gov or <http://studentaid.ed.gov> or www.students.gov to obtain applications and further information.

Program: Institute of Education Sciences
Funding Agency: Department of Education
Federal Funding: \$250 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: Up to \$5 million may be used for State data coordinator and for awards to public or private organizations or agencies to improve data coordination.

How to Apply: Institutions of Higher Education may apply. Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/index.html> or <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/grantsearch/index.asp>

Department of Homeland Security – www.dhs.gov/recovery

Program: Public Transportation Security, Assistance and Railroad Security Assistance

Funding Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Federal Funding: \$300 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: \$150 million is for transit security including Amtrak security and \$150 million is for Port Security Grants. The bill waives the cost -share for Port Security Grants funded in this Act. Priority will be given to construction projects which address the most significant risks and can also be completed in a timely fashion.

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed by the federal agency directly to transit agencies. Eligible agencies will be determined by the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI). Visit <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/psgp/index.shtm#1> for Port Security Grants and <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/tsgp/index.shtm> for Transit Security Grants and www.grants.gov

Program: Firefighter Assistance Grants

Funding Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Federal Funding: \$210 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: Funding is provided for modifying, upgrading or constructing non-Federal fire stations, not to exceed \$15,000,000 per grant.

How to Apply: Local fire departments may apply through the Firefighter Assistance Grants Program. Funds will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/>

Program: Disaster Assistance Direct Loan

Funding Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Federal Funding: \$5 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: These loans will apply to calendar year 2008 disasters to exceed \$5 million and equal no more than 50 percent of the operating budget of local governments if that government has suffered a loss of 25 percent or more in tax revenues.

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed by the federal agency. This program is available to areas that have received a disaster declaration at the federal level. Visit <http://www.fema.gov/government/recovery.shtm>

Program: Emergency Food and Shelter Program
Funding Agency: Department of Homeland Security
Federal Funding: \$100,000,000

Description: The Emergency Food and Shelter Program began in 1983 with a \$50 million federal appropriation. The program was created by Congress to help meet the needs of hungry and homeless people throughout the United States and its territories by allocating federal funds for the provision of food and shelter. The program is governed by a national board composed of representatives of the American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; United Jewish Communities; The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.; The Salvation Army; and United Way of America. The Board is chaired by a representative of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

How to Apply: Additional money will be given to the organizations listed above. The national board will allocate these additional funds to local agencies through an established federal formula based on unemployment, population and poverty data.

Department of Defense – www.defense.gov/recovery

Program: Near Term Energy Efficiency Technology Demonstrations and Research
Funding Agency: Department of Defense
Federal Funding: \$300 million

Description: \$75 million each will be allocated to Army, Air Force, Navy and Defense-Wide for Research, Development, Test and Evaluation projects, including pilot projects, demonstrations and energy efficient manufacturing enhancements. Funds are for improvements in energy generation and efficiency, transmission, regulation, storage, and for use on military installations and within operational forces. Funding is to include research and development of energy from fuel cells, wind, solar, and other renewable energy sources to include biofuels and bioenergy.

How to Apply: Pursue a procurement opportunity with the Department of Defense.
http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/cpic/cp/docs/guide_to_dod_contracting_opportunities_us_2007_0425.pdf

Housing and Urban Development – www.hud.gov/recovery

Program: Supplemental Grants to Public Housing Authorities for Capital Needs

Funding Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Federal Funding: \$4 billion

Description: This funding will provide financial assistance to Public Housing Authorities (PHA) to implement much needed capital improvements in public housing.

How to Apply: \$3 billion would be administered through the current grant process and \$1 billion would be administered through a new competitive grant process. The new process would provide funding to projects that rehabilitate units to improve energy efficiency, that increase affordable housing projects that are ready-to-go, and address the housing needs of senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Projects that can award contracts, based on bids, within 120 days from the date that funds are available to the recipients would be given priority. Details for the competitive grants will be available at www.HUD.gov or www.grants.gov

Program: Public Assisted Housing Stability and Energy Efficiency Funding

Funding Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Federal Funding: \$2.25 billion

Description: This funding provides funding for energy-efficient renovations and retrofits of Section 202, Section 811, and Section 8 units.

How to Apply: Public housing authorities are eligible to apply through a competitive bid process. A local housing agency can attach up to 20% of its voucher assistance to specific housing units if the owner agrees to either rehabilitate or construct the units, or the owner agrees to set-aside a portion of the units in an existing development. For further details and to apply visit www.grants.gov or www.hud.gov

Program: HOME

Funding Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Federal Funding: \$2.25 billion

Description: HOME is a flexible source of dollars for local jurisdictions, and funding provided through this account will help to rehabilitate and construct housing, as well as fill financing gaps caused by the credit freeze. There are thousands of ready-to-go housing projects that have been stalled due to the economic crisis. HOME will serve as a financing mechanism to fill the gaps left by the private market, and will spur construction jobs in the hard-hit homebuilding industry. Funds are distributed by formula.

How to Apply: State and local governments are eligible to apply. For further details and to apply visit www.grants.gov or www.hud.gov

Small Business Administration – www.sba.gov/recovery

Funding Agency: Small Business Administration

Federal Funding: \$636,000,000

Description: This program provides \$636 million for new direct lending and guarantee authorities under the Small Business Administration's (SBA) 504 certified development company (CDC) program, which provides growing businesses with long-term; fixed-rate financing for major fixed assets, such as land and buildings.

How to Apply: Competitive grants can be obtained through the Small Business Administration at www.grants.gov or www.sba.gov. The SBA would be authorized to guarantee up to 90% of small business loans originating under the 504 program, and to refinance such loans.

(2 Additional provisions for small businesses can be found in the tax section of this document.)

Financial Services – www.treasury.gov/recovery

Program: Community Development Financial Institution Programs

Funding Agency: Department of Treasury

Federal Funding: \$100,000,000

Description: The Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Program was established by the Reigle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 to use federal resources to invest in and build the capacity of CDFIs to serve low-income people and communities lacking adequate access to affordable financial products and services.

How to Apply: An organization wishing to apply must be either already certified as a CDFI or be able to become certified by the Fund within two years of its application. For further details on how to become certified and to apply visit [http://www.cdfifund.gov/what we do/programs id.asp?programID=7](http://www.cdfifund.gov/what_we_do/programs_id.asp?programID=7)

Department of Health and Human Services –
www.hhs.gov/recovery

Program: Community Health Centers
Funding Agency: Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services
Federal Funding: \$500,000,000

Description: These funds are to be used to support new sites and service areas, to increase services at existing sites and to provide supplemental payments for spikes in the uninsured. Grants for new sites and services are to be two years in length. The Conferees specifically encourage funding currently approved community health centers applications.

How to Apply: This funding is for community health centers. Grants will be available through HRSA and will be awarded directly to community health centers. Community Health centers can apply through www.grants.gov or <http://www.hrsa.gov/>

Program: National Health Service Corp.
Funding Agency: Department of Health and Human Services through HRSA
Federal Funding: \$300,000,000

Description: This funding will be used for extending service contracts and operations. Funding will also go to training programs for the primary care medicine and dentistry fund, the public health and preventative medicine program and scholarship

How to Apply: Additional information can be found at <http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/>

Program: Head Start
Funding Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
Federal Funding: \$1 Billion

Description: The Head Start funds will be allocated according to current statutory formula. HHS will work with local Head Start grantees in order to manage these resources to sustain FY 09 awards through FY10.

How to Apply: For more information and to apply visit www.hhs.gov/recovery or www.grants.gov

Program: Early Head Start
Funding Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
Federal Funding: \$1.1 billion

Description: Early Head Start (EHS) is a federally funded community-based program for low-income families with infants and toddlers and pregnant women. Its mission is simple: to promote healthy prenatal outcomes for pregnant women, to enhance the development of very young children, and to promote healthy family functioning.

How to Apply: These will be competitive grants administered through the Department of Health and Human Services. Apply through www.grants.gov or www.hhs.gov/recovery

Program: Establish a New Initiative to award capacity building grants directly to nonprofits

Funding Agency: Department of Health and Humans Services

Federal Funding: \$100,000,000

Description: This program will expand the delivery of social services to individuals and communities affected by the economic downturn.

How to Apply: The guidelines for the grant process will be established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. More information can be obtained at www.hhs.gov/recovery and www.grants.gov

Program: Health IT

Funding Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Federal Funding: \$19.2 billion

Description: This bill promotes the use of health information technology (health IT), such as electronic health records, by: requiring the government to take a leadership role to develop standards by 2010 that allow for the nationwide electronic exchange and use of health information to improve quality and coordination of care; investing \$19 billion in health information technology infrastructure and Medicare and Medicaid incentives to encourage doctors, hospitals, and other providers to use health IT to electronically exchange patients' health information; and strengthening Federal privacy and security law to protect identifiable health information from misuse as the health care sector increases use of health IT.

