



RISE

Resilience Innovations

2026 BLUE RIDGE REGIONAL RESILIENCE CHALLENGE **APPLICANT GUIDELINES**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 20
ALL INQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO INFO@RISERESILIENCE.ORG

About RISE

RISE is a U.S.-based nonprofit that accelerates real-world solutions to flood risk and community resilience. We work with local governments, residents, and stakeholders to identify priority resilience needs and connect them to innovative solutions that can be tested, refined, and scaled.

RISE delivers this work through its Community Resilience Challenge competitions and the Resilience Innovation Fund, providing entrepreneurs with funding, validation, and pathways to deployment. Our Virginia-based accelerator, hub, and testbed support piloting in real communities and scaling solutions across flood-prone regions, strengthening resilience while driving economic opportunity.

Following a series of riverine flash-flooding events in the Blue Ridge region, the Commonwealth of Virginia requested that RISE apply its Challenge model to identify and test solutions for affected communities. RISE has since run two Challenges focused on these risks and is now advancing this work through a regional Challenge that tests solutions with applicability to similar communities in Appalachia and beyond.

Community Resilience Challenges

RISE Community Resilience Challenges accelerate innovation by connecting real-world resilience needs with entrepreneurs developing new technologies, products and services. Challenge topics are informed by local governments, residents, and community stakeholders operating in flood-prone areas, ensuring solutions are grounded in real conditions and address identified problems.

Resilience Innovation Fund

Since 2018, RISE has deployed more than \$10 million in non-equity funding and services through the RIF to more than 40 businesses developing scalable solutions that can be demonstrated across Virginia, deliver clear public value, create economic development opportunities and grow into sustainable ventures. The RIF is seeded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Resilience Innovation Accelerator

The Resilience Innovation Accelerator supports the growth of businesses selected through the RISE Challenges. The program helps entrepreneurs strengthen their solutions, validate market demand, and build sustainable operations beyond the initial RISE funding period.

Resilience Innovation Hub & Testbed

RISE connects entrepreneurs to the resources they need to test, validate, and demonstrate resilience solutions in real-world settings. The Hub & Testbed provides access to pilot sites and permitting support, a co-working office in Norfolk, Virginia, data and key stakeholders, a community of resilience entrepreneurs, communications support, and regulatory technical assistance.

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Overview

Communities across Virginia's Blue Ridge region are facing a convergence of accelerating risks. Riverine flooding, extreme rainfall, landslides and debris flows, high winds, and extreme heat increasingly occur in combination, compounding impacts on people, infrastructure, ecosystems, and local economies. Recent events across Southwest Virginia have demonstrated that these hazards are no longer isolated incidents but part of a persistent and interconnected reality that challenges traditional emergency management and recovery models.

At the same time, rural and mountainous communities often operate with limited staff capacity, constrained budgets, and aging infrastructure. While local leaders, emergency managers, and regional partners continue to respond with dedication and ingenuity, they are frequently forced to rely on fragmented tools, disconnected data systems, and short-term recovery mechanisms that do not scale or sustain over time. As a result, communities struggle to move from response to recovery, and from recovery to long-term resilience.

Building on the momentum and lessons learned through the [2024](#) and [2025 RISE Riverine Community Resilience Challenges](#), this next phase focuses on advancing integrated, multi-hazard solutions that reflect the real-world conditions facing the Blue Ridge region. These solutions must work across flood, heat, landslide, debris flow, and wind events, supporting preparedness, response, and recovery as part of a connected system rather than isolated interventions.

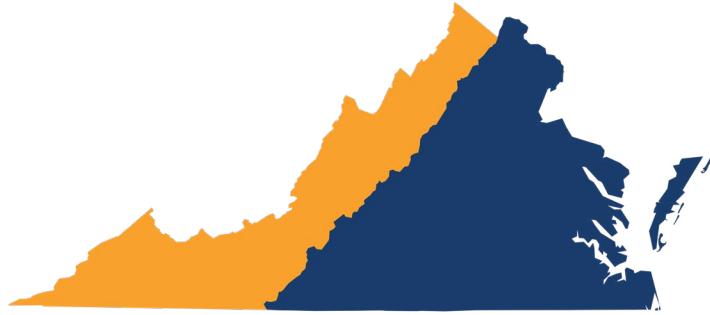
This Challenge is designed to surface innovations that:

- Strengthen coordination across agencies, jurisdictions, and disciplines
- Function under real-world constraints, including limited connectivity and staffing
- Deliver measurable value before, during, and after disasters
- Support both immediate recovery and long-term community resilience

Importantly, this work recognizes that resilience is not only about avoiding losses. It is about enabling communities to recover faster, function more effectively, and build lasting economic and social strength even in the face of ongoing risk.

The following topic areas reflect this integrated approach. Together, they aim to accelerate solutions that are practical, scalable, and grounded in the lived realities of the Blue Ridge, helping communities move from vulnerability toward durable resilience.

This Challenge focuses on communities within Planning District Commissions (PDCs) 1-7 seen in the map below (also found [here](#)). These regions sit at the intersection of increasing resilience risk, limited capacity and strong local leadership. These geographies continue to serve as the proving ground for scalable solutions.



Blue Ridge Regional Resilience Challenge 2026

The RISE Blue Ridge Regional Challenge offers a total of up to \$500,000 in non-dilutive funding to source innovative solutions that support comprehensive pre- and post-disaster protection for the Blue Ridge Region by addressing the range of needs described above.

With its rich biodiversity and socio-economic fabric, the Blue Ridge Region of Virginia offers a unique testbed for developing, testing, and refining innovative solutions that enhance environmental adaptability. Innovators have a rare opportunity to validate their technologies in real-world conditions, ensuring their solutions are both effective and scalable across different ecosystems and cultures. This living laboratory allows today's threats into tomorrow's sustainable opportunities, fostering a replicable model of adaptation.

Winning businesses will get access to:

- Up to \$300,000 USD in non-dilutive grant and revenue-based loan funding
- Assistance with securing real-world pilot sites in the Blue Ridge Region of Virginia
- Feedback from government pilot hosts
- Datasets
- Customized business accelerator curriculum
- Government, technical and business mentors
- PR opportunities and media visibility
- Regulatory assistance with government funding
- Introductions to potential investors and customers
- The only ecosystem of resilience entrepreneurs in the U.S.
- Finalists receive up to \$50K USD for early-stage solution development.
- Winner(s) will receive a bulk implementation award for pilot project implementation.

Eligibility

To be eligible for funding from the Resilience Innovation Fund and other resources from the Resilience Innovation Accelerator, Hub, and Testbed, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Entity must meet the definition of a small business, as defined by the U.S. Small Business Administration and found under [13 CFR Section 121.201](#), or be a nonprofit organization.
- Must be eligible to receive government funds from the Commonwealth of Virginia and adhere to applicable requirements (please note that RISE provides compliance assistance to meet these requirements).
- Must meet goals of the Challenge and be selected as one of the winners of the Challenge (for more details see Topic Eligibility).
- Must be able to demonstrate the proposed solution in the Blue Ridge region of Virginia (for more details see Geography Eligibility).
- Must have a solution at a prototype stage or later.
- Must be able to execute a grant agreement by June 6, 2026.
- Must be able to complete a proposed project by June 30, 2027.

This Challenge is open to companies currently working on RISE Challenge pilot programs as long as their proposal:

1. Does not adversely affect their current contracted work with RISE, and
2. Is not for the same work and in the same physical location as their current RISE-funded work.

Challenge Topic Eligibility

Solutions submitted to the Blue Ridge Regional Challenge must fall within one or more of the three topics. Submissions do not need to be limited to these areas. However, to be eligible for funding from RISE, entrants must focus on a Virginia Blue Ridge Region's need while demonstrating the ability to scale to other communities. For more details about these pain points, sought solutions and available datasets, please refer to ***Detailed Challenge Topics Descriptions***.

Resilience Recovery After an Event: Debris Removal & Landscape Remediation

RISE is seeking solutions to assist regional agencies and departments in providing quick, affordable clean-up after flooding events as well as remediation for protection from future events. Solutions may include:

1. Rapid assessment and prioritization tools that map debris hotspots, blocked crossings, and high-risk slope/stream segments - optimized for rapid triage and work-order generation.
2. Debris operations optimization: integrated workflows for routing, staging sites, contractor dispatch, chain-of-custody, and reporting (including debris type classification and hazardous material handling).
3. Nature-based and hybrid remediation approaches that restore floodplains/riparian buffers, stabilize banks, and reduce future debris mobilization.
4. Slope stabilization and debris-flow risk reduction methods that integrate post-event recovery with landslide mitigation.
5. End-to-end debris logistics innovations: sorting, dewatering, treatment, and beneficial reuse pathways (e.g., mulching, timber salvage, biochar/biomass, sediment repurposing for restoration) with clear QA/QC and regulatory compliance.
6. Workforce and community delivery models that safely scale capacity (credentialing, training, safety tech, micro-contracting platforms, volunteer management) and prioritize local job creation.
7. Financing and procurement approaches that speed action and reward outcomes (e.g., performance-based contracts, pre-negotiated contracts, collaborative procurements, shared equipment pools).
8. Heat-safe recovery operations that integrate worker protection and community cooling needs into cleanup scheduling, communications, and continuity planning.

