



The Region 8 Council may award Enhanced Capacity Building funds for a project not suitable for a Per Capita Implementation grant award but that undertakes activities that the Regional Council may want to encourage through a small amount funding. Enhanced Capacity Building activities support analysis or other efforts that lead to project development and implementation. Examples could include activities such as a feasibility study, assessment or planning study, capacity building, and other similar initiatives that will lead to successful projects.

The Region 8 Council has the option to approve up to \$250,000 of its Regional Per Capita grant funds each fiscal year for Enhanced Capacity Building activities. Funding to a single proposal shall be no more than \$100,000.

Prepare

- Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the support organization, below, to discuss the project prior to completing a project application.
- Applicants must complete the attached application form.
- All projects must respond directly to the targeted industries and eligible activities outlined in the Region 8 Growth & Diversification Plan available on the Shenandoah Valley Partnership's website at: <https://theshenandoahvalley.com/govirginia/#resources>
- Project partners including at least two localities must be identified.
- Total budget costs including anticipated GO Virginia request and matching fund sources should be provided. A 1:1 match is required.

Submit

Completed applications should be submitted electronically to:

Bonnie Riedesel, Executive Director
Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission
112 MacTanly Place
(540) 885-5174
Staunton, VA 24401
bonnie@cspdc.org

- Growing Existing Business Opportunities**
 - Create Public-Private Training Loan Pool
 - Develop Business Retention and Expansion Program
 - Create Additional Regional Tourism Destination Sites
 - Deploy Broadband Partnerships
 - Expand Marketing and Promotion

- Startups/Innovation/Commercialization Opportunities**
 - Increase Regional Research and Development Expenditures
 - Increase the Breadth and Depth of Entrepreneurial Ecosystem
 - Attract and Retain Entrepreneurial Companies as they Scale-Up

- Site Opportunities**
 - Site Readiness Investigation
 - Enhance Visibility of Existing Sites
 - Complete General Site Improvements
 - Create Industrial Mega Site

- Other Opportunities**
 - Identify Leadership for Plan Implementation
 - Develop Organizational Funding & Capacity Building for Plan Implementation

6. Budget

a.	GO Virginia Request for Enhanced Capacity Building Project	\$
b.	8% GO Virginia Administrative Fee (8% of above GO Virginia Request for Project)	\$
c.	Total GO Virginia Request (<i>a + b</i>)	\$
d.	Match Funds (<i>must be at least 1:1</i>)	\$
e.	Total Project Budget (<i>c + d</i>)	\$

List sources of match and indicate the status of each commitment:

7. Executive Summary

Provide a 1-page summary of the project that includes the following key pieces of information:

- Project description
- Connection to priorities in Region 8 Economic Growth and Diversification Plan
- Use of GO Virginia funds for project activities
- Transformative nature of project
- Localities involved
- Other project partners
- Project timeframe

APPLICATION QUESTIONS for ENHANCED CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Please provide the following information about your proposed project:

1. Describe the service area of the project.
2. How does the project relate to the Region 8 Economic Growth and Diversification Plan and the goals of GO Virginia?
3. Identify the project's goals, approach, and outcomes. Why is this project a priority for the region?
4. Describe the project timeline and the specific project milestones that will be used to track project progress.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS for ENHANCED CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

1. Completed Sources & Uses Template to provide the project budget overview
2. Letters of Match Commitment demonstrating that you have the required 1:1 match for the project
3. Letters of Support from partnering localities and organizations

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PROJECT REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION

Completed applications continue through the following steps:

1. On behalf of the Region 8 Council, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission staff receives the application.
2. The Review Committee, a subcommittee of the Region 8 Council, evaluates the project proposal.
3. The Review Committee presents its project recommendation at a scheduled meeting of the full Region 8 Council.
4. The Region 8 Council acts on whether to approve the application for Enhanced Capacity Building funds.
5. Following its approval, the Region 8 Council submits a request for administrative approval with appropriate documentation to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).
6. When administratively approved by DHCD, funding for the project is committed. DHCD will execute a primary funding contract with the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission which serves as Region 8 Council's fiduciary support organization. An addendum will lay out the scope of work and roles and responsibilities of the project's partners.
7. The GO Virginia State Board is notified of all administrative approvals at its next scheduled Board meeting.
8. The project shall be completed within two years of funding.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information about GO Virginia or Region 8's application deadlines and guidelines, please go to the Shenandoah Valley Partnership's website at:

<https://theshenandoahvalley.com/govirginia/>