How to Apply: Hospitals and Physician offices will automatically receive these benefits through their CMS reimbursements. Other medical agencies and services can apply for grants through the Department of Health and Human Services to offset the cost of implementing HIT. To apply go to www.hhs.gov or www.grants.gov.

Program: National Institute of Health (NIH)

Federal Funding Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Federal Funding: \$10 billion

Description: \$1 billion of the total allotted money will be distributed as competitive grants through the NIH National Center for Research. These grants will be awarded for construction and renovation of external research facilities.

How to Apply: For additional information and to apply for a grant visit www.grants.gov or <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm>.

Department of Interior – www.interior.gov/recovery

Program: Bureau of Land Management
Funding Agency: Department of Interior – Bureau of Land Management
Federal Funding: \$305 million

Description: This funding is for the management of lands and resources under the Bureau’s jurisdiction. The Bureau should select the individual projects based on a prioritized process which weighs the capacity of proposals to create the largest number of jobs in the shortest time and which creates lasting value. Projects can include deferred maintenance, abandoned mine and well site remediation, road and trail maintenance, watershed improvement, and high priority habitat restoration.

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed at the Bureau’s discretion and not available for applicants.

Program: Wildland Fire Management
Funding Agency: Department of Interior – Bureau of Land Management
Federal Funding: \$15 million

Description: These funds will be used for high priority hazardous fuels reduction projects on Federal lands

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed at the Bureau’s discretion and not available for applicants.

Program: Department of Interior - Construction
Funding Agency: Department of Interior
Federal Funding: \$589 million

Description: Eligible projects include: major facility construction, road maintenance, abandoned mine cleanup, equipment replacement, and preservation and rehabilitation of historic assets.

How to Apply: The Department of Interior will have the discretion to award funding for projects currently backlogged.

Program: Surveys, Investigations and Research
Funding Agency: United States Geological Survey
Federal Funding: \$140 million

Description: The surveys should consider a wide variety of activities, including repair, construction and restoration of facilities, equipment replacement and upgrades, national map activities, and other critical deferred maintenance and improvement projects.

How to Apply: Discretionary funding will be administered through the United States Geological Survey. Visit www.usgs.gov for more information.

Department of Labor – www.dol.gov/recovery

Program: Dislocated Worker Assistance National Reserve
Funding Agency: Department of Labor
Federal Funding: \$200 million

Description: These funds will allow the Secretary of Labor to award national emergency grants to respond to plant closings, mass layoffs and other worker dislocations.

How to Apply: These funds can be applied for through the Department of Labor as necessary. Visit www.dol.gov/recovery

Program: Youth Build
Funding Agency: Department of Labor
Federal Funding: \$50 million

Description: These funds will allow for expanded services for at-risk youth, who gain education and occupational credentials while constructing or rehabilitating affordable housing.

How to Apply: These funds will be distributed through competitive grants through the Department of Labor. Grant information will be available as the Department of Labor administers the program at www.grants.gov or www.dol.gov/recovery

Program: “Green” and Health Care Worker Training
Funding Agency: Department of Labor
Federal Funding: \$750 million

Description: These funds will be available through competitive grants for worker training and placement in high growth and emerging industry sectors. Grants will be awarded for projects that prepare workers for careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy. Grants will also be available to prepare workers for careers in the health care sector. These grants are also available to train workers for wireless and broadband deployment.

How to Apply: The Department of Labor will provide additional information as they administer this program. Please check www.grants.gov and www.dol.gov/recovery for more information.

Program: Community Service Employment for Older Americans
Funding Agency: Department of Labor
Federal Funding: \$120 million
Texas Funding: \$6,600,000

Description: The Community Service Employment grants for older Americans are a community service and work based training program created in 1965. Through this program, older workers have access to the SCSEP services as well as other employment assistance available through the One-Stop Career Centers of the workforce investment system. The wages paid to these low-income seniors will provide a direct stimulus to the economies of local communities.

How to Apply: Nonprofit organizations may apply. Current grantees will be provided with the additional funding directly from the Department of Labor. Visit www.dol.gov/recovery

Program: Job Corps
Funding Agency: Department of Labor
Federal Funding: \$250 million

Description: These funds will support construction and modernization of a network of residential facilities serving at-risk youth. The funds will allow the Office of Job Corps to move forward on a number of ready- to-go rehabilitation and construction projects. A portion of the funds will be available to provide additional training for careers in the energy efficiency, renewable energy, and environmental protection industries.

How to Apply: Discretionary funding will be used by the Office of Job Corps within the Department of Labor.

Department of Energy – www.energy.gov/recovery

Program: Biomass from Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$800 million

Description: The Department of Energy will disburse this funding through competitive grants and discretionary spending for biomass research and development.

How to Apply: Please check <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/biomass/> for additional information as the Department of Energy implements this program. Federal grants can be found at www.grants.gov or www.energy.gov/recovery

Program: Geothermal from Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$400 million

Description: The Department of Energy will disburse this funding through competitive grants and discretionary spending for geothermal technologies research and development.

How to Apply: Please check <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/geothermal/> for additional information as the Department of Energy implements this program. Federal grants can be found at www.grants.gov or www.energy.gov/recovery

Program: Wind and Hydropower Technologies Program
Funding Agency: Department of Energy

Description: Accelerate the construction of wind and other renewable energy generation facilities through a combination of loans and grants.

How to Apply: Please check <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/> for additional information as the Department of Energy implements this program. Federal grants can be found at www.grants.gov or www.energy.gov/recovery

Program: Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$400 million

Description: The Department of Energy will disburse this funding through competitive grants to local governments that are not eligible entities for grants through the formula. This program will assist eligible entities in implementing energy efficiency and conservation strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions, to reduce total energy use, and to improve energy efficiency in the transportation, building and other appropriate sectors

How to Apply: Please check www.doe.gov for additional information as the Department of Energy implements this program. Federal grants can be found at www.grants.gov or www.energy.gov/recovery

Program: Advanced Battery Manufacturing grants
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$2 billion

Description: Domestic manufacturing facilities are eligible for this funding. The Department of Energy will disburse this funding through competitive grants to support the manufacturing of advanced vehicle batteries and components.

How to Apply: Please check www.doe.gov for additional information as the Department of Energy implements this program. Federal grants can be found at www.grants.gov

Program: Alternative Fueled Vehicles Pilot Grant Program
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$300 million

Description: Funds will be distributed by competitive grants for the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles through the DOE's Clean Cities program.

How to Apply: The Department of Energy will administer these grants on a competitive basis through its Clean Cities Program, to state and local governments, metropolitan transportation authorities, air pollution control districts, and appropriate private entities to be used to purchase and demonstrate alternatively fueled vehicles that utilize fuel cell, electric, or hybrid drive system technologies. Please visit www.energy.gov/recovery and www.grants.gov for the announcement following the program's implementation.

Program: **Transportation Electrification**
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$400 million

Description: This funding is for a transportation electrical system construction program, authorized by the 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act, at transportation facilities, including seaports and truck stops.

How to Apply: The Department of Energy will administer these grants on a competitive basis. Please visit www.energy.gov/recovery and www.grants.gov for the announcement following the program's implementation.

Program: **Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate program and Energy Star program**
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$300 million

Description: This funding will provide rebates for residential consumers for the purchase of residential Energy Star products to replace used appliances with more efficient models.

How to Apply: The Department of Energy will administer these rebates through the Energy Star program. Please visit www.energystar.gov for more information as the program is implemented.

Program: **Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability-Smart Grid Investment**
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$4.5 billion

Description: The existing transmission system in the United States requires modernization in light of increasing demand. This funding will provide for research and development, pilot projects, and federal matching funds for the Smart Grid Investment Program to meet the goal of developing a modern electric grid, enhancing security and reliability of energy infrastructure, and facilitating recovery from disruptions to the energy supply. A smart grid is an approach to operating the nation's electricity transmission and distribution system using advanced digital technology to save energy and cost, and to allow demand response, use of storage technologies (including plug-in hybrid batteries), integration of dispersed renewable and distributed generators, enhanced reliability and quicker repair of outages, and improved power quality.

How to Apply: There will be a regional demonstration initiative administered through the Department of Energy. There will also be 50% matching grants to states provided by the Department. More information will be available at www.energy.gov/recovery and www.grants.gov

Program: Fossil Energy Research and Development
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$3.4 billion

Description: This funding provides funding for research, development, and demonstration of carbon sequestration, also known as carbon capture projects.

How to Apply: Funds will be awarded competitively in the form of grants and contracts. Please check www.energy.gov/recovery and www.grants.gov for more information as it is announced.

Program: Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$483 million

Description: This funding will create jobs in environmental cleanup and remediation services; address legal requirements with states to perform mandated cleanup activities; and accelerate the completion of capital projects, shortening out-year mortgage costs. Sites related to past nuclear activities are excluded.