Integrated Resilience Solutions to Facilitate Adoption & Enhance Synergies

RISE is seeking solutions to assist regional and state agencies and departments in providing integrated platforms and data sources that make resilience forewarning, evacuation, and recovery streamlined, affordable, manageable, and sustainable. Solutions may include:

1. Integration layers and connectors: middleware/API connectors and shared data models that unify event detection (river stage/rainfall, heat indicators, wind impacts, landslide-prone triggers), asset status, work orders, and public communications.
2. Role-based operations dashboards: single-pane-of-glass views tailored to EOC, public works, utilities, regional coordinators, and community-facing needs - designed for small-staff realities.
3. Offline/low-bandwidth capability: degraded-mode operations (store-and-forward reporting, SMS-capable alerts, offline field forms) that remain functional during outages.

4. Adoption packages (not just technology): training curricula, onboarding playbooks, governance templates, privacy-by-design practices, and cost sustainment plans that local partners can run.
5. Synergy demonstration pilots: pilots that explicitly show cross-topic outcomes (faster protective actions, reduced downtime, faster debris clearance, improved continuity for clinics/schools/businesses).
6. Heat and health integration: integrate cooling resources, vulnerable-population outreach, and heat safety protocols into emergency operations and public communications.

The Regional Resilience Value Case: Beyond Avoided Losses

RISE is seeking solutions to develop the framework for investable opportunities in resilience for (but not limited to) private and institutional investors, governments, and philanthropies. Where possible, solutions should consider those benefits of the resilience investments during non-event “sunny day” periods. Solutions may include:

1. A resilience value toolkit: practical templates and models to quantify and communicate the full value stack (avoided losses, reduced-risk economic benefits, and co-benefits) that integrate traditional and adjacent resilience threats with transparent assumptions and uncertainty ranges. Some documented approaches are listed in Detailed Topics Descriptions (e.g., Benefit Cost Analysis, Triple Dividend of Climate Resilience, etc.). Solutions may select one, combine several, or propose new approaches to fully and completely quantify the benefits of resilience protection investments.
2. Investment-grade business case packages: fundable briefs that include costs, benefits by stakeholder, implementation pathway, O&M and adoption plan, and a realistic measurement strategy.
3. Portfolio design and prioritization: methods to bundle projects across communities and corridors to reduce admin burden, strengthen equity outcomes, and build market demand for solution providers.
4. Evidence and metrics that small teams can calculate: simple measurement plans (e.g., uptake, avoided downtime, clearance time, reduced repeat impacts, heat-health indicators) tied to clear targets.
5. Decision-maker communications assets: slide-ready visuals and plain-language narratives that explain the triple dividend benefits for the Blue Ridge context and make tradeoffs explicit.
6. Financing and benefit-sharing options: approaches to align incentives (public, philanthropic, and private) and to sustain solutions beyond pilot funding.

Geographic Eligibility

Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed solution may be implemented in or directly benefit the communities in the Blue Ridge region in Virginia defined by the regional jurisdictions of the seven PDCs: LENOWISCO PDC, Cumberland Plateau PDC, Mount Rogers PDC, and the New River Valley, Roanoke Valley-Alleghany, Central Shenandoah, and Northern Shenandoah Valley Commissions (“the Blue Ridge Challenge Region”). If an applicant is not located in this region, the solution must be deployed, installed, tested or otherwise demonstrated in the region. Solutions must be scalable to other riverine communities, and Applicants should address this in their submissions.

Timeline*

March 20, 2026 — 2PM EDT

Application Submission Deadline

April 6, 2026

Semifinalists announced. Semifinalists will be invited to submit additional documentation, including technical details of the proposed solution, a work plan, and financial projections.

April 20, 2026

Deadline to submit the additional documentation if selected as a semifinalist.

April 27, 2026

Semifinalists' pitch presentations to the Selection Committee.

May 4, 2026

Finalists and funding levels announced.

June 3, 2026

Deadline for Finalists to execute an award agreement.

July, 2026

Launch of the Resilience Innovation Accelerator and launch of project implementation.

Mid-September, 2026

Deadline for deliverable submission and presentation by Finalists to judging panel.

October, 2026

Winner(s) announced and funding levels confirmed. Winner(s) will receive a bulk implementation award to support deployment of a pilot project in partnership with Blue Ridge communities.

June, 2027

Deadline for project implementation and contract closeout.

**All dates are subject to change by RISE. The structure of the Challenge, number of awards, and funding allocations may vary based on the number and quality of applications received and are at the sole discretion of RISE.*

Selection Process

Selection Committee Review

Applicants must submit applications **no later than March 20, 2026, 2pm EDT**. The Selection Committee will select finalists to submit additional documentation, including technical details of their solution, a work plan (with budget, schedule, milestones and deliverables), and three-year financial projections. The semi-finalists will have two weeks to submit this additional documentation. Once all scores and comments are consolidated, and the technical reviews are complete, the highest scoring semifinalists will be invited to pitch to the Selection Committee for funding and other resources. After the pitches, the Selection Committee will update all scores and comments and select finalists.

Oral Pitch Presentations

Shortlisted semifinalists will present their proposed project to the Selection Committee. Semifinalists will have 30 minutes to present, with an additional 30 minutes for questions and discussion from the Selection Committee. Presentations will take place virtually.

Investment Committee Conference

The Investment Committee will assess the presentations and RIF application as a complete package and make award recommendations to the RISE Executive Director.

RISE Resilience Innovation Accelerator

Finalists will receive feedback from the Selection Committee who may recommend making the award (or a portion of the award) contingent upon refinement of a business plan and/or work plan. In such a case, the applicant will be offered to participate in a customized RISE Resilience Innovation Accelerator program (Accelerator) that will assist with addressing the Selection Committee's concerns and recommendations.

Each finalist will receive up to **\$20,000 in grant** funding for their participation in the Accelerator and associated deliverables. If the Committee recommends this course and the applicant, for any reason, decides not to participate, the applicant is free to withdraw from the program at that time with no penalty. Finalists are not guaranteed any funding for their pilot projects until they successfully complete the Accelerator (if required by the Selection Committee).

Upon the conclusion of the Accelerator, the Selection Committee will have the option, but is in no way obligated, to negotiate a contract to proceed with a pilot project in response to the Challenge. The final scope of the project will be subject to negotiation based on the findings and refinements from the Accelerator.

Evaluation Process

An application will be evaluated on adherence to these guidelines, including the following criteria and how clearly and completely it provides the information requested.

Strength of the Solution & Intellectual Property (30 points)

- Need addressed & value proposition
- Innovativeness
- Solution stage

Business Plan (30 points)

- Strength of entrepreneurs & management team
- Size of the market and revenue opportunity
- Strength of competitive environment
- Marketing, sales, and partners

Project Work Plan/Approach (20 points)

- Relevance to and advancement towards business plan goals
- Clarity and quantification of milestones and metrics
- Feasibility
- Costs and timeline reasonableness

Economic Impact Potential/Economic Benefit to the Blue Ridge region and Virginia (20 points)

- Jobs creation and/or retention
- Workforce development
- Benefit to Virginia-based businesses (if an applicant is not a Virginia-based business)

Award

The total of up to **\$500,000** in funding is available to support solutions in response to this Challenge. RISE is looking to fund innovative approaches that can be built into viable and sustainable businesses. This means businesses that generate revenues through sales of its product and/or attract further investment to grow or develop revenue sources. RISE intends for its funding to be used to get the company to that point.

Applicants can apply for up to \$300,000.¹ RIF awards come in two forms: 1) Revenue Based Loan and 2) Grant. Grant awards may be combined with the Revenue Based Loan. The award type and amount will be determined by the RISE Executive Director based on the scoring and recommendations of the RIF Selection Committee.

Grant Terms and Conditions

Awardees that are awarded funds from RISE may be awarded a grant from RIF. Grants are awarded for the costs of project setup in the Blue Ridge region, and regionally focused use case discovery and development. All grant funds must be fully expended and closed out by **June 30, 2027**.

