**2018 RBDG Information Sheet**

The Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) application deadline is April 30, 2018.   This is a “received by” date meaning that the application must be received within our office by 4:30PM April 30th.

Please refer to the website for program specific information: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants/nd>   Be sure to note that there is a section entitled “Forms and Resources” within the website.  By clicking on this hyperlink, you will be able to access the required application forms as well as the 2018  North Dakota Application Template.   A new feature this year is a “fillable” template.  However, if you have issues with the template – please let me know.

There is an electronic version of a Scope of Work also available.  This is in its draft form, but I am looking for a few potential applicants to give it a try.  If interested, please let me know.

Available funding has not been announced.   Last year, the state allocation consisted of $108,000 for Enterprise grants and $19,000 for Opportunity grants.  North Dakota also received REAP Zone set-aside funds of $466,741 for Enterprise grants and $21,482 for Opportunity grants.   Please refer to [www.reapmatters.org](http://www.reapmatters.org) for REAP Zone areas and information to apply for a REAP Zone benchmark in order to qualify for any potential REAP Zone set-aside.

Previous year project examples:

* Grant recipient awarded funds go complete a feasibility study to determine if a hotel was warranted for their area.
* Grant recipient awarded fund to create a Revolving Loan Fund for their community to fund economic development projects.
* Grant recipient awarded funds to conduct technical assistance training for entrepreneurs.
* Grant recipient awarded funds to purchase equipment to create a community commercial kitchen which will be leased to individuals at an hourly or daily rate.
* Grant recipient awarded funds to rehabilitate a building to house small businesses.
* Grant recipient awarded funds to purchase equipment and lease to a local grocery store.
* Grant recipient awarded funds to purchase equipment and lease to a manufacturer.
* Grant recipient awarded funds to contract with an entity to conduct Business Retention and Expansion surveys for their county.

Please contact me if you have any questions or wish to discuss a potential application.

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[www.rd.usda.gov/nd](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.rd.usda.gov_nd&d=DwMFAg&c=HdapuuVk9Y9z9xwaghHmXXSo8KSOYaTgxL9Z7DDnJZk&r=UoMGb1uRMi0WMyyhIJnx8d7MhnYUEISOopbha_Leaok&m=pXvvug6qy0FiMJ9JjqxJ3Df4yAdu-ljJl_gyEO4JKR0&s=ZOYf-6bxvr7E-r7wly3XGqCfriYS8oYh8Lv5TfHLR-4&e=)  “Committed to the future of rural communities”

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