How to Apply: Funds will be awarded discretionally as well as competitively in the form of grants. Please check www.energy.gov/recovery and www.grants.gov for more information as it is announced.

Program: Science
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$1.6 billion

Description: The Office of Science at the Department of Energy is the single largest supporter of basic research in the physical sciences in the United States, providing more than 40 percent of total funding for this vital area of national importance. It oversees – and is the principal federal funding agency of – the Nation’s research programs in high-energy physics, nuclear physics, and fusion energy sciences. Independent scientific research provides the foundation for innovation and future technologies. But U.S. federal funding for research and development has declined steadily over the last decade. This funding will support improvements to DOE laboratories and scientific facilities to provide the foundation for research and development efforts.

How to Apply: Funds will be awarded by the Department of Energy. Please check www.energy.gov/recovery for more information.

Program: Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$400 million

Description: Energy to support high-risk, high-payoff research to accelerate the innovation cycle for both traditional and alternative energy sources and energy efficiency as authorized by the America COMPETES Act. The Department of Energy estimates that this amount of funding will support 50,000 jobs through research and construction of laboratory facilities.

How to Apply: Funds will be awarded by the Department of Energy. Please check www.energy.gov/recovery for more information.

Program: Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$6 billion

Description: This new loan program would provide loan guarantees for renewable technologies and transmission technologies. The \$6 billion is expected to support more than \$60 billion in loans for these projects. \$10 million from this \$6 billion will support the administrative expenses for the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan program.

How to Apply: After implementing this new loan program, more information will be available at www.energy.gov/recovery

Program: Defense Environmental Cleanup
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$5.127 billion

Description: This funding will accelerate nuclear waste cleanup at sites contaminated as a result of the Nation's past nuclear activities. This funding will create jobs in environmental cleanup and remediation services; address legal requirements with states to perform mandated cleanup activities; and accelerate the completion of capital projects, shortening out-year mortgage costs.

How to Apply: Funds will be awarded by the Department of Energy. Please check www.energy.gov/recovery for more information.

Program: Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$3.2 billion

Description: This program, which was authorized by the 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act, provides grants to state, local, and tribal governments to fund public facility renovation projects that would install more energy efficient building technologies and materials, and energy efficient technology demonstration projects. \$2.8 billion will be distributed through a formula developed by the Department of Energy. The remaining \$400 million shall be awarded on a competitive basis to entities not qualifying through the formula.

How to Apply: Please check www.doe.gov/recovery for additional information. Federal grants can be found at www.grants.gov.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) www.epa.gov/recovery

Program: Hazardous Substance Superfund
Funding Agency: EPA
Federal Funding: \$600 million

Description: Funds are limited to the Superfund Remedial program. The Superfund Remedial program addresses contamination from uncontrolled releases at hazardous and toxic waste sites that threaten human health and the environment. Of the over 15,000 uncontrolled hazardous waste sites nation-wide, EPA currently has listed 1,255 sites on its National Priority List. It is these sites, selected based on a hazard ranking system, which would benefit from recovery funds.

How to Apply: The EPA will award these funds based on the National Priority List for Superfund Remedial sites. Please continue to check www.epa.gov/recovery or www.epa.gov/superfund for additional information.

Program: Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Account
Funding Agency: EPA
Federal Funding: \$200 million

Description: Through the Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) Program, EPA provides resources to states and territories for the oversight, enforcement and cleanup of petroleum releases from underground storage tanks (USTs). EPA estimates that every year 7,570 new releases occur. Added to the number of sites not yet completed, there could be as many as 116,000 sites requiring clean up actions in 2009.

How to Apply: The EPA will award these funds based on their priority lists for the program. Please visit www.epa.gov/recovery as they continue to administer the program.

Program: Brownfields Projects
Funding Agency: EPA
Federal Funding: \$100 million

Description: Funds are provided for Brownfields competitive grants to address environmental site assessment and cleanup, 25 percent of which are mandated by law to address petroleum contamination. Funds will capitalize revolving funds and provide low interest loans, job training grants and technical assistance to local governments and non-profit organizations.

How to Apply: Eligible entities include state, local and tribal governments, legislatures, general purpose units of local government, land clearance authorities or other quasi-governmental entities and non-profit organizations. Grants will be distributed by federal agency on a competitive basis. Visit www.epa.gov/recovery or www.grants.gov for more information.

Program: Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) Grants
Funding Agency: EPA
Federal Funding: \$300 million

Description: Created in 2005, the DERA program provides grants and loans to states and local governments for projects that reduce diesel emission. Priority projects include those that maximize public health benefits by significantly reducing particulate matter emissions which are a significant threat to both human health and a likely contributor to global warming. The program also targets geographic areas with high air pollution and air toxics and areas that receive a disproportionate quantity of air pollution, such as truck stops and ports. EPA funds technologies to retrofit emission exhaust systems, such as on school buses and other vehicles, replace engines and vehicles, and establish anti-idling programs.

How to Apply: Eligible entities include US regional, State, local, tribal or port agencies with jurisdiction over transportation or air quality and non-profit organizations that represent or provide pollution reduction or educational services to persons or organizations that operate diesel fleets. Visit www.grants.gov or www.epa.gov/recovery for more information.

Recovery Funding through the State of Texas

Transportation

Program: Highway Infrastructure: Road Projects
Funding Agency: Texas Department of Transportation
Federal Funding: \$27.5 billion U.S. (Conference Report)
Texas Funding: \$2,250,015,146

Description: These funds will be used for ready-to-go, quick spending road projects for which contracts can be awarded rapidly. Half of the funds must be obligated (contracted) within 120 days.

How to Apply: Federal funds will be distributed by formula to the states. Projects proposed by TXDOT for funding can be found at www.dot.state.tx.us/project_information/stimulus/default.htm . In addition to the funding allocated by TXDOT, each local Metropolitan Planning Organization will also be allowed to select local projects. Please contact your local MPO listed below regarding other projects that may be funded.

- **Harlingen - San Benito MPO**
Ms. Rebeca Castillo
502 E. Tyler, Harlingen, TX 78550
(956) 216-5242 (956) 430-6640 - Fax
- **Hidalgo County MPO**
Mr. Andrew Canon
510 S. Pleasantview Dr., Weslaco, TX 78596
(956) 969-5778 (956) 969-5821 – Fax
- **Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization**
Mr. Tom Niskala
5151 Flynn Parkway, Suite 404, Corpus Christi, TX 78411
(361) 884-0687 (361) 884-8529 – Fax

Housing

Program: Weatherization Assistance Program
Funding Agency: Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
Federal Funding: \$5 billion
Texas Funding: \$260,000,000

Description: Assists low- income families reduce their energy costs by sending funds to the states to weatherize low-income homes. Services include attic, wall and basement insulation, blower-door-guided air leakage reduction; heating system repairs or replacement; air-conditioning repair and replacement; and health and safety testing and inspections. All measures are provided based on an on-site energy audit and on cost-effective guidelines. The program includes households at or below 125% of the federal poverty guidelines.

How to Apply: Funds will be added to the State’s Weatherization Program. Individuals can apply for the TDHCA programs by contacting one of the following offices:

<p>For Hidalgo County: Hidalgo County Community Services Agency 2524 N Closner Blvd P.O. Box 204 Edinburg, TX 78540 Phone: 956-287-0522 Fax: 956-287-0226</p>	<p>For Cameron County: Cameron-Willacy Counties Community Projects, Inc. 1920 Duval, Unit 7&8 Harlingen, TX 78550 Phone: 956/421-2216 Fax: 956/421-2539 There are also local offices in Harlingen (2), San Benito (2), La Feria, Rio Hondo, La Sara, Lyford, and Raymondville.</p>
<p>For Bee, Live Oak, and Refugio Counties: Bee Community Action Agency 1701 N.W. Frontage Road P.O. Box 1540 Beeville, TX 78104-1540 Phone: 361/358-5530 or Toll Free: 800/358-5534 Fax: 361/358-6591 http://www.co.bee.tx.us/ips/cms/localarealinks/bcaa.htm <u>l</u></p>	<p>For Brooks, Jim Wells, and San Patricio Counties: Community Action Corporation of South Texas 204 E. 1st Street P.O. Drawer 1820 Alice, TX 78333-1820 Phone: 361/664-0145 or Toll Free: 877/664-0155 Fax: 361/664-0120 http://www.cacost.org/energy.htm</p>
<p>For DeWitt and Goliad Counties: Community Action Committee of Victoria, Texas 4007 Halsey Street P.O. Box 3607 Victoria, TX 77903-3607 Phone: 361/578-2989 or Toll Free: 800/365-7712 Fax: 361/578-0062</p>	<p>For Duval County: Institute for Rural Development <i>Kleberg County office:</i> 915 South 9th St. Kingsville, Texas 78363 <i>new office in Duval Cty (April for WAP, but the office opens in February):</i> 103 W Gravis San Diego, TX Phone: (361) 592-1303 Fax: (361) 592-0877</p>
<p>For Karnes County: Alamo Area Council of Governments 8700 Tesoro Dr., Suite 700 San Antonio, Texas 78217 210-362-5245 or 800-749-2010 x245 http://www.aacog.com/housing/</p>	

Energy

Program: State Energy Program
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$3.1 billion
Texas Funding: \$210,800,000

Description: The State Energy Program (SEP) provides grants to states and directs funding to state energy offices. States use grants to address their energy priorities and program funding to adopt emerging renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. This funding will provide resources for activities in state energy offices, including key initiatives such as residential, commercial and governmental building energy efficiency retrofits.