Payments made to grantees under the agreement are made on a reimbursement basis for eligible costs. Grantees must incur costs and request reimbursement for eligible expenses. Reimbursements will be issued only for eligible expenses that are supported by the appropriate documentation, proof of payment, and are directly linked to project milestones and deliverables. At a maximum, the grantee will be able to request reimbursement twice a month.

All costs charged to the grant shall be supported by properly executed payrolls, time records, invoices, general ledgers, proofs of payment, contracts, or vouchers evidencing in proper detail the nature and propriety of the charges. All checks, payrolls, invoices, contracts, vouchers, orders, or other accounting documents pertaining in whole or in part to the grant shall be clearly identified, readily accessible, and separate and distinct from all other such documents.

Payments will be contingent upon successful performance against key milestones and other performance standards outlined in the agreement. The grantee is required to meet the terms of the grant agreement. If the grantee does not meet the agreed upon deliverables, a portion of the entirety of the grant must be repaid. A repayment plan will be determined on a case-by-case basis, with all repayments due by **June 30, 2027**.

The grantee will be required to repay all or a portion of their grant for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to abide by the terms and conditions set forth in the grant Agreement;
- Failure to achieve successful completion of the activity funded by the grant;
- Failure to follow any federal, state, or local laws, regulations, and requirements.

1. RISE reserves the right to change this threshold.

Revenue Based Loan Terms and Conditions

Awardees that are awarded funds from RISE may be awarded a Revenue Based Loan from RIF. Revenue Based Loans are awarded to selected applicants who already have a product and seek funding to launch or grow their revenue generation by refining, expanding and/or piloting their resilience-building solution, launching or scaling marketing, sales, fabrication and other capacity.

Companies are awarded an amount based on their capital needs and projected revenue stream. Payments are made monthly to RISE based on the company's monthly gross revenue from sales (as defined by GAAP). Key features of this loan include:²

- No equity
- No collateral required
- No board seats or personal guarantees
- Return caps of 1.0x – 2.0x
- Repaid over up to 5 years
- Up to 20% of monthly revenues

Terms of this loan (e.g., percentage of monthly gross revenues, term, cap) will all be negotiated individually between RISE and the company based on the financial model. While traditional underwriting will not be required to receive this loan, follow-up financial information to determine readiness and capacity may be requested during the review process. This loan is non-dilutive.

The Revenue Based Loan must be fully expended by **June 30, 2027**. It is structured around milestones and payments are made according to the milestone schedule outlined in the loan agreement. If the deliverables are not met, the loan will enter repayment. At a maximum, applicants with RIF loans will be able to request draws bi-monthly. The remainder of loan terms are negotiated on a case-by-case basis.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of appropriate documentation that may be used to support eligible expenses for grants and loans:

- Receipts
- Invoices that show proof of payment
- Canceled checks
- Pay stubs that detail date, hours and work completed
- General ledger showing payments made

Please see detailed Billing and Reporting Guidelines and Contract Template in Appendices.

2. Terms may vary according to agreement between teams and RISE.

Resilience Innovation Hub & Testbed

In addition to funding the winners will gain access to a suite of resources, including:

- Assistance with securing real-world pilot sites in the Blue Ridge region of Virginia
- Feedback from pilot hosts
- Datasets
- Government, technical, and business mentors
- PR opportunities and media visibility
- Regulatory assistance with government funding
- Introductions to potential investors and customers
- Customized business accelerator curriculum
- The only ecosystem of coastal resilience entrepreneurs in the U.S.

Resilience Innovation Accelerator

The Accelerator offers a business assistance program tailored to the resilience sector and specific feedback from the Selection Committee. The goal is to increase the likelihood of the businesses becoming sustainable and attracting private capital and/or customers after the Challenge award.

Eligible Uses and Costs

The RISE Resilience Innovation Fund (RIF) for the Blue Ridge Regional Challenge is funded with the Commonwealth of Virginia funds. Projects funded by RIF must meet Commonwealth of Virginia funding regulations and requirements. Based on the requirements of these funds, the following uses are examples of RIF eligible funding uses.

- Purchase of fixed assets, working capital, salaries, and technical assistance to businesses.
- Prototype, planning, drafts, and versions development created prior to a final product.
- Installation and testing of prototype, or installation of pilots on publicly owned property
- Recruitment and educational activities.
- Creation of plans, reports, or similar deliverables aimed at providing lessons learned, guidance, and best practices.
- Acquisition or rental of machinery, equipment or services if integral to the proposed project, program or plan.
- Administrative costs related to servicing or ensuring compliance with RIF requirements.
- Payments for salaries and support of staff or the contracting of an outside entity to implement any part of the project, program, or a plan.
- Provisions of technical assistance to businesses such as preparation of financial packages, survey, engineering, legal, architectural or other similar assistance if integral to the proposed project, program, or plan.
- Expenses related to business recruitment, marketing, promotional activities, and related administrative expenses, including, but not limited to, salaries, travel, office expenses, advertising, legal and related costs.

RISE reserves the right to consider the eligibility of items at their discretion, provided those costs are consistent with the RISE mission and support economic development and resilience in the Blue Ridge region. All costs proposed shall be necessary and reasonable to deliver the solution and are subject to the approval of eligibility and cost reasonableness, as determined by RISE. RISE may review any proposed costs and provide an eligibility determination to an applicant.

Construction Costs

For construction projects, applicants will be required to demonstrate to RISE that their project is feasible. This is satisfied if a registered professional engineer (or other design professional) certifies that the design meets the appropriate code or industry design and construction standards.

Construction activities are also subject to an Environmental Review. Depending on the scale and impact of the project, the Environmental Review can range from a determination that the activity is exempt from the Environmental Review requirement to a determination that a full Environmental Impact Statement is required before the project can proceed. Funded applicants should be aware that completing an Environmental Review can be a lengthy and time-consuming process, especially for any construction activities. Applicants should factor this time and effort into their proposal for funding. If the Environmental Review process timeline inhibits the successful completion of the project or project milestones, the RIF award may be rescinded.

Ineligible Costs

The following costs are ineligible. Applicants may include these costs in solution budgets, so long as there is another source of funding which is responsible for covering the costs.

Pre-award costs

Costs incurred prior to the execution of the contract with RISE including the development of the CCC and RIF applications, prototypes, plans, or other work required to secure RIF funds, are not eligible for RIF funding.

Patents, copyrights, and related legal fees

RIF funds cannot be used for the advancement of patents or copyrights of the solution, whether costs are incurred by applicant personnel, partners, vendors or contractors.

Single and multi-family residential projects

RIF funds cannot be used to provide new or rehabilitated housing units. However, solutions that are applied to residential properties or development, such as a prototype for a new mitigation method, may be considered for funding.

Debt payments

The refinancing or payment of existing debt, including secured and unsecured debt capital or interest payments are not an eligible use of RIF funds.

Penalty payments

The payment of governmental fines or penalties arising from late or improper payment of occupational taxes and fees, sales tax, income tax, or other penalties are not an eligible use of RIF funds.

Political or religious activities

All funded activities must be secular and apolitical in nature.

Buybacks

RIF funds may not be used to buy out current stockholders, equity holders, or any family members with vested interest in the applicant business or entity.

Investment instruments

RIF funds may be used to purchase investment instruments if required for the implementation or development of a program or plan. However, purchasing items for the sole purpose of increased return on investment or increased revenue alone is not allowable.

Buildings for the general conduct of government

Except to the extent necessary to fund the rehabilitation or reconstruction of public buildings, or portions thereof, used for the general conduct of government, cannot be assisted with these funds.

General government expenses

Expenses required to carry out the regular responsibilities of local government are not eligible for assistance.

Purchase of equipment

The purchase of construction equipment is ineligible, but compensation for the use of such equipment through leasing or depreciations is allowed. In addition, the purchase of equipment, fixtures, motor vehicles, furnishings, or other personal property not an integral structural fixture is generally ineligible.

Operating and maintenance expenses

Any expense associated with repairing, operating or maintaining public facilities, improvements and services is ineligible.

Improvements to private property

RIF funds may not be used for any improvements and installations on private property.

Income payments

These funds may not be used to pay individuals or families for items such as food, closing, housing, or utilities, notwithstanding emergency grant payments.

Application Submittal Requirements

Application Submission

Application process is divided into two phases: Phase 1 application shall be submitted online at the RISE website. Proposals may be started at any time and can be edited until the submission deadline of **March 20, 2026, at 2pm EDT**. Timely submission of the proposal is solely the responsibility of the applicant. Proposals received after the specified date and time will not be accepted.

Application Technical Assistance

During the pre-submission application period, RISE staff are available to answer general questions about the application and provide general subject matter technical assistance to all applicants. Technical assistance is limited to the application and process, and staff are unable to provide direct assistance in completing the application.

