In late 2020 the U.S. Congress began the process of passing three acts in response to COVID-19: the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES), the Coronavirus Response and the Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Also, President Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), H.R. 3684 into law on November 15, 2021. These pieces of legislation represent a $1.2 trillion investment over the next 5 years to address the nation’s aging infrastructure needs, especially in the areas of broadband, water, energy, and IT systems.

By partnering with government CIOs and aligning with the top CIO priorities for 2022 of the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO), Kyndryl™ has identified key solution areas for IIJA, ARPA, and other grants. The key solution areas are chosen based on the best value to our customers. The Kyndryl Public Sector Grants Program webpages provide public sector agencies, educational institutions, and healthcare organizations with grants information, customized funder research, and consultation that will help develop project ideas, get technology-rich projects funded, and even expand initiatives that are already in the works.
Digital technology is now an integral part of our professional and personal lives. While a large majority of innovation and adoption has been led by the private sector, the IIJA is paving the way for federal, state, and local governments to employ digital technologies. These organizations hope to modernize transportation, climate, utilities, and construction, helping provide a “frictionless government” which is safe and secure for its citizens.

Unlike the stimulus monies of 2020-2021, funding from the IIJA is anticipated to move at a much slower pace. The reason is that the funding is not tied to a global emergency, so we can expect application timelines and funding decisions to align more closely with the pace of other traditional, annual grant opportunities. As a result, we also expect additional details for many of these future grant programs to become available within the next six to twelve months. Kyndryl will monitor and provide updates as they become available.

Summary of funding areas by interest area and category

A high-level summary of the categories known so far for the major funding areas follows. You might find some of these interesting: currently, funding areas include broadband, digital equity and inclusion, cybersecurity, transportation, utilities, and research and development.

Broadband funding

- Support of infrastructure installation
- Infrastructure deployment and broadband adoption activities on tribal lands
- Broadband infrastructure projects in unserved and underserved locations
- Each state will be required to develop a five-year plan that outlines their broadband needs and how they plan to address them

Transportation funding

- Innovative transit technology deployment
- Airport terminal improvement
- Support multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional projects of national or regional significance
- Green energy projects, such as the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and for congestion management

Digital equity and inclusion funding

- Digital equity plans to implement digital inclusion strategies

Utilities funding

- Water utilities and treatment improvements
- Outage prevention and electric grid resilience
- Energy efficiency and renewable energy projects
- Enhancement and modernization of electric utilities provider grid systems
- Lead pipe replacement projects including the identification, planning, design, and replacement of lead pipes

Research and development funding

- Clean energy, improving energy efficiency, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Transportation research funding for new transportation technologies and solutions to improve safety, efficiency, and reliability of transportation systems

Cybersecurity funding

- 24×7 cybersecurity monitoring provision
- Multi-factor authentication (MFA) delivery
- Zero-trust architecture planning and implementation
- User cybersecurity awareness training
- Rural electric utilities cybersecurity enhancement
- Incident response plan and readiness provision - with evidence that you have tested the plan via tabletop exercises and have communicated the steps staff need to take when an incident occurs
Why Kyndryl?

We work side by side with our customers to design, build, manage, and modernize the vital technology systems that the world depends on every day. With more than 30 years of IT services experience, 90,000+ skilled practitioners worldwide, and strategic alliances with industry-leading partners, Kyndryl is uniquely positioned to innovate at scale while delivering exceptional outcomes for our customers.

Learn more

For more information about Kyndryl capabilities in the public sector, visit Kyndryl Public Sector Grants Program. Contact your Kyndryl representative or Kyndryl Grants Support Program staff at GovernmentAndEducation@kyndryl.com to learn more about how you can access grant experts ready to assist with your funding application. Or visit kyndryl.com