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed at the State's discretion.

Environmental Protection Agency

Program: Clean Water State Revolving Funds
Funding Agency: EPA
Federal Funding: \$4 billion U.S. (Conference Report)
Texas Funding: \$108,900,000

Description: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's CWSRF program awards annual capitalization grants to states as a long-term source of state financing a) for the construction of publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities, b) for the implementation of non-point water quality management activities, and c) for the development and implementation of comprehensive estuary conservation and management plans. The recovery funds will help address the \$388 billion funding gap.

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed by formula to the states and will be awarded by the Texas Water Development Board based on needs lists which were submitted by the January 23, 2009 deadline. For more information you can go to the TWDB website at <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/assistance/economicrecovery.asp>

Program: Drinking Water State Revolving Funds
Funding Agency: EPA
Federal Funding: \$2 billion U.S. (Conference Report)
Texas Funding: \$160,700,000

Description: The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) provides grants, distributed by formula, to states to capitalize their revolving loan funds which then finance drinking water infrastructure improvements. With the recovery funds, states would begin to address the \$274 billion funding gap estimated by EPA

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed by formula to the state through the Texas Water Development Board. based on needs lists which were submitted by the January 30, 2009 deadline. For more information you can go to the TWDB website at <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/assistance/economicrecovery.asp>

Job Training and Employment Services

Program: Workforce Investment Act Formula Grants
Funding Agency: Department of Labor
Federal Funding: \$2.95 billion
Texas Funding: \$172,700,000

Description: This funding is for formula grants to states for training and employment services. The \$2.95 billion in federal funding will be divided into services for adults (\$500 million), services for youths (\$1.2 billion), and services for dislocated workers (\$1.25 billion). Texas funding amounts will be: Adults - \$34,700,000; Youth - \$82,800,000; Dislocated workers - \$55,200,000.

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed to the states by formula. The State of Texas administers Workforce Investment grants through a series of One-Stops through the Texas Workforce Commission. A map of the Texas One-Stop system can be found at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/dirs/wdas/wdamap.html>

Program: State Unemployment Insurance
Funding Agency: Department of Labor
Federal Funding: \$400 million

Description: These funds will be used for reemployment services to connect unemployment insurance claimants to employment and training opportunities that will facilitate reentry to employment. The funds provided will be distributed by the existing formula.

How to Apply: Unemployed persons should apply to their local Texas One-Stop Office found at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/dirs/wdas/wdamap.html> or you can apply online at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/customers/jsemp/jsempsub2.html> . In addition you may call the local offices: McAllen (956) 984-4700, San Antonio (210) 258-6600. Funds will be distributed by formula to the states who will administer the funding.

Arts and Humanities

Program: Grants and Administration
Funding Agency: National Endowment for the Arts
Federal Funding: \$50 million U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: Grant funding will be distributed in direct grants to fund arts projects and activities which preserve jobs in the non-profit arts sector threatened by declines in philanthropic and other support during the current economic downturn. 40 percent of funds

will be distributed to State arts agencies and regional arts organizations in a manner similar to the agency's current process. 60 percent of the funds shall be for competitively selected arts projects and activities according to the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965.

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the State of Texas and by the federal agency to non-profit organizations. Visit <http://www.nea.gov/grants/apply/index.html>, www.nea.gov/recovery and www.arts.state.tx.us

Education

Program: State Fiscal Stabilization Fund
Funding Agency: Department of Education
Federal Funding: \$53.6 billion U.S. (Conference Report)
Texas Funding: \$3,973,500,000

Description: \$39.5 billion will be distributed to local school districts using existing funding formulas and will be used for preventing cutbacks, preventing layoffs, school modernization. \$5 billion will go to states as bonus grants for meeting key performance measures in education. \$8.8 billion will go to states for high priority needs such as public safety and other critical services, which may include education and for modernization, renovation, and repairs of public school facilities and institutions of high education facilities.

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed by the state. Visit www.tea.state.tx.us

Program: Education for the Disadvantaged
Funding Agency: Department of Education
Federal Funding: \$10 billion U.S. (Conference Report)
Texas Funding: \$944,600,000

Description: \$10 billion will go toward Title I formula grants and \$3 billion toward School Improvement grants. These funds should be available during school years 2009- 2010 and 2010-2011 to help school districts mitigate the effect of the recent reduction in local revenues and State support for education. \$5 billion of the Title I formula grants will be allocated through the targeted formula and the same amount should be allocated through the education finance incentive grant formula. The Department of Education will encourage States to use 40% of their School improvement allocation for middle and high schools.

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed by the state. Visit www.tea.state.tx.us

Program: School Improvement Programs
Funding Agency: Department of Education
Federal Funding: \$3 billion
Texas Funding: \$285,200,000

Description: \$650 million will go toward the Enhancing Education through Technology program and \$70 million for Homeless Children and Youth program. The Secretary of Education will provide each State a grant that is proportionate to the number of homeless students identified as such during 2007-2008 academic year relative to the number of homeless children nationally during the same year. States will award subgrants to local educational agencies on a competitive basis, or using a formula based on the number of homeless students identified in each school district in the state.

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the federal agency and by the state. Visit www.grants.gov or <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grants-apply.html?src=fp> . Also Visit www.tea.state.tx.us

Program: Special Education
Funding Agency: Department of Education
Federal Funding: \$12.2 billion U.S. (Conference Report)
Texas Funding: \$1,093,000,000

Description: \$11.3 billion will go toward section 611 of part B, \$400 million will go toward section 619 of part B, and \$500 million for part C of IDEA. The funds will be available during school years 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 to help school districts mitigate the effect of the recent reduction in local revenues and State support for education. Within the amount provided for part C of IDEA, the Secretary of Education will reserve the amount needed for grants under section 643 (e), and allocated any remaining funds in accordance with section 643 (c) of IDEA.

How to Apply: Funds will be distributed by the state. Visit www.tea.state.tx.us

Food Nutrition Services

Program: WIC (Women's Infants and Children) Contingency
Funding Agency: Department of Agriculture through USDA
Federal Funding: \$5 Million

Description: WIC provides Federal grants to States for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk.

How to Apply: State agencies are responsible for determining participant eligibility and providing benefits and services, and for authorizing vendors. For more information and to apply, please visit http://www.agr.state.tx.us/agr/index/0,1911,1848_0_0_0,00.html www.grants.gov and <http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/howtoapply/default.htm>.

Program: Temporary Emergency Food Assistance
Funding Agency: Department of Agriculture
Federal Funding: \$150,000,000

Texas Funding: \$8,500,000

Description: TEFAP provides USDA commodities to states, who distribute the food through local emergency food providers. Available foods vary depending on market conditions

How to Apply: States will receive an allotment based on federal formula, which they will distribute.

Program: National School Lunch Program
Funding Agency: Department of Agriculture through USDA
Federal Funding: \$100 Million
Texas Funding: \$3 million

Description: Funds will be provided to states administering a school lunch program in a manner proportional with each states administrative expense allocation. States shall then provide competitive grants to school food authorities based on the need for equipment assistance. From these grants, priority will be given to schools that have 50% or more of students that are eligible to receive free or reduced priced meals.

How to Apply: To apply for a state grant please visit http://www.agr.state.tx.us/agr/index/0,1911,1848_0_0_0,00.html

Program: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or Food Stamps
Funding Agency: Department of Agriculture
Federal Funding: \$19,900,000

Description: This money will go directly to states to supplement their existing food stamp program. The money will be distributed based on the need of people in their state. The benefits will be given to recipients in April.

How to Apply: Persons who need food stamps should call the Texas Health and Human Services Commission at 2-1-1 or visit <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/help/food/foodstamps/index.html>

Program: Congregate Nutrition Services
Funding Agency: Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging
Federal Funding: \$65 million
Texas Funding: \$5,600,000 (includes both Congregate and Home Delivered)

Description: Programs that bring seniors together to eat in group settings.

How to Apply: There is a federal formula that is used to distribute this funding to states. States will automatically receive the funding for disbursement. To apply for a state grant please grants visit <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/>

Program: Home- Delivered Nutrition Services

Funding Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
Federal Funding: \$32 Million
Texas Funding: \$5,600,000 (includes both Congregate and Home Delivered)

Description: Programs that bring nutritional and dietary safe meals to seniors.