In order to answer applicants' questions, RISE will hold a series of webinars. These webinars will be open to anyone and attendance or non-attendance does not affect entrants' chances of success. Dates for the webinars will be posted on the RISE website.

Phase 1 application includes the following components:

- A. Executive Summary & Company Background
- B. Solution Overview
- C. Business Plan
- D. Economic Impact
- E. Pilot Site Needs
- F. References

Following a review of Phase 1 applications, the Selection Committee will select semifinalists to submit additional details using an online Phase 2 application. Finalists will receive a link to upload additional documentation including:

- A. Detailed/Updated Business Plan
- B. Work Plan/Approach
- C. Technical Approach
- D. Detailed/Updated Economic Impact

Specifically, the additional documentation should include following:

A. Detailed/Updated Business Plan

The Business Plan demonstrates what is going to sustain and grow the business once the project is complete. Applicants must upload the latest version of the Business Plan for their venture that answers all of the questions below:

1. A statement of the problem you are solving, and a description of your solution
2. A description of the business model(s)
3. A three-year financial projection of revenues and expenses, as well as cash flows
4. Marketing plan for the solution
5. Schedule for the overall business plan
6. Major milestones for the solution beyond RIF award
7. An organizational chart
8. A description of partnerships with other organizations and individuals
9. Team resumes
10. A description of the market for the solution, customers and beneficiaries
11. Value proposition of the solution to the buyer and rationale for why a buyer would purchase
12. Anticipated market penetration at the end of CY 2026, 2027 and 2028
13. Alternatives to the solution that are currently available in the market
14. Description of active competitors delivering a similar solution
15. A description of obstacles that may be encountered when trying to enter the market with this product/service
16. A description of intellectual property (IP) protection
17. Other key information that is key to understanding the market for the solution and how the team will capitalize on the solution
18. A 2-year proforma Profit & Loss (P&L) Statement, presented quarterly, reflecting expected revenue and expenses.
 - Include a brief narrative explaining how the projected P&L supports the proposed RIF solution, including how project milestones, customer adoption, and revenue growth relate to repayment potential.
19. Past 3 years of business tax returns
 - Business tax returns for the past three years (if available), submitted solely to understand historical revenue patterns and business continuity.
 - If the business has been operating for fewer than three years, submit all available tax returns, along with the most recent P&L and Balance Sheet.
20. AR & AP aging report
 - An AR and AP aging report to help assess cash flow timing and operational stability.
21. An attestation confirming that all payroll and sales taxes are paid and current.

The Business Plan should be a maximum of 15 pages. Financial documents requested in questions 18 – 21 are excluded from this page limit.

B. Work Plan/Approach

The Project Work Plan will have four components:

1. Project Overview Narrative
2. Project Work Plan Narrative by Stage
3. Technical Approach
4. Work Plan Workbook with Budget, Schedule, and Milestones

Applicants should break down the proposed project into a series of stages, each with measurable objectives and deliverables to create the project Work Plan narrative. Each stage must advance the effort toward the overall goals in a measurable and meaningful way, clearly demonstrating an advancement of the project. Deliverables can be in the form of physical objects, experiment/test results, analyses, reports, evidence of job creation, etc. RISE reserves the right to request additional information and supporting documentation during Phase 2.

1. Project Overview Narrative

The Project Overview should include the following in narrative form:

- Overall technical goal(s) and strategies for the project, including an explanation of how the entity is achieving the project goal(s) and will advance the goal(s) outlined in the Business Plan.
- The critical accomplishments, deliverables, or achievement points over the duration of the award.
- Anticipated permit requirements of the locality and other authorizing jurisdictions that will be required for the project.
- Period of performance for the project, as well as a description of current related efforts and work that may extend beyond the expenditure timeline.
- For Construction Projects only: Attach existing feasibility studies or reports. If no existing studies are available, please include a feasibility study in the timeline.

2. Project Work Plan Narrative by Stage

- Name of stage.
- Description of tasks to be performed.
- Key personnel working on the tasks and description of qualifications of the team (principal, key personnel, subcontractors and consultants) to execute the stage of the Work Plan.
- Milestones of each stage.
- Deliverables/objectives and measurable criteria to determine that the deliverables/objectives have been met/achieved.
- Schedule of each stage.

3. Project Work Plan Workbook

The Project Work Plan Workbook will have the following components (required template will be made available prior to inviting Phase 2 applications):

- Total budget with line items.
- Milestones by quarter through the expenditure period (expenditure deadline is June 30, 2027).

C. Technical Approach

Technical report(s), and/or presentation describing your solution in further detail from a technical perspective.

D. Economic Impact

Anticipated economic and other outcomes within and outside the Commonwealth of Virginia during and following the end of the project and the timeframe for these outcomes (outcomes may include, though are not limited to: job creation, job retention, workforce development, sub-contracting to Virginia-based businesses, revenue, private investment and/or other follow-on funding, spin-out company formation, new or expanded facilities, customer acquisition, technology pilots, regulatory approvals, and licensing)

Proprietary Information/Non-Disclosure & IP Ownership

All application materials are considered confidential. Applicants will retain ownership of intellectual property.

Cost Incurred in Responding

This Challenge does not commit RISE to pay any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals or in making necessary studies or designs for the preparation thereof, nor to procure or contract for services.

No Requirement of Award; Non-commitment

Notwithstanding any other provision of this document to the contrary, the Coastal Community Resilience Challenges do not commit RISE to award any funding to any applicant. RISE reserves the right to reject any and all applications or any portions thereof, at any time, and to cancel the Challenges and to request new applications under a new Challenge or other vehicle.

Monitoring and Oversight

RISE monitors each funded applicant throughout the lifetime of their award. Monitoring serves to identify risks and deficiencies early in the process, so that any issues may be remedied at the outset. In general, the levels of monitoring range from desk auditing, to on-site monitoring, to integrity monitoring. Any risks and deficiencies identified result in a request for timely corrective action from the entity being monitored. RISE provides Technical Assistance (TA) to all entities being monitored in order to facilitate compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local regulations.

Appeals Process

The decision of the Investment Committee is final.

Key Regulations

RISE and its funded applicants must adhere to all applicable State and federal laws, rules, and regulations. This section provides a summary of the significant and applicable rules and regulations for the RIF awards. RISE provides regulatory and compliance technical assistance to its awardees during the entire period of their projects. Please refer to the contract template for all requirements.

Procurement Requirements

Funded applicants will be required to follow 2 CFR 200.318-326. RIF awards must be expended in compliance with applicable 2 CFR 200, which outlines cost principles, and procurement standards. All costs are subject to the approval of eligibility and cost reasonableness, as outlined in [2 CFR 200.404](#)

Where applicable, the requirements set forth at 2 CFR Part 200 will apply to the procurement, selection, and contract requirements of any participating consultant, vendor, or contractor that engages with the applicant in the course of expended grant and/or loan funds.

Cross-Cutting Requirements

Record Retention and Access, Retention requirements for Records 2 CFR 200.333

The Subgrantee shall maintain such records in such a manner as will be prescribed. Records shall be readily accessible to DHCD, appropriate state and federal agencies, and the general public during the course of this Agreement and shall remain intact and accessible for three years thereafter. The exception is if any litigation claim or audit is started before the expiration of the three-year period, the records shall be retained until such action is resolved. Records must be maintained until completion of action of all litigation, claims, negotiations, or audits. For property and equipment, the retention period starts upon disposition of the property/equipment.

Avoidance of Conflict of Interest

Subgrantee warrants that neither it nor its employees, assigns, or subcontractors do not have any interest nor shall they acquire any interest that would conflict in any manner with the performance of this Agreement. Subgrantee further warrants that no person having any such interest shall be employed or engaged in the performance of this Agreement. Subgrantee agrees that no office or member of its governing board, and no public official of the governing body of the locality in which the services under this Agreement are provided, shall participate in any decision relating to this Agreement that directly affects his or her personal interest.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Grantee shall comply with federal directives concerning equal employment. Subgrantee agrees to post in a conspicuous place, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth such policy for non-discrimination. Subgrantee shall, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of Subgrantee state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin or status as a veteran. Subgrantee will cause the foregoing provisions to be inserted in all assignments and subcontracts for any work under this Agreement, except that such provisions shall not apply to contracts or subcontracts for standard commercial supplies or raw materials.

Discrimination

No person shall be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services provided for in this Agreement, or subjected to discrimination in the provision of services under this Agreement, because of his or her race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, or national origin, or status as veteran.

Civil Rights Act of 1964

Grantee will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Pub. L 88-352), and the regulations issued pursuant thereto (24 CFR Part 1), which provides that no person in the United States shall on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Subgrantee receives Federal or State financial assistance and will immediately take any measure necessary to effectuate this assurance. If any real property or structure thereon is provided or improved with the aid of Federal or State financial assistance extended to the Subgrantee, this assurance shall obligate the Subgrantee, or in the case of any transfer of such property, any transferee, for the period during which the real property or structure is used for a purpose for which the Federal or State financial assistance is extended or for another purpose of involving the provision of similar services to benefits.

