

Infrastructure Information on Alabama's Approved Grants

Federal Agency	Commerce	Education	Energy	EPA	Health and Human Services	Homeland Security	Housing and Urban Development	Justice	Labor	Department of Defense
Infrastructure Definition	<p>With respect to funds made available under the Recovery Act to state or local governments for infrastructure investments, the governor, mayor, or other chief executive, as appropriate, must certify that the infrastructure investment has received the full review and vetting required by law and that the chief executive accepts responsibility that the infrastructure investment is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars. This certification must include a description of the investment, the estimated total cost, and the amount of funds to be used, and must be posted on the recipient's Web site and linked to http://www.recovery.gov. A state or local agency may not receive infrastructure investment funding from funds made available under the Recovery Act unless this certification is made and posted. Infrastructure projects under NTIA's BTOP Program apply to middle mile and last mile projects. Please refer to http://www.broadbandusa.gov/files/B%20NOFA%20FINAL%2007092009.pdf for more details.</p>	<p>An infrastructure investment is financial support for a physical asset or structure needed for the operation of a larger enterprise. Therefore, infrastructure investments include support for tangible assets or structures such as roads, public buildings (including schools), mass transit systems, water and sewage systems, communication and utility systems and other assets or structures that provide a reliable flow of products and services essential to the defense and economic security of the United States, the smooth functioning of government at all levels, and society as a whole.</p>	<p>DOE does not have an established definition of infrastructure. We are using a standard of reasonableness, leaving it up to the recipient to determine whether a reasonable person believes the work is infrastructure.</p>	<p>The term infrastructure refers to the substructure or underlying foundation or network used for providing goods and services; especially the basic installations and facilities on which the continuance and growth of a community, State, etc., depend. Examples include roads, water systems, communications facilities, sewers, sidewalks, cable, wiring, schools, power plants, and transportation and communication systems. The term does not include green practices recipients can follow to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions and improve air, water quality, and waste management.</p>	<p>No Alabama projects are infrastructure. "Infrastructure" projects are those that support physical infrastructure such as roads, bridges, buildings, power/water systems, etc. Here at my agency, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), I have not seen any guidance or language in our internal Recovery Act correspondence that specifically addresses "infrastructure projects" and I doubt that any CDC Recovery Act awards would qualify as infrastructure (they're public health program enhancements).</p>	<p>The PWRMP for the Captain of the Port Zone Mobile (Mobile) and the Captain of the Port Zone Ohio Valley (Guntersville) do not consider patrol vessels as infrastructure but I cannot produce the document citation to prove it without written approval from the US Coast Guard. A limited reading of the ARRA Port Security Grant Guidance would also infer that DHS only considers these projects to be construction or infrastructure allowable under this grant: 1. Maritime Domain Awareness Fusion Centers 2. Maritime Security Operations Centers 3. Port Security Operations Centers 4. Port Security Emergency Communications Centers 5. Buildings to house generators that support risk mitigation 6. Hardened security fences at access points 7. Any other building or physical facility that enhances access control to the port/facility area. Quoting the guidance document: "The above facilities would allow access only to public safety personnel and others on an as needed/need to know basis in accordance with the National Response Framework. While this would not appear to include non-stationary vehicles like patrol boats, the National Response Framework in another restricted document managed by DHS which does not enumerate boats as infrastructure.</p>	<p>New buildings and major renovations financed through formula grants are required to meet local energy codes.</p>	<p>1) The Office of Justice Program defines infrastructure as "bricks and mortar" type activities....Construction means the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, and alteration of existing buildings and initial equipment of any such buildings or any combination of such activities (including architects' fees, but not the cost of acquisition of land for buildings). 2) Infrastructure certification was provided at the time of application submission, it was signed by the authorized representative receiving the award. No infrastructure activities were included in the ICAC grant application. 3) Costs for any activities not outlined in the application would be disallowed unless a change of scope request was submitted and approved by OJJDP. Such a change could be considered if deemed as a allowable and appropriate use of grant funds. No Alabama projects are infrastructure</p>	<p>Section 1511 of the ARRA does not apply to ETA funded grants. "Infrastructure Projects" may be authorized or funded through a contract.</p>	<p>All projects are infrastructure based on OMB's Definition</p>
Infrastructure Examples		<p>Roof replacement, Carpet replacement, Security lighting, Broadband infrastructure</p>	<p>Energy, including the production refining, storage, and distribution of oil and gas, electric power</p>		<p>Public Healthcare, food (other than meat, poultry, eggs), Disease Prevention, Laboratory Services</p>			<p>Emergency Law Enforcement Services</p>		<p>Defense Industrial Bases</p>

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National Endowment for the Arts	National Science Foundation	Transportation
<p>None of the National Endowment for the Arts Recovery Act grants are Infrastructure projects, including the one to the Alabama state Council on the Arts. All of them were required, per the Recovery Act legislation, to be for the preservation of positions.</p>	<p>"Research infrastructure" is a term that is commonly used to describe the tools, services, and installations that are needed for the Science and Engineering (S&E) research community to function and for researchers to do their work. It includes: (1) hardware (tools, equipment, instrumentation, platforms and facilities), (2) software (enabling computer systems, libraries, databases, data analysis and data interpretation systems, and communication networks), (3) the technical support (human or automated) and services needed to operate the infrastructure and keep it working effectively, and (4) the special environments and installations (such as buildings and research space) necessary to effectively create, deploy, access, and use the research tools.</p>	<p>All Projects Highway and Transit Projects are considered Infrastructure</p>
		<p>Aviation, Highways (including trucking), Mass Transit, Pipelines, Rail, Waterborne Commerce</p>