How to Apply: There is a federal formula that is used to distribute this funding to states. States will automatically receive the funding for disbursement to local agencies on aging. For more information contact the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services at <http://www.dads.state.tx.us/>

Family Support Services

Program: **Childcare and Development Block Grants**
Funding Agency: Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families
Federal Funding: \$2 Billion
Texas Funding: \$214,900,000

Description: The funding for these grants will be distributed to states for quality improvements for infant and toddler care. This additional funding will enable states to provide child care assistance for an additional 300,000 children in low-income working families who have been suffering from the economic downturn, and is estimated that it will generate paid employment for roughly 125,000 caregivers.

How to Apply: To apply for state grants visit <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/>

Program: **Community Services Block Grants**
Funding Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
Federal Funding: \$1 billion
Texas Funding: \$48 million

Description: The Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) is a formula grant that provides funds to States, Territories, and federally and State - recognized Indian tribes/tribal organizations so that they may provide supportive services and activities to assist low-income individuals and families to become self-sufficient. Typically, States fund these services by making sub-grants to locally based Community Action Agencies and other eligible entities that provide services to low-income individuals and families.

How to Apply: This money will be disbursed directly to states who will then allocate the funds to eligible institutions. One percent of state allocations must be used for benefit coordination services. States will receive this money from the Dept. of Health and Human Services. For more information contact the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs at <http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/>

Recovery Funding Directly to Cities

Department of Justice – www.doj.gov/recovery

Program: Byrne-Jag Assistance Grants
Funding Agency: Office of Justice Programs
Federal Funding: \$2 billion U.S. (Conference Report)
Texas Funding: \$140,600,000 in formula funds.

Description: The funding is allocated by formula to State and local law enforcement agencies to help prevent, fight, and prosecute crime. In addition, the Department of Justice will be awarding competitive grants.

How to Apply: Competitive grants will be distributed by the Department of Justice. Visit www.grants.gov and <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/jag.html> The state will provide grants to local law enforcements entities (40%) and state law enforcement entities (60%). Contact the Office of the Governor at (512) 463-2000.

Program: COPS Hiring Grants
Funding Agency: Community Oriented Policing Services
Federal Funding: \$1 billion U.S. (Conference Report)

Description: The grants will go to State, local, and tribal governments for the hiring of additional law enforcement officers, to be available until September 30, 2010.

How to Apply: Grants will be distributed by the federal agency. Visit <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=46>

Housing and Urban Development Programs **www.hud.gov/recovery**

Program: Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)
Funding Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development
Federal Funding: \$2 billion

Description: Provides federal funding to counties and cities to address the foreclosure crisis. The funding was provided to local governments and states with high levels of foreclosure to purchase and rehabilitate vacant housing. The intent of the program is to eliminate blight and return vacant units to use as affordable rental housing and affordable homeownership opportunities.

How to Apply: The money will distributed through formula to NSP entitlement communities. The only entitlement community in the 15th district is Hidalgo County. For additional information and to apply, entitlement and non-entitlement communities should visit: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/neighborhoodspg/>

In addition to money distributed by formula to NSP entitlement communities, the State of Texas will also receive funding to be distributed to non- entitlement communities.

Program: Community Development Block Grants
Funding Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development
Federal Funding: \$1 billion
Texas Funding: \$19,473,698

Description: This is money that is distributed to states and counties for community development.

How to Apply: The money will be distributed through formula to entitlement communities. For a list of entitlement communities and the funding they will receive, please visit <http://www.hud.gov/local/tx/news/pr2009-02-25.cfm> In addition, Texas has been allocated more than \$19 million for the State CDBG program. For information on how these funds will be allocated contact the Texas Department of Housing and Community at <http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/>

Program: Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)
Funding Agency: Department of Energy
Federal Funding: \$2.8 billion

Description: The Department of Energy will disburse \$2.8 billion of this funding by formula to local governments. This program will assist eligible entities in implementing energy efficiency and conservation strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions, to reduce total energy use, and to improve energy efficiency in the transportation, building and other appropriate sectors.

How to Apply: By formula, every city with a population of 35,000 or more; every county with a population of 200,000 or more will receive direct funding from the Department of Energy. Each state is guaranteed to have at least its 10 largest cities and 10 largest counties eligible for formula grants, regardless of population. This program has not been implemented previously.

Tax Provisions
www.irs.gov/recovery

Program: Computers as Qualified Education Expenses in 529 Education Plans.

Plans are tax-advantaged savings plans that cover all qualified education expenses, including: tuition, room & board, mandatory fees and books. The bill provides that computers and computer technology qualify as qualified education expenses.

How to Apply: Families that use 529 Education Plans will now be able to withdraw funds from the 529 account, tax free, to go toward to purchase of computers or computer technology. For more information, visit Texas' 529 Plan website <http://www.texastomorrowfunds.org/>

Program: Incentives to Hire Unemployed Veterans and Disconnected Youth.

Under current law, businesses are allowed to claim a work opportunity tax credit equal to 40 percent of the first \$6,000 of wages paid to employees of one of nine targeted groups; families receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, certain veterans receiving food stamps or disability compensation, certain ex-felons, residents of designated communities, individuals in vocational rehabilitation, certain youths employed during the summer, certain food stamp recipients, certain recipients of SSI, and long-term recipients of family assistance. The bill creates two new targeted groups of prospective employees: unemployed veterans and disconnected youth. An individual would qualify as an unemployed veteran if they were discharged or released from active duty from the Armed Forces during the five-year period prior to hiring and received unemployment compensation for more than four weeks during the year before being hired. An individual qualifies as a disconnected youth if they are between the ages of 16 and 25 and have not been regularly employed or attended school in the past 6 months. This proposal is estimated to cost \$231 million over 10 years.

How to Apply: The participating business will receive the work opportunity tax credit when taxes are filed with the IRS. Visit www.irs.gov or <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p954.pdf>.

Program: Qualified School Construction Bonds.

The bill creates a new category of tax credit bonds for the construction, rehabilitation, or repair of public school facilities or for the acquisition of land on which a public school facility will be constructed. There is a national limitation on the amount of qualified school construction bonds that may be issued by State and local governments of \$22 billion (\$11 billion allocated initially in 2009 and the remainder allocated in 2010). There is a national limitation on the amount of qualified school construction bonds that may be issued by Indian tribal governments of \$400 million (\$200 million allocated initially in 2009 and the remainder allocated in 2010). This proposal is estimated to cost \$9.877 billion over 10 years.

How to Apply: The taxpayer holding qualified school construction bonds on a credit allowance date is entitled to a tax credit. The amount of the tax credit is determined by multiplying the bond's credit rate by the face amount on the holder's bond. The tax credit will be received when taxes are filed with the IRS. Visit www.irs.gov

Program: Extension and Increase in Authorization for Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZABs).

The bill allows an additional \$1.4 billion of QZAB issuing authority to State and local governments in 2009 and 2010, which can be used to finance renovations, equipment purchases, developing course material, and training teachers and personnel at a qualified zone academy. In general, a qualified zone academy is any public school (or academic program within a public school) below college level that is located in an empowerment zone or enterprise community and is designed to cooperate with businesses to enhance the academic curriculum and increase graduation and employment rates. QZABs are a form of tax credit bonds, which offer the holder a Federal tax credit instead of interest. This proposal is estimated to cost \$1.045 billion over 10 years.

How to Apply: The taxpayer holding qualified school construction bonds on a credit allowance date is entitled to a tax credit. The amount of the tax credit is determined by multiplying the bond's credit rate by the face amount on the holder's bond. The tax credit will be received when taxes are filed with the IRS. Visit <http://www.irs.gov/publications/p954/ar02.html#d0e3636>

Program: "Making Work Pay" Tax Credit

For 2009 and 2010, the bill would provide a refundable tax credit of up to \$400 for working individuals and \$800 for working families.

How to Apply: Taxpayers will receive this benefit through a reduction in the amount of income tax withheld from their paychecks. Taxpayers may consult with their employer and visit www.irs.gov for more information.

Program: Economic Recovery Payment to Recipients of Social Security, SSI, Railroad Retirement and Veterans Disability Compensation Benefits

This provision would provide a one-time payment of \$250 to retirees, disabled individuals and SSI recipients receiving benefits from the Social Security Administration, Railroad Retirement beneficiaries, and disabled veterans receiving benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The one-time payment is a reduction to any allowable Making Work Pay credit.

How to Apply: For more information, please visit www.irs.gov or www.treasury.gov

Program: Refundable Credit for Certain Federal and State Pensioners

The bill would provide a one-time refundable tax credit of \$250 in 2009 to certain government retirees who are not eligible for Social Security benefits. This one-time credit is a reduction to any allowable Making Work Pay credit.