Topic Area 1

Resilience Recovery After an Event: Debris Removal & Landscape Remediation

The Resilience Recovery Problem(s)

After riverine floods, debris such as forest material, sediment, damaged infrastructure, and household contents, accumulate in channels, culverts, bridges, and floodplains, creating safety hazards, degrading water quality, and increasing the likelihood of secondary flooding during the next storm. In steep, mountainous terrain, intense rainfall can trigger debris flows (fast-moving landslides) and slope failures that deliver large volumes of sediment and debris into streams, roads, and communities, complicating recovery and extending disruptions. Also, storm-driven blowdowns and wind damage can add large volumes of forest debris (tree limbs, trunks, foliage, etc.) and damaged structures, further burdening already limited local response capacity.

Rural communities often face long recovery timelines due to limited contractors and equipment, constrained local budgets, and complex permitting and disposal requirements. In addition, debris, sediment, and contaminated materials can create long-term ecological impacts (stream habitat smothering, riparian loss) and public-health risks if not handled quickly and correctly.

During prolonged outages and cleanup periods, extreme heat or cold increase the risk to vulnerable residents and outdoor workers, raising the stakes for rapid restoration of access, power, and cooling resources.

The goals of this topic are:

- Restore access faster after riverine floods, landslide/debris flow, and wind events.
- Reduce repeated losses by stabilizing banks, slopes, and debris choke points.
- Provide rapid, validated debris and damage intelligence to direct resources.
- Support multi-agency coordination (e.g., public works, emergency management, utilities, contractors).
- Lower recovery cost and time by better planning (e.g., optimizing routing, staging, and disposal logistics).
- Deliver in-place remediation that measurably reduces future risk.

Successful solutions will address at least one of the above.

The Pain Points in Current Solutions

1. **Limited Situational Awareness:** currently communities lack rapid, parcel-level predictions and/or observations on where debris is concentrated, what is hazardous, and what should be cleared first.
2. **Fragmented Responsibilities:** debris clearance, road repairs, stream work, and environmental remediation are often managed by different (typically government) entities, with limited coordination and dissimilar priorities.
3. **Permitting and Compliance Friction:** emergency work must still navigate environmental constraints (e.g., stream disturbance, sediment control, disposal), documentation and compliance detailing, and delaying action and increasing costs.
4. **Contractor Bottlenecks:** qualified crews and specialized equipment are scarce, especially for remote hollows and narrow valleys. Also, mobilization times can be long.
5. **Safety and Liability Challenges:** unstable slopes, swift water hazards, downed power lines, and contaminated debris increase risks to responders and volunteers.
6. **Disposal and Reuse Gaps:** limited local options for sorting, recycling, and beneficial reuse of woody debris and sediment leads to higher landfill costs and missed circular-economy opportunities.
7. **Weak Recovery-to-Resilience Feedback:** debris operations often restore to baseline rather than improving stream function, slope stability, and future flood conveyance.

Solutions Being Sought

RISE is seeking solutions to assist regional agencies and departments in providing quick, affordable clean-up after flooding events as well as remediation for protection from future events. Solutions may include:

- **Rapid assessment and prioritization** tools that map debris hotspots, blocked crossings, and high-risk slope/stream segments - optimized for rapid triage and work-order generation.
- **Debris operations optimization:** integrated workflows for routing, staging sites, contractor dispatch, chain-of-custody, and reporting (including debris type classification and hazardous material handling).
- **Nature-based and hybrid remediation approaches** that restore floodplains/riparian buffers, stabilize banks, and reduce future debris mobilization.
- **Slope stabilization and debris-flow risk reduction methods** that integrate post-event recovery with landslide mitigation.
- **End-to-end debris logistics innovations:** sorting, dewatering, treatment, and beneficial reuse pathways (e.g., mulching, timber salvage, biochar/biomass, sediment repurposing for restoration) with clear QA/QC and regulatory compliance.
- **Workforce and community delivery models** that safely scale capacity (credentialing, training, safety tech, micro-contracting platforms, volunteer management) and prioritize local job creation.
- **Financing and procurement approaches** that speed action and reward outcomes (e.g., performance-based contracts, pre-negotiated contracts, collaborative procurements, shared equipment pools).
- **Heat-safe recovery operations** that integrate worker protection and community cooling needs into cleanup scheduling, communications, and continuity planning.

Topic Area 2

Integrated Resilience Solutions to Facilitate Adoption & Enhance Synergies

The Resilience Recovery Problem(s)

Disruptive events are increasingly compound in nature: heavy rain triggers flooding and landslides; storms bring wind damage and prolonged power outages; extreme heat strains public health systems and critical infrastructure. Local leaders need cross-hazard situational awareness and coordinated pathways for action, not siloed responses.

Yet communities are often left with fragmented tools: warning systems, sensors, maps, guidance, insurance programs, and recovery resources that operate independently rather than as part of a cohesive operational ecosystem. Adoption fails when solutions add administrative burden, require specialized technical capacity, or fail during degraded communications or power outages, precisely when they are needed most.

The greatest value lies in the connections between systems: early warning that enables protective action, faster access to recovery financing, accelerated debris removal, and quicker reopening of businesses and services. Too often, these linkages are neither intentionally designed nor measured as a connected chain, limiting their collective impact when communities need them most.

The Pain Points in Current Solutions

1. **Interoperability Gaps:** siloed data across GIS, emergency operations, public works work-orders, utilities, and community reporting; limited APIs/standards and duplicative data entry.
2. **Connectivity Constraints:** rural geographies face spotty communications coverage; systems that require always-on connectivity or heavy bandwidth are brittle during disasters.
3. **No “Day-2” Operating Model:** pilots often lack sustainment plans (governance, data stewardship, staffing time, cybersecurity expectations, and O&M budgets).
4. **Weak Synergy Capture:** integration benefits are rarely measured with credible metrics tied to response speed, staff time saved, uptake rates, and persistence after pilots.
5. **Trust and Equitable Access Challenges:** residents may not trust alerts or cannot access them; adoption fails without accessible communications and community legitimacy.
6. **Security and Privacy Uncertainty:** small local governments need realistic cybersecurity and privacy practices that do not block adoption.

Solutions Being Sought

RISE is seeking solutions to assist regional and state agencies and departments in providing integrated platforms and data sources that make resilience forewarning, evacuation, and recovery streamlined, affordable, manageable, and sustainable.

Solutions may include:

- **Integration layers and connectors:** middleware/API connectors and shared data models that unify event detection (river stage/rainfall, heat indicators, wind impacts, landslide-prone triggers), asset status, work orders, and public communications.
- **Role-based operations dashboards:** single-pane-of-glass views tailored to EOC, public works, utilities, regional coordinators, and community-facing needs - designed for small-staff realities.
- **Offline/low-bandwidth capability:** degraded-mode operations (store-and-forward reporting, SMS-capable alerts, offline field forms) that remain functional during outages.
- **Adoption packages (not just technology):** training curricula, onboarding playbooks, governance templates, privacy-by-design practices, and costed sustainment plans that local partners can run.
- **Synergy demonstration pilots:** pilots that explicitly show cross-topic outcomes (faster protective actions, reduced downtime, faster debris clearance, improved continuity for clinics/schools/businesses).
- **Heat and health integration:** integrate cooling resources, vulnerable-population outreach, and heat safety protocols into emergency operations and public communications.

Topic Area 3

The Regional Resilience Value Case: Beyond Avoided Losses

The Resilience Recovery Problem(s)

Resilience is underfunded when its value is framed only as avoided losses, especially when events are intermittent and benefits accrue across multiple stakeholders (e.g., residents, businesses, insurers, local and state government). There is a need to frame and quantify how resilience investments create value beyond “avoiding future damage” and highlight what resilience investments can deliver: reduced losses when hazards strike, stronger economic activity from reduced background risk, and social/environmental co-benefits that accrue even in non-disaster years.

Riverine, particularly rural, communities need practical, regionally grounded methods to select, bundle, and finance multi-hazard projects while communicating value clearly to councils, funders, and residents. Without comparable, transparent approaches, projects are evaluated one-by-one, limiting the ability to build portfolios that improve ROI, equity, and implementation efficiency.

