



The GO Virginia Region 8 Council is now accepting proposals for funding. The Regional Council anticipates funding multiple awards.

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/>
- Project partners including at least two localities must be identified.
- Total budget costs including anticipated GO Virginia project request with an 8% administrative fee and matching fund sources should be provided. A dollar-for-dollar match from non-state appropriated sources 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



**Region 8
Project Application**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

1. Applicant
Name of Organization:
Street Address:
City:
Zip Code (5 digit AND +4):

2. Project Primary Contact
Name:
Title:
E-mail:
Phone:

PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name:

2. List partnering localities (*must be 2 or more*):

3. List other partnering organizations:

4. Which Targeted Industry does the project address? (*Refer to Region 8 Economic Growth and Diversification Plan for descriptions*)
 - Biomedical/Biotechnical
 - Financial and Business Services
 - Health Care
 - Information Technology/Communications
 - Light Manufacturing
 - Transportation and Logistics
 - Value-Added Food Manufacturing

5. Which Framework Initiative and Strategy does the project address? More than one may be selected. (*Refer to Region 8 Economic Growth and Diversification Plan for descriptions*)
 - Talent Development**
 - Encourage Earn and Learn Programs
 - Expand Employability Skills Training
 - Engage Businesses with Sector Partnerships
 - Increase K-12 Educator Engagement with Industry
 - Increase Talent Attraction

- 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 Project	\$
b.	8% GO Virginia Administrative Fee <i>(8% of above GO Virginia Request for Project)</i>	\$
c.	Total GO Virginia Request <i>(a + b)</i>	\$
d.	Locality Match <i>(must be 20% of total match or \$50,000, whichever is greater*)</i>	\$
e.	Other Match	\$
f.	Total Match <i>(c + d; Match must be at least 1:1)</i>	\$
g.	Total Project Budget <i>(c + f)</i>	\$

* The State GO Virginia Board may partially waive this requirement upon the recommendation of the Region 8 Council and the State Board's finding that the written request for a waiver clearly demonstrates that the project serves more than 50% of Region 8's population and creates an exceptional economic opportunity within the collaborating localities.

List source of match and indicate status of match commitment:

7. Executive Summary

Provide a 1-2 page summary of the project application to include the following key pieces of information:

- Project summary
- Connection to priorities in Region 8 Economic Growth and Diversification Plan
- Use of GO Virginia funds for project activities
- Return on Investment (ROI) in terms of higher paying jobs and out-of-state investment
- Transformative nature of project
- Localities involved
- Other project partners
- Project timeframe

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Please provide the following information about your proposed project. Responses should not exceed 6,000 characters. *For applications proposing only enhanced capacity building activities (pre-development activities such as studies and assessments), contact the Region 8 support organization for an abbreviated application.*

Economic Impact

1. Provide a detailed overview of the proposed project and project activities included in the project budget. If the full project scope goes beyond the included budget, provide a breakdown of the current and later phases of project activities.
2. Identify the project goals, approach, and outcomes, and how the project relates to the Region 8 Economic Growth and Diversification Plan and the goals of GO Virginia.
3. Describe the project timeline and the specific project milestones that will be used to track project progress.
4. Describe the performance metrics that will be used to quantify success, both quantitative and qualitative, and how the metrics were developed. Calculate the Return on Investment (ROI) and describe its methodology and the timeline for achieving the expected ROI. Include an explanation and source of any data used as the basis for ROI and outcome projections.

Regional Collaboration

5. Describe the service area of the project. Identify localities participating in the project (financially or administratively) as well as those localities that are served by the project. If there are participating localities that are outside of Region 8 or other GO Virginia regions (including interstate collaborations), describe the nature of the collaboration and the anticipated impact.
6. Identify cost efficiencies, repurposing of existing funds, leveraging of existing assets, or other evidence of collaboration that can be demonstrated as a result of the project.

7. Discuss existing grant requests or programs with similar goals and indicate how the proposed project is not duplicative of, but additive to, other efforts to support economic diversification and the creation of higher-paying jobs. Have existing efforts been successful and sustainable?

Project Readiness

8. Describe all partner organizations involved with the implementation of the project, including the entity's role, financial or in-kind commitment, and capacity to successfully execute their duties as they relate to the project. These may include, but are not limited to, school divisions, community colleges, public and private institutions of higher education, economic and workforce development entities, local governments, regional organizations, planning district commissions, nonprofit organizations, and private-sector entities.
9. Discuss any major barriers to successful implementation and other associated risks and plans to overcome them.
10. What, if any, prerequisite activities have been undertaken by the collaborating parties to increase efficiency with regard to program delivery and support for the project once launched?
11. How will the program achieve stable, long-term sustainability beyond the initial funding period? Have any funding sources been secured to continue implementing the program or strategy following the exhaustion of GO Virginia funds?

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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 forward the application to the GO Virginia Board for its consideration.
5. Recommended projects are submitted to the State through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development's (DHCD) online application system, called CAMS. Completing the project application in CAMS will be coordinated by the Region 8 support organizations. Information provided by the applicant will be used to complete the online application.

6. The applicant will be requested to provide additional information for the online application. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - Milestones Overview
 - Return on Investment (ROI) Calculations
 - Performance Metrics
 - Letters of Financial Commitment
 - Letters of Support
 - In-kind Contribution Form
 - Budget Overview
7. The online application is completed and submitted through CAMS to DHCD.
8. DHCD, administrators of GO Virginia, reviews the application and prepares an overview of the project for consideration by the GO Virginia Board.
9. The GO Virginia Board makes a funding decision at their regularly scheduled meeting. Decisions are evaluated on the project's economic impact, regional collaboration, project readiness, and project sustainability and innovation.
10. The application review and approval process for a project is approximately two months from the time of Region 8 Council's application deadline to the time of a funding decision by the GO Virginia Board.
11. If approved by the GO Virginia Board, 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.
12. 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/>