How to Apply: For more information, please visit www.irs.gov

Program: Increase in Earned Income Tax Credit

The earned income tax credit (EITC) is a tax credit for low-income working individuals and families that is refundable for certain taxpayers, meaning it can be claimed even if the credit is worth more than the taxes owed. This provision would temporarily increase the earned income tax credit from 40% to 45% for working families with three or more children.

How to Apply: Taxpayers will receive this credit by claiming the credit on their tax returns. The provision is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2008. For more information about the EITC, please contact www.irs.gov

Program: Sales Tax Deduction for Vehicle Purchases.

The provision provides all taxpayers with a deduction for State and local sales and excise taxes paid on the purchase of new cars, light truck, recreational vehicles, and motorcycles through 2009. This deduction is subject to a phase-out for taxpayers with adjusted gross income in excess of \$125,000 (\$250,000 in the case of a joint return).

How to Apply: Taxpayers can seek this deduction by claiming the deduction on their 2009 tax return.

Program: Temporary Suspension of Taxation of Unemployment Benefits.

Under current law, all federal unemployment benefits are subject to taxation. The average unemployment benefit is approximately \$300 per month. The proposal temporarily suspends federal income tax on the first \$2,400 of unemployment benefits per recipient. Any unemployment benefits over \$2,400 will be subject to federal income tax. This proposal is in effect for taxable year 2009.

How to Apply: The provision will take effect and suspend the withholding of federal income tax on unemployment benefits automatically.

Program: Industrial Development Bonds (IDB).

Under current law, certain manufacturing facilities are eligible for tax exempt bond financing. Section 144(a) (12) (C) specifically limits the definition of a manufacturing facility for the purposes of such financing to facilities that are used in the manufacturing or production of tangible personal property. This provision amends the definition of manufacturing facility to any facility used in the manufacturing, creation, or production of tangible or intangible property described in section 197(d)(1)(C)(iii). Intangible property is any patent, copyright, formula, process, design, pattern, knowhow, format, or other similar item. The proposal also clarifies which physical components of a manufacturing facility qualify as "ancillary" and therefore are subjected to a 25% limitation in the amount of bond issuance used to build or re-construct those components.

How to Apply: This provision will take effect adding to the definition for tax exempt bonds.

Program: Advanced Energy Investment Credit.

This provision establishes a new 30% investment tax credit for facilities engaged in the manufacture of advanced energy property. Credits are available only for projects certified by the Secretary of Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, through a competitive bidding process. The Secretary of Treasury must establish a certification program no later than 180 days after date of enactment, and may allocate up to \$2.3 billion in credits. Advanced energy property includes technology for the production of renewable energy, energy storage, energy conservation, efficient transmission and distribution of electricity, and carbon capture and sequestration.

How to Apply: Please check www.energy.gov for more information as the Advanced Energy Investment Credit is implemented.

Program: Modify Speed Requirement for High-Speed Rail Exempt Facility Bonds.

Under current law, States are allowed to issue private activity bonds for high-speed rail facilities. Under current law, a high-speed rail facility is a facility for the transportation of passengers between metropolitan areas using vehicles that are reasonably expected to operate at speeds in excess of 150 miles per hour between scheduled stops. This provision would allow these bonds to be used to develop rail facilities that are used by trains that are capable of attaining speeds in excess of 150 miles per hour.

How to Apply: This provision adds to the definition of an existing bond. More information can be found at www.treasury.gov

Program: Tax Credit Bond Option for State and Local Governments (“Build America Bonds”).

The Federal government provides significant financial support to State and local governments through the federal tax exemption for interest on municipal bonds. Both tax credit bonds and tax-exempt bonds provide a subsidy to municipalities by reducing the cash interest payments that a State or local government must make on its debt. Tax credit bonds differ from tax-exempt bonds in two principal ways: (1) interest paid on tax credit bonds is taxable; and (2) a portion of the interest paid on tax credit bonds takes the form of a Federal tax credit. The Federal tax credit offsets a portion of the cash interest payment that the State or local government would otherwise need to make on the borrowing. For 2009 and 2010, this proposal provides State and local governments with the option of issuing a tax credit bond instead of a tax-exempt governmental obligation bond. Because the market for tax credits is currently small given current economic conditions, the bill would allow the State or local government to elect to receive a direct payment from the Federal government equal to the subsidy that would have otherwise been delivered through the Federal tax credit for bonds.

How to Apply: Please check www.treasury.gov for more information as they implement this program.

Program: Long -term Extension and Modification of Renewable Energy Production Tax Credit.

This proposal would extend the placed-in- service date for wind facilities for three years (through December 31, 2012). This proposal would also extend the placed-in -service date for three years (through December 31, 2013) for certain other qualifying facilities: closed-loop biomass; open-loop biomass; geothermal; small irrigation; hydropower; landfill gas; waste-to-energy; and marine renewable facilities.

How to Apply: This proposal extends existing tax credits. Information on how to file can be found at www.irs.gov

Program: Temporary Election to Claim the Investment Tax Credit in Lieu of the Production Tax Credit.

Under current law, facilities that produce electricity from solar facilities are eligible to take a thirty percent (30%) investment tax credit in the year that the facility is placed in service. Facilities that produce electricity from wind, closed-loop biomass, open-loop biomass, geothermal, small irrigation, hydropower, landfill gas, waste-to-energy, and marine renewable facilities are eligible for a production tax credit. The production tax credit is payable over a ten-year period. Because of current market conditions, it is difficult for many renewable projects to find financing due to the uncertain future tax positions of potential investors in these projects. The bill would allow facilities to elect to claim the investment tax credit in lieu of the production tax credit.

How to Apply: Participants will be able to file the tax credit on their tax return. For more information, visit www.irs.gov

Program: Repeal Subsidized Energy Financing Limitation on the Investment Tax Credit.

Under current law, the investment tax credit must be reduced if the property qualifying for the investment tax credit is also financed with industrial development bonds or through any other Federal, State, or local subsidized financing program. The provision in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act would repeal this subsidized energy financing limitation on the investment tax credit in order to allow businesses and individuals to qualify for the full amount of the investment tax credit even if such property is financed with industrial development bonds or through any other subsidized energy financing.

How to Apply: Participants will find that the financing limitation for subsidized energy has been removed.

Program: Tax Credits for Alternative Refueling Property

The alternative refueling property credit provides a tax credit to businesses (e.g., gas stations) that install alternative fuel pumps, such as fuel pumps that dispense E85 fuel, electricity, hydrogen, and natural gas. For 2009 and 2010, this provision would increase the 30% alternative refueling property credit for businesses (capped at \$30,000) to 50% (capped at \$50,000). Hydrogen refueling pumps would remain at a 30% credit percentage; however, the cap for hydrogen refueling pumps will be increased to \$200,000. In addition, this provision would increase the 30% alternative refueling property credit for individuals (capped at \$1,000) to 50% (capped at \$2,000).

How to Apply: Participants will be able to file for this tax credit on their tax return. For more information, visit www.irs.gov

Program: Removal of Dollar Limitations on Certain Energy Credits

Under current law, businesses are allowed to claim a thirty percent (30%) tax credit for qualified small wind energy property (capped at \$4,000). Individuals are allowed to claim a thirty percent (30%) tax credit for qualified solar water heating property (capped at \$2,000), qualified small wind energy property (capped at \$500 per kilowatt of capacity, up to \$4,000), and qualified geothermal heat pumps (capped at \$2,000). This provision would repeal the individual dollar caps. As a result, each of these properties would be eligible for an uncapped thirty percent (30%) credit.

How to Apply: Participants will be able to file for the tax credit on their tax return. For more information, visit www.irs.gov

Program: Plug-in Electric Drive Vehicle Credit

This provision modifies and increases a tax credit passed into law at the end of last Congress for each qualified plug-in electric drive vehicle placed in service during the taxable year. The base amount of the credit is \$2,500. If the qualified vehicle draws propulsion from a battery with at least 5 kilowatt hours of capacity, the credit is increased by \$417, plus another \$417 for each kilowatt hour of battery capacity in excess of 5 kilowatt hours up to 16 kilowatt hours. Taxpayers may claim the full amount of the allowable credit up to the end of the first calendar quarter in which the manufacturer records its 200,000th sale of a plug-in electric drive vehicle. The credit is reduced in following calendar quarters. The credit is allowed against the alternative minimum tax (AMT). This bill also restores and updates the electric vehicle credit for plug-in electric vehicles that would not otherwise qualify for the larger plug-in electric drive vehicle credit and provides a tax credit for plug-in electric drive conversion kits.

How to Apply: Participants will be able to file for the tax credit on their tax return.

Program: Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (“CREBs”)

This provision authorizes an additional \$1.6 billion of new clean renewable energy bonds to finance facilities that generate electricity from the following resources: wind; closed -loop biomass; open -loop biomass; geothermal; small irrigation; hydropower; landfill gas; marine renewable; and trash combustion facilities. This \$1.6 billion authorization will be subdivided into thirds: 1/3 will be available for qualifying projects of State/local/tribal governments; 1/3 for qualifying projects of public power providers; and 1/3 for qualifying projects of electric cooperatives.