The Pain Points in Current Solutions

There are several difficulties regularly found in valuing resilience investments, including:

1. **Inconsistent valuation methods:** resilience investment valuation analyses vary in assumptions, and co-benefits (e.g., health, ecosystems, equity) are often omitted or treated qualitatively. Several documented approaches may be applicable in this topic, for example (but not limited to):
 - Benefit Cost Analysis
 - Triple Dividend of Climate Resilience
 - Triple Bottom Line
 - Total Cost of Risk/Ownership
 - Social Return on Investment

References for each of these methods are included at the end of this document.

2. **Split Incentives:** the entity that pays is not always the beneficiary (e.g., local government invests while households, businesses, or insurers gain).
3. **Tooling is Too Complex:** data needs and analytical burden exceed local capacity; outputs are not packaged in an investment-ready way.
4. **Portfolio “Blindness”:** communities lack methods to bundle projects across corridors, watersheds, or service areas to improve fundability and delivery.
5. **Communication Gap:** technical analysis does not translate into clear, credible narratives and visuals for public decision-making.

Solutions Being Sought

RISE is seeking solutions to develop the framework for investable opportunities in resilience for (but not limited to) private and institutional investors, governments, and philanthropies. Where possible, solutions should consider those benefits of the resilience investments during non-event “sunny day” periods. Solutions may include:

- **A resilience value toolkit:** practical templates and models to quantify and communicate the full value stack (avoided losses, reduced-risk economic benefits, and co-benefits) that integrate traditional and adjacent resilience threats with transparent assumptions and uncertainty ranges. Some documented approaches are listed above (e.g., Benefit Cost Analysis, Triple Dividend of Climate Resilience, etc.). Solutions may select one, combine several, or propose new approaches to fully and completely quantify the benefits of resilience protection investments.
- **Investment-grade business case packages:** fundable briefs that include costs, benefits by stakeholder, implementation pathway, O&M and adoption plan, and a realistic measurement strategy.
- **Portfolio design and prioritization:** methods to bundle projects across communities and corridors to reduce admin burden, strengthen equity outcomes, and build market demand for solution providers.
- **Evidence and metrics that small teams can calculate:** simple measurement plans (e.g., uptake, avoided downtime, clearance time, reduced repeat impacts, heat-health indicators) tied to clear targets.
- **Decision-maker communications assets:** slide-ready visuals and plain-language narratives that explain the triple dividend benefits for the Blue Ridge context and make tradeoffs explicit.
- **Financing and benefit-sharing options:** approaches to align incentives (public, philanthropic, and private) and to sustain solutions beyond pilot funding.

It is anticipated that some solutions to this topic may not be able to be fully completed, implemented, and validated within the allocated budget and timeline of the pilot project. Whereas it is preferable that projects complete this cycle within the allotted period, RISE will give credit to those submissions that may not be able to be completed but that define in as much detail as possible steps required to completion, expected outcomes and metrics to judge performance.

Applicants may look to past RISE Riverine Community Resilience Challenge solutions to evaluate the benefits of the pilot programs in the region for this topic. That would be an acceptable option and yield region-specific data, and demonstrate successful pathways to accomplish the goals.

References Specific to Topic 3

Benefit–Cost Analysis (BCA)

- **U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB)**, Circular A-94: Guidelines and Discount Rates for Benefit–Cost Analysis of Federal Programs
- **Boardman, A. et al.** (2018), Cost–Benefit Analysis: Concepts and Practice (5th ed.). Cambridge University Press.
- **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**, Benefit–Cost Analysis (BCA) Toolkit

Triple Dividend of Climate (or Disaster) Resilience

- **Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) / World Bank** (2015). Unlocking the “Triple Dividend” of Resilience.
- **Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance (2018)**. The Triple Dividend of Resilience: Realising Development Goals through the Multiple Benefits of Disaster Risk Management.
- **World Resources Institute (WRI)** – Heubaum, H. (2022), The Triple Dividend of Building Climate Resilience: Taking Stock, Moving Forward.
- **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** (2024), The Triple Dividends of Early Warning Systems.

Triple Bottom Line (People–Planet–Profit)

- **Elkington, J.** (1997), Cannibals with Forks: The Triple Bottom Line of 21st Century Business. (Summary at <https://propag.ufersa.edu.br/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2016/10/Referencia-de-Lilian-Giesta-Triple-bottom-line-in-21-century-2.pdf>)
- **Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)**, GRI Sustainability Reporting Standards
- **Harvard Business School**, Measuring the Triple Bottom Line (HBS Working Knowledge)

Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) / Total Cost of Risk (TCOR)

- **ISO 15686-5**, Buildings and Constructed Assets — Life-Cycle Costing
- **U.S. General Services Administration (GSA)**, Life-Cycle Cost Analysis (LCCA) Handbook
- **Risk and Insurance Management Society (RIMS)**, Total Cost of Risk (TCOR) Framework
- **McKinsey & Company**, Climate risk and response: Physical hazards and socioeconomic impacts

Social Return on Investment

- **Social Value International**, A Guide to Social Return on Investment
- **NEF (New Economics Foundation)** (2009), A Guide to Social Return on Investment.
- **OECD**, Social Impact Measurement for Social Enterprises

Other References

- Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). (2015). Unlocking the 'Triple Dividend' of Resilience. World Bank. https://www.gfdrr.org/sites/default/files/publication/unlocking_triple_dividend_resilience.pdf
- Tanner, T., Surminski, S., Wilkinson, E., Reid, R., Rentschler, J., & Rajput, S. (2015/2018). The Triple Dividend of Resilience: Realising development goals through the multiple benefits of disaster risk management. GFDRR/World Bank and ODI. <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/993161515193991394/pdf/P151463-01-05-2018-1515193988640.pdf>
- Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance. (2018). The Triple Dividend of Resilience: Realising development goals through the multiple benefits of disaster risk management. <https://zcralliance.org/resources/item/the-triple-dividend-of-resilience-realising-development-goals-through-the-multiple-benefits-of-disaster-risk-management/>
- Heubaum, H. (2022). The Triple Dividend of Building Climate Resilience: Taking Stock, Moving Forward. World Resources Institute. <https://www.wri.org/research/triple-dividend-building-climate-resilience-taking-stock-moving-forward>
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO). (2024, November 5). The Triple Dividends of Early Warning Systems and Climate Services. <https://wmo.int/media/magazine-article/triple-dividends-of-early-warning-systems-and-climate-services>
- U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP). (2023). Fifth National Climate Assessment (NCA5), Chapter 22: Southeast. https://www.southernclimate.org/wp-content/uploads/NCA5_Ch22_Southeast.pdf
- NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). (2025). U.S. Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters: Virginia Summary (1980-2024). <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/billions/state-summary/VA>
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). (n.d.). What is a debris flow? <https://www.usgs.gov/faqs/what-a-debris-flow>
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). (2025). Extreme Heat. <https://www.epa.gov/climatechange-science/extreme-heat>



This program is made possible through support from Virginia's Department of Housing and Community Development.

Appendix 1: Contract Template

Award Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT ("Award Agreement") is entered this _____ of _____, 2026 ("Effective Date") by and between COASTAL COMMUNITY RESILIENCE, INC., d.b.a. RISE (the "Awarder" or "RISE") and _____ (the "Awardee").

I. RECITALS

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded National Disaster Resiliency funds to create a Coastal Resiliency Lab and Accelerator Center, d.b.a. RISE through a grant to the Commonwealth of Virginia administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for the operation of RISE; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia has pledged support for the creation and operation of RISE by contributing matching state funds administered by DHCD to support resilient activities of RISE; and

WHEREAS, RISE acting by and through the Commonwealth, has made this award pursuant to the Commonwealth funded Blue Ridge Region Challenge & Resilience Innovation Fund Program (the "Program") to assist small businesses and non-profit entities (referred to in this Agreement as "Awardee"); and

WHEREAS, the Awardee has applied to participate in the Program and represents that Awardee is eligible to receive Commonwealth of Virginia matching funds and has previously submitted an application for funding under the Program (the "Application"); and

WHEREAS, RISE has reviewed and approved the Application and has agreed to make an award (as defined below) to the Awardee, pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth herein,

WHEREAS, RISE has selected the Awardee, _____, to enter into this Award Agreement to carry out a part of the RISE's subaward by committing an amount not to exceed. _____ Dollars (\$) of RISE's Commonwealth's subaward, based upon availability of Program funding and Awardee's performance of tasks under each Phase, as described on Exhibit A, under this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth's funds made available for use by Awardee under this Award Agreement constitute a subaward of RISE's subaward, the use of which must be in accordance with requirements imposed by Commonwealth's and Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the RISE's subaward; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises and mutual covenants described herein, the parties mutually agree to the terms described in this Award Agreement.

Contact information:

Awarder: COASTAL COMMUNITY RESILIENCE, INC., d.b.a. RISE

Name of awarding official: Paul Robinson

Title: Executive Director

Awarder Name: Coastal Community Resilience Inc.