How to Apply: Qualified participants will be able to utilize this bond program as it is developed. Check www.treasury.gov for additional information after this program is implemented.

Program: Tax Credits for Energy-Efficient Improvements to Existing Homes

This provision would extend the tax credits for improvements to energy-efficient existing homes through 2010. Under current law, individuals are allowed a tax credit equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount paid or incurred by the taxpayer for qualified energy efficiency improvements installed during the taxable year. This tax credit is capped at \$50 for any advanced main air circulating fan, \$150 for any qualified natural gas, propane, oil furnace or hot water boiler, and \$300 for any item of energy-efficient building property. For 2009 and 2010, this provision would increase the amount of the tax credit to thirty percent (30%) of the amount paid or incurred by the taxpayer for qualified energy efficiency improvements during the taxable year. This provision would also eliminate the property-by-property dollar caps on this tax credit and provide an aggregate \$1,500 cap on all property qualifying for the credit. This provision would update the energy-efficiency standards of the property qualifying for the credit.

How to Apply: Participants will be able to file for the tax credit on their tax return.

Program: Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds

This provision authorizes an additional \$2.4 billion of qualified energy conservation bonds to finance State, municipal and tribal government programs and initiatives designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This provision would also clarify that qualified energy conservation bonds may be issued to make loans and grants for capital expenditures to implement green community programs. This provision also clarifies that qualified energy conservation bonds may be used for programs in which utilities provide ratepayers with energy-efficient property and recoup the costs of that property over an extended period of time.

How to Apply: Qualified participants will be able to utilize this bond program as it is developed. Check www.treasury.gov for additional information after this program is implemented.

Program: Addition of Permanent Sequestration Requirement to CO2 Capture Tax Credit

Last year, Congress provided a \$10 credit per ton for the first 75 million metric tons of carbon dioxide captured and transported from an industrial source for use in enhanced oil recovery, and \$20 credit per ton for carbon dioxide captured and transported from an industrial source for permanent storage in a geologic formation. Facilities were required to capture at least 500,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year to qualify. This provision would require that any taxpayer claiming the \$10 credit per ton for carbon dioxide captured and transported for use in enhanced oil recovery must also ensure that such carbon dioxide is permanently stored in a geologic formation.

How to Apply: New provision does not change the way participants file for the tax credit, just the qualifications to be able to apply for the tax credit.

Program: Parity for Transit Benefits

Current law provides a tax-free fringe benefit employers can provide to employees for transit and parking. Those benefits are set at different dollar amounts. This provision would equalize the tax-free benefit employers can provide for transit and parking. The proposal sets both the parking and transit benefits at \$230 a month for 2009, indexes them equally for 2010, and clarifies that certain transit benefits apply to federal employees.

How to Apply: Eligible participants will receive information on how to apply through their workplace as this program is implemented.

Program: Treasury Department Energy Grants in Lieu of Tax Credits

Under current law, taxpayers are allowed to claim a production tax credit for electricity produced by certain renewable energy facilities and an investment tax credit for certain renewable energy property. These tax credits help attract private capital to invest in renewable energy projects. Current economic conditions have severely undermined the effectiveness of these tax credits. As a result, this provision would allow taxpayers to receive a grant from the Treasury Department in lieu of tax credits. This grant will operate similarly to the current-law investment tax credit.

How to Apply: The Treasury Department will issue a grant in an amount equal to thirty percent (30%) of the cost of the renewable energy facility within sixty days of the facility being placed in service or, if later, within sixty days of receiving an application for such grant.

Program: Extension of Emergency Unemployment Compensation.

Through December 31, 2009, this provision continues the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program, which provides up to 33 weeks of extended unemployment benefits to workers exhausting their regular benefits.

How to Apply: Those receiving unemployment compensation will automatically receive this extension.

Program: Increase in Unemployment Compensation Benefits. The bill increases unemployment weekly benefits by an additional \$25 through 2009.

How to Apply: Those receiving unemployment compensation will automatically receive this extension.

Program: Unemployment Compensation Modernization

This provision provides one-time grants to reward and encourage States enacting specific reforms designed to increase UC coverage among low-wage, part-time and other jobless workers, as well as provides an additional \$500 million in administrative funding to all States.

How to Apply: States will receive this funding to support unemployment compensation modernization.

Program: Temporary Assistance to States with Advances to Unemployment Trust Funds.

This provision temporarily waives interest payments and the accrual in interest on loans received by state unemployment trust funds through December 31, 2010.

How to Apply: Application not necessary as interest payments are waived as this program is implemented.

Program: Expansion of Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Programs

This provision expands current Trade Adjustment Assistance Programs. Among other things, it extends TAA to trade -affected services sector workers and workers affected by off shoring or outsourcing to all countries, including China or India. It increases training funds available to states by 160 percent to \$575 million per fiscal year, creates a new TAA program for trade-affected communities, allows for automatic TAA eligibility for workers suffering from import surges and unfair trade, makes training, healthcare and reemployment TAA benefits more accessible and flexible, and improves the TAA for Firms and TAA for Farmers programs. It reauthorizes all TAA programs (which expired December 31, 2007) through December 31, 2010. Plant closures and mass layoffs affecting 50 or more workers at a single site of employment; Layoffs at several companies in a single local community including layoffs not meeting the single site criterion that, in total, have significantly increased the total number of unemployed individuals in the community. Priority will be given to those applications where the layoffs resulted in an increase of 1 percent in the local area unemployment during the preceding 12 months. Layoffs at multiple locations (multi-company) that occur within a 4--month period and in which each layoff impacts 50 or more workers; Closures and realignments of military installations; Emergencies or disasters that

have been declared eligible for public assistance by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); and Special assistance, including health insurance coverage assistance, to trade--impacted workers and other individuals eligible under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002.

How to Apply: TAA is administered through the Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration. For more information, visit <http://www.doleta.gov/tradeact/>

Program: Duty Refund Recollection

This provision prohibits U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) from demanding that U.S. lumber, steel, and other companies repay duties that CBP collected on Canadian and Mexican imports, and then distributed to the companies between 2001 and 2005.

How to Apply: Application not necessary as the program is implemented.

Program: Refundable First Time Home Buyer Tax Credit

There is an \$8,000 tax credit for first-time home buyers who purchase a home from Jan 1, 2009 to December 1, 2009. It also eliminates repayment obligations that are under current law unless the home is sold within three years of purchase. In that case, the credit would still be subject to the current-law recapture rules.

How to Apply: Eligible taxpayers can claim this credit when filing their taxes.

Program: Child Tax Credit

A child tax credit is a tax credit based on the number of dependent children in a family. This provision would increase the eligibility of the refundable child tax credit.

How to Apply: The provision is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2008. The tax credit will be given after filing for taxes. For more information, visit www.irs.gov.

Program: Low Incoming Housing Grants in Lieu of Tax Credits

Under current law, taxpayers are allowed to claim a low-income housing tax credit for certain investments made in low- income housing. These tax credits help attract private capital to invest in the construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of qualified low-income housing buildings. Current economic conditions have severely undermined the effectiveness of these tax credits. As a result, the bill would allow taxpayers to receive a grant from the Treasury Department in lieu of tax credits. Under this provision, state housing agencies would receive a grant equal to up to eighty-five percent of forty percent of the state's low - income housing tax credit allocation in lieu of the low- income housing tax credits they would have received. The sub-awards are subject to the same requirements (including rent, income, and use restrictions on such buildings) as the low-income housing tax credit

allocations. The grant program would apply to each state's 2009 low-income housing tax credit allocation.

How to Apply: Qualified housing agencies can apply at <http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/>

Program: Alternative Minimum Tax

This provision would provide more than 26 million families with tax relief in 2009 by extending AMT relief for nonrefundable personal credits and increasing the AMT exemption amount to \$70,950 for joint filers and \$46,700 for individuals.

How to Apply: This benefit will automatically go into effect without any action from the taxpayer.

Program: Extension of Bonus Depreciation

Businesses are allowed to recover the cost of capital expenditures over time according to a depreciation schedule. Last year, Congress temporarily allowed businesses to recover the costs of capital expenditures made in 2008 faster than the ordinary depreciation schedule would allow by permitting these businesses to immediately write-off fifty percent of the cost of depreciable property (e.g., equipment, tractors, wind turbines, solar panels, and computers) acquired in 2008 for use in the United States. The bill would extend this temporary benefit for capital expenditures incurred in 2009.

How to Apply: The extension of the first-year depreciation deduction is generally effective for property placed in service after December 31, 2008. This benefit can be claimed when filing for taxes.