Address: 400 Granby Street, Suite 200, Norfolk, VA 23510

Telephone: 757-418-3516

Awardee: _____

Name of primary contact: _____

Title: _____

Awardee Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

II. AWARD

A. Definitions

a. **"Award"** means funds made available to Awardee pursuant to the Commonwealth funded Coastal Community Resilience Challenge & Resilience Innovation Fund Program. Funds may be disbursed to Awardee under an Award as either a Grant or a Revenue-Based Loan payment.

b. **"Revenue-Based Loan"** means Award funds provided to Awardee after incurring a reimbursable expenditure under the Program. Revenue-Based Loans must be repaid to RISE out of gross revenues from sales of products or services developed with the assistance of Commonwealth funds. The "Terms of Repayment" are detailed in Exhibit D.

c. **"Grant"** means Award funds provided to Awardee after incurring a reimbursable expenditure under the Program. Grants paid to Awardees do not have to be repaid.

B. RISE will provide an Award of Commonwealth funds ("Commonwealth Award") to Awardee in connection with _____ Company name _____ at a location in the Commonwealth of Virginia's Northwest and Southwest Regions, ("Program Business Premises").

C. Awardee is a business incorporated in _____ and maintains its main office at _____ ("Principal Place of Business"). RISE has agreed to provide an Award to the Awardee not to exceed the amount of \$ _____ subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

D. Awards will be made in two different forms: (i) Revenue-Based Loans; or (ii) Grants. The allocation of the Award between Revenue-Based Loans and Grants is specifically identified in Exhibit D.

E. The Awardee will be responsible for ensuring the performance of the activities detailed in Exhibit A and incorporated herein ("Statement of Work"). For tasks and deliverables contained in the Statement of Work, they must be conducted in a manner satisfactory to RISE and in compliance with applicable federal and state requirements, laws and regulations. RISE may amend the Statement of Work depending upon the completion of each Task and how such performance changes the metrics for the success of the Project. Such amendments shall be signed by both RISE and Awardee.

F. RISE will monitor the performance of the Awardee against goals and performance standards as stated in the Statement of Work. The Awardee must perform (and document to RISE) the entire Statement of Work, even if the funds provided hereunder do not cover 100% of the costs of performance. Substandard performance as reasonably determined by RISE, in its sole discretion, will constitute noncompliance with this Agreement. If action to correct such substandard performance is not taken by the Awardee within a reasonable period of time (as determined by RISE) after being notified by RISE, RISE may: (i) choose not to make a payment to the Awardee for noncompliant and/or unallowable work;

(ii) require Awardee to reimburse any payment made by RISE to Awardee for noncompliant and/or unallowable work; and/or (iii) take action to suspend or terminate this Agreement or other actions as permitted under applicable law. Nothing in this Agreement shall waive or otherwise limit the actions RISE may take or the remedies RISE may seek as a result of any noncompliance by Awardee, including but not limited to suspending or debarring the Awardee from future State benefits.

G. Awardee shall not, and shall not be obligated to, commence performance until RISE issues a notice to proceed ("NTP") authorizing the same pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Upon Awardee's receipt from RISE of the NTP, Awardee shall promptly commence with the performance of the work, detailed in Exhibit A.

III. AWARDEE'S REPRESENTATIONS, WARRANTIES, COVENANTS AND/OR AGREEMENTS

The Awardee represents, warrants, covenants, and/or agrees that as of the Effective Date or such other date as set forth below herein:

- A.** All information provided is true, correct, and complete in all material respects and accurately represents the financial condition of the applicant, as of the date submitted.
- B.** There has been no material adverse change in the financial condition, assets or business prospects of the Awardee or any change in the ownership or management of the Awardee, since the date on which Awardee submitted the Application, except to the extent disclosed to the Awarder, in writing, prior to the date hereof.
- C.** The Awardee has good and marketable title to all assets reflected in the Awardee's financial statements and Awardee's assets are not subject to any liens or encumbrances, except as already disclosed.
- D.** All licenses, permits, and /or other approvals necessary to operate the Awardee's business are in full force and effect and will continue to be so.
- E.** The Awardee will maintain all types and amounts of insurance as are typical and customary in the same or any type of similar business. If required to provide security to assure compliance of the project, Awardee will be required to furnish Performance and Payment Bonds, or other security approved in advance by RISE.
- F.** The Awardee has the corporate authority to apply for and receive the Award. If required, a resolution, motion or similar action has been duly adopted or passed as an official act of the Awardee's governing body, authorizing Awardee's filing of the Application, and directing and authorizing the person or persons identified as the official representative of the Awardee, to act in connection with the Application or execution of this agreement, as well as the receipt of the Award.
- G.** There is no currently pending or, to Awardee's knowledge, threatened litigation, arbitration or other proceeding involving Awardee before any court, commission or other administrative authority.
- H.** The Awardee agrees to, and will comply with, all the laws and regulations outlined in Exhibit B, Terms and Conditions.
- I.** The Awardee shall notify RISE of the receipt of funding from sources outside of the Program ("Additional Funding"), if such Additional Funding is used, or is designated to be used for payment or reimbursement of expenses (i) that could be considered to be for the same purposes as the Commonwealth funding, (ii) are a duplication of Program benefits, or (iii) are otherwise itemized in the Statement of Work (collectively the "Program Expenses"). Awardee shall return to RISE any Additional Funding used to pay Program Expenses.

J. The Awardee shall provide a right of entry for inspections to RISE, and RISE shall have the right of access and to enter in and onto the Awardees' Program Business Premises for the purpose of performing property, environmental and historic preservation review inspections, making assessments, testing (including taking sample materials for any specialized testing) and any inspection-related Program activities.

K. The Awardee has filed all tax returns and reports required by any government agency (including, but not limited to, any real property tax, income tax, sales tax, and/or corporate franchise tax returns) and has paid or provided for the payment of all taxes and assessments now due and has no knowledge of any claims for taxes which might become a lien on the assets of the Awardee, other than taxes not yet payable.

L. In connection with the Awardee's Project Business Premises, at all times

- a. The Awardee is in compliance and will remain in compliance with all federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations;
- b. Except as disclosed in connection with any environmental investigation of the Awardee's premises undertaken in connection with the Award, the Awardee has no knowledge of any environmental contamination or other environmental hazard at, or affecting, the Awardee's Project Business Premises;
- c. Awardee will notify RISE, in writing and within three business days of Awardee becoming aware, of any investigation or enforcement action by any governmental agency, in connection with any actual or suspected environmental contamination, at, adjacent to or emanating from the Awardee's premises.

M. The Awardee hereby agrees that if the project does not proceed within a reasonable timeframe, the Commonwealth and RISE reserve the right to withdraw any funds RISE has not obligated under the award.

N. The Awardee hereby agrees to use the Award only in accordance with the Statement of Work attached hereto as Exhibit A. Any failure to use the Award funds for the described authorized uses shall be considered a non-compliance under this Agreement. Any disallowed costs will not be reimbursed. Any payment used for disallowed costs will be reimbursed to RISE by Awardee.

O. At any time, the Awardee shall furnish any documentation reasonably requested by RISE, to substantiate the eligibility of costs incurred by the Awardee in performance of this Agreement and in accordance with the attached Budget.

P. The Awardee will furnish proof of payment on incurred costs to RISE prior to disbursement of the Award funds intended to reimburse such incurred costs. Proof of payment requires the submission of invoices and canceled checks, credit or cash payment receipts, or any other documentation that RISE may reasonably request to substantiate asserted costs.

Q. The Awardee hereby authorizes RISE or the Commonwealth or any instrumentality of the Commonwealth, to publish details of the awards. Such information may include, without limitation: the name of the Awardee (individual or company); Awardee's Project Business Premises' address; the Award Amount; the use of Award proceeds, and/or any achievements delivered.

R. The Awardee shall notify RISE, in writing, within three business days of receiving notice or becoming aware of the occurrence of any default or Event of Default listed in Section XI of this Agreement, or in the occurrence of any event or any material change in circumstances that would make any Awardee representations untrue or incorrect or otherwise impair Awardee's ability to fulfill Awardee's obligations under this Agreement or under any other Program documents.

S. Awardee shall grant to RISE a security interest in any assets or equipment purchased by Awardee with funds advanced or reimbursed from an Award. Awardee authorizes RISE to perfect that security interest by filing UCC financing statements in the appropriate jurisdiction. The security interest shall terminate upon the occurrence of the later of: (i) Awardee's successful achievement of the deliverables as agreed on Exhibit A; or (ii) repayment of the Revenue-Based Loan according to the terms in Exhibit D.

IV. APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS

The Awardee shall comply with all applicable requirements of federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including all applicable requirements of law concerning civil rights, non- discrimination in employment and with respect to individuals with disabilities, equal opportunity and affirmative action programs, labor standards and any other requirement of law applicable to the Awardee in connection with this agreement or otherwise.

A. Awardee acknowledges that funds provided through this Award Agreement are Commonwealth of Virginia funds administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development ("DHCD") under the Commonwealth matching funds to the Federal CDBG-NDR Award and that all funds provided by this Award Agreement are subject to audit, disallowance, and repayment. If DHCD finds any Award, whether Grant reimbursement or Revenue-Based Loan payment, to be ineligible, unallowable, unreasonable, a duplication of benefits, or non- compensable, no matter the cause, Awardee shall promptly return any and all funds to RISE. This clause shall survive indefinitely the termination of this Award Agreement for any reason by either Party.

B. The Awardee also agrees to comply with all other applicable Federal, State and local laws, regulations, policies and guidelines, whether existing or to be established, provided the same are applied to activities occurring after the date the policy or guideline was established, governing the funds provided under this Award Agreement. In the event a conflict arises between the provisions of this Award Agreement and any of the foregoing, the Federal, State and local laws, regulations, policies and guidelines shall control and this Award Agreement shall be interpreted in a manner so as to allow for the terms contained herein to remain valid and consistent with such Federal, State and local laws, regulations, policies and guidelines. The Awardee further agrees to utilize funds available under this Award Agreement to supplement rather than supplant funds otherwise available.

V. PROGRAM REPORTING

The Awardee shall submit such reports as required by RISE to meet its local obligations and its obligations to the Commonwealth. RISE will prescribe the report format, as well as the time and location for submission of such reports. Required reports include, but are not limited to the following:

- A.** Monthly reports which shall include the progress made to date, or justification for lack of progress, in providing the services specified in Exhibit A.

VI. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

A. General Statement

RISE shall reimburse the Awardee its allowable costs for the services identified in this Agreement not to exceed \$ _____ upon presentation of properly executed Grant or Revenue-Based Loan requests and supporting documents as provided by and approved by RISE.

Such Grant or Revenue-Based Loan shall constitute full and complete payment by RISE under this Agreement. Allowable costs shall mean those necessary and proper costs identified in the Awardee's Statement of Work and Budget/Source and Uses of Funds and approved by RISE unless any or all such costs are disallowed by the Commonwealth.

Any Grant or Revenue-Based Loan made under this Agreement must comply with the applicable requirements of 2 CFR part 200. The Awardee may not request disbursement of funds under this Agreement until the funds are needed for payment of allowable costs.

Notwithstanding anything in this Award Agreement to the contrary, if and when Awardee presents an order for equipment to be purchased pursuant to the Budget/Source and Uses of Funds, RISE may, at its sole discretion, elect to pay the allowable invoice amount directly to the vendor.

B. Payments

Requests for Grant or Revenue-Based Loan payments must be e-mailed to RISE at billing@riseresilience.org.

Payments shall be made upon RISE receiving reimbursed funds from DHCD allowing approximately 20 business days for receipt of funds.

Payments shall be made to:

Address:

Payments may be contingent upon certification that the Awardee has implemented a financial management and accounting system sufficient to track and manage all aspects of the Program.

Drawdowns for the payment of allowable costs shall be made against the line item budgets specified in Exhibit A, herein and in accordance with performance.

In addition, RISE may require a more detailed budget breakdown than the one contained herein, and the Awardee shall provide such supplementary budget information in a timely fashion in the form and content prescribed by RISE. Any amendments to the budget must be approved in writing by both RISE and the Awardee and included as contract amendments.

C. Closeout

Upon termination of this Award Agreement, in whole or in part for any reason including completion of the project, the following provisions may apply:

- A.** If Awardee has met the deliverables stated in Exhibit A, then upon written request by the Awardee, RISE shall make or arrange for payments to the Awardee of allowable reimbursable costs not covered by previous payments;
- B.** Disposition of program assets: Awardee shall return all unused materials, equipment, unspent cash advances, and accounts receivable to RISE;
- C.** The Awardee shall submit within thirty (30) calendar days after the date of expiration of this Award Agreement, all financial, performance and other reports required by this Award Agreement, and in addition, will cooperate in a program audit by RISE or its designee; and
- D.** Closeout of funds will not occur unless all requirements are met and all outstanding issues with the Awardee have been resolved to the satisfaction of RISE. RISE and Awardee shall enter into a closeout agreement.
- E.** All program expenses must be paid upon closeout of this Award Agreement. RISE retains the sole discretion to reimburse any eligible program expenses after closeout. In no event will program expenses be reimbursed if the budget limit has already been paid to the Awardee. The Awardee's obligation to RISE shall not end until all closeout requirements are completed.

VII. DOCUMENTATION OF COSTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL REPORTING

All costs shall be supported by properly executed payrolls, time records, invoices, vouchers or other official documentation, as evidence of the nature and propriety of the charges. All accounting documents pertaining in whole or in part to this Agreement shall be clearly identified and readily accessible, and upon reasonable notice, RISE and DHCD shall have the right to audit the records of the Awardee as they relate to the Agreement and the activities and services described herein.

The Awardee shall also:

- A.** Maintain an effective system of internal fiscal control and accountability for all Commonwealth funds and property acquired or improved with Commonwealth funds, and make sure the same are used solely for authorized purposes.
- B.** Keep a continuing record of all disbursements by date, check number, amount, vendor, description of items purchased and line item from which the money was expended, as reflected in the Awardee's accounting records.
- C.** Maintain payroll, financial, and expense reimbursement records for a period of five (5) years after receipt of final payment under this Agreement.
- D.** Permit inspection and audit of its records with respect to all matters authorized by this Agreement by representatives of RISE or DHCD at any time during normal business hours and as often as necessary.
- E.** Inform RISE concerning any funds allocated to the Awardee, that the Awardee anticipates will not be expended during the term of this Agreement, and permit the reassignment of the same by RISE to other Awardees.
- F.** Repay RISE any funds in its possession at the time of the termination of this Agreement that may be due to RISE or DHCD.
- G.** Maintain complete records concerning the receipt and use of all program income. Program income shall be reported on a monthly basis on forms provided by RISE.

VIII. REPAYMENT OF FUNDS

In the event that RISE or DHCD determines that any funds were expended by the Awardee for unauthorized or ineligible purposes or the expenditures constitute disallowed costs in any other way, RISE or DHCD may order repayment of the same. The Awardee shall remit the disallowed amount to RISE within thirty (30) business days of written notice of the disallowance.

- A.** The Awardee agrees that funds determined by RISE to be surplus upon completion of the Agreement will be subject to cancellation by RISE.
- B.** The Awardee agrees that upon expiration of this Agreement, the Awardee shall transfer to RISE any Commonwealth funds on hand at the time of the expiration and any accounts receivable attributable to the use of Commonwealth funds.
- C.** RISE shall be relieved of any obligation for payments if funds allocated to RISE cease to be available for any cause other than misfeasance of RISE itself.
- D.** RISE reserves the right to withhold payments pending timely delivery of program reports or documents as may be required under this agreement.

IX. INDEMNIFICATION

Awardee agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State, RISE, RISE's Awardees and/or subcontractors of every tier and each of their respective officers, directors, agents, designated representatives, employees and affiliates (collectively the "Indemnified Parties") from any and all claims, losses, damages or liability (including attorney's fees) arising out of, or in any way related to, the Commonwealth Award, or any other act or failure to act under this Agreement, any receipt of or eligibility for any duplicate benefits, and/or all other documents executed in furtherance of the Commonwealth Award and/or this Agreement. If Awardee attempts to take legal action against the Indemnified Parties, the Indemnified Parties will have the right to recover from Awardee owner attorney fees and other expenses incurred in connection with such action in the event of an adverse determination or judgment against Awardee.

X. NO OBLIGATION

The exercise by RISE of, or failure to so exercise any authority it possesses under this Award Agreement shall, in no manner, affect obligations, covenants or liability of, the Awardee to RISE hereunder or under any other Program related document issued or entered into by and between DHCD and RISE (a "Grant Document"). In addition, RISE shall be under no obligation or duty to exercise any of the powers hereby conferred upon it and it shall be without liability for any act or failure to act in connection with the collection of, or the preservation of the assets of Awardee. Furthermore, RISE shall have all the rights and remedies of a secured party under the Uniform Commercial Code (whether or not the Code is in effect in the jurisdiction where rights and remedies are assured).

No waiver by RISE of any default shall operate as a waiver of any other default or the same default on a future occasion. Awardee hereby waives promptness by RISE in making any demand upon it, and agrees that no delay by RISE in exercising any of its rights hereunder shall be deemed to constitute a waiver thereof. The powers and remedies given