Program: Extension of Small Business Expensing

In order to help small businesses quickly recover the cost of certain capital expenses, small business taxpayers may elect to write-off the cost of these expenses in the year of acquisition in lieu of recovering these costs over time through depreciation. Until the end of 2010, small business taxpayers are allowed to write-off up to \$125,000 of capital expenditures subject to a phase-out once capital expenditures exceed \$500,000. Last year, Congress temporarily increased the amount that small businesses could write-off for capital expenditures incurred in 2008 to \$250,000 and increased the phase-out threshold for 2008 to \$800,000. The bill would extend these temporary increases for capital expenditures incurred in 2009.

How to Apply: Small business can obtain this credit when filing for taxes.

Program: 5-Year Carryback of Net Operating Losses for Small Businesses

A net operating loss means the amount by which a taxpayer's business deductions exceed the gross income. Under current law, net operating losses may be carried back to the two taxable years before the year that the loss arises and carried forward to each of the succeeding twenty

taxable years after the year that the loss arises. For 2008, the bill would extend the maximum NOL carryback period from two years to five years for small businesses with gross receipts of \$15 million or less.

How to Apply: This provision is effective for net operating losses arising in taxable years ending after December 31, 2007. The taxpayer can file for this benefit when filing for taxes.

Program: Work Opportunity Tax Credit

Under current law, businesses are allowed to claim a work opportunity tax credit equal to 40 percent of the first \$6,000 of wages paid to employees of one of nine targeted groups. The bill would create two new targeted groups of prospective employees: (1) unemployed veterans; and (2) disconnected youth. An individual would qualify as an unemployed veteran if they were discharged or released from active duty from the Armed Forces during the five-year period prior to hiring and received unemployment compensation for more than four weeks during the year before being hired. An individual qualifies as a disconnected youth if they are between the ages of 16 and 25 and have not been regularly employed or attended school in the past 6 months.

How to Apply: Companies can claim this credit when filing their taxes.

Program: Temporary Reduction of Small Business Corporation Built-In Gains Holding Period from 10 Years to 7 Years.

Under current law, if a taxable corporation converts into an S corporation, the conversion is not a taxable event. An S Corporation pays no corporate level tax. Instead a loss of gain goes directly to their shareholders. When a company converts to an S corporation, they must hold its assets for ten years in order to avoid a tax on any built-in gains that existed at the time of the conversion. The bill would temporarily reduce this holding period from ten years to seven years for sales occurring in 2009 and 2010.

How to Apply: This provision will go into effect for businesses for taxable year beginning after December 31, 2008.

Program: Small Business Capital Gains

This provision increases the percentage of exclusion for qualified business stock sold by an individual from 50 percent to 75 percent.

How to Apply: This provision is effective for stock issued after the date of enactment and before Jan. 1, 2011. Businesses can claim this credit when filing for taxes.

Program: Delayed Recognition of Certain Cancellation of Debt Income

Under current law, a taxpayer generally has income where the taxpayer cancels or repurchases debt for an amount less than its adjusted issue price. The amount of cancellation

of debt income (“CODI”) is the excess of the old debt’s adjusted issue price over the repurchase price. Certain businesses will be allowed to recognize CODI over 10 years (defer tax on CODI for the first four or five years and recognize this income ratably over the following five taxable years) for specified types of business debt repurchased by the business after December 31, 2008 and before January 1, 2011.

How to Apply: Business can claim this when they file for taxes. For information on qualifications, visit www.treasury.gov

Program: Delay Application of Withholding Requirement on Certain Governmental Payments for Goods and Services.

For payments made after December 31, 2010, the Code requires withholding at a three percent rate on certain payments to persons providing property or services made by Federal, State, and local governments. The withholding is required regardless of whether the government entity making the payment is the recipient of the property or services. Numerous government entities and small businesses have raised concerns about the application of this provision. The provision would delay for one year (through December 31, 2011) the application of the three percent withholding requirement on government payments for goods and services in order to provide time for the Treasury Department to study the impact of this provision on government entities and other taxpayers.

How to Apply: This provision is effective on the date of enactment.

Program: New Market Tax Credits

New Market Tax Credits are given to qualified equity investment made to acquire stock in a corporation or a capital interest in a partnership that is a qualified community development entity (CDE). Under current law, there are \$3.5 billion of New Markets Tax Credits available for each of 2008 and 2009. The provision increases the available credits for 2008 to \$5 billion and the available credits for 2009 to \$5 billion.

How to Apply: This tax credit will go directly to state certified CDE’s.

Program: Eliminate Costs Imposed on State and Local Governments by the Alternative Minimum Tax

The alternative minimum tax (AMT) can increase the costs of issuing tax-exempt private activity bonds imposed on State and local governments. Under current law, interest on tax-exempt private activity bonds is generally subject to the AMT. This limits the marketability of these bonds and, therefore, forces State and local governments to issue these bonds at higher interest rates. Last year, Congress excluded one category of private activity bonds (i.e., tax- exempt housing bonds) from the AMT. The bill would exclude the remaining categories of private activity bonds from the AMT if the bond is issued in 2009 or 2010. The bill also allows AMT relief for current refunding of private activity bonds issued after 2003 and refunded during 2009 and 2010.

How to Apply: Municipalities will not need to apply; this provision will automatically take effect.

Medical and Health **Insurance Assistance**

Program: COBRA (Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act)

To assist individuals in maintaining health coverage, the bill provides a 65% subsidy for COBRA continuation premiums for up to 9 months for workers who have been involuntarily terminated, and for their families. This subsidy also applies to health care continuation coverage if required by states for small employers. To qualify for premium assistance, a worker must be involuntarily terminated between September 1, 2008 and December 31, 2009. The subsidy would terminate upon offer of any new employer-sponsored health care coverage or Medicare eligibility. Workers who were involuntarily terminated between September 1, 2008 and enactment, but failed to initially elect COBRA because it was unaffordable, would be given an additional 60 days to elect COBRA and receive the subsidy. To ensure that this assistance is targeted at workers who are most in need, participants must attest that their same year income will not exceed \$125,000 for individuals and \$250,000 for families.

How to Apply: Current law requires employers to work with employees about how to access COBRA and private health plans must also assist former employees in receiving this benefit. Additional information can be found at: www.dol.gov/cobra.

Program: Temporary Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) Increase

The bill increases FMAP funding for a 27-month period beginning 10/1/2008 through 12/31/2010, with an across-the-board increase to all states of 6.2% and a similar increase for territories. A bonus structure (in addition to the across-the-board increase) provides an additional decrease in State financial obligations for Medicaid based on increases in the State's unemployment rate. States will also be required to maintain effort on eligibility.

How to Apply: States will automatically receive this benefit.

Program: Temporary Increase in Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Payments.

The bill increases states' FY2009 annual DSH allotments by 2.5 percent, and increases states' FY 2010 by 2.5 percent above the new FY2009 DSH allotment. After FY2010, states' annual DSH allotments would return to 100% of the annual DSH allotments as determined under current law.

How to Apply: DSH hospitals will automatically benefit from this provision. According to the Texas Department of Health and Human Services, the following hospitals in the 15th district have DSH status:

- VALLEY BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER Harlingen Cameron
- EDINBURG REGIONAL MEDICAL Edinburg Hidalgo
- KNAPP MEDICAL CENTER Weslaco Hidalgo
- MISSION HOSPITAL Mission Hidalgo
- COLUMBIA RIO GRANDE REGIONAL McAllen Hidalgo

- MCALLEN MEDICAL HEART HOSPITAL McAllen Hidalgo
- ALICE REGIONAL HOSPITAL Alice Jim Wells
- CHRISTUS SPOHN HOSPITAL BEEVILLE Beeville Bee
- CUERO COMMUNITY HOSPITAL Cuero Dewitt
- CHRISTUS SPOHN HOSPIT-ALICE Alice Jim Wells
- MEMORIAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT-REFUGIO Refugio Refugio

Program: Extension of Moratoria on Medicaid Regulations

The bill extends moratoria on Medicaid regulations for targeted case management, provider taxes, and school -based administration and transportation services through June 30, 2009. The bill also adds a moratorium on the Medicaid regulation for hospital outpatient services through June 30, 2009. The provision includes a Sense of Congress that the Secretary of HHS should not promulgate regulations concerning payments to public providers, graduate medical education, and rehabilitative services.

How to Apply: The moratoria will automatically go into effect.

Program: Extension of the Qualified Individual Program

The bill extends the Qualified Individual program, which assists certain low - income individuals with Medicare Part B premiums, through December 31, 2010. The program helps Medicare beneficiaries who have a limited income but are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid with financial assistance to help pay their Medicare premiums.

How to Apply: What if they are already signed up?

Program: Prompt Payment Requirements for Nursing Facilities and Hospitals.

The bill temporarily applies Medicaid prompt pay requirements to nursing facilities and hospitals.

How to Apply: This benefit will automatically be provided for Nursing facilities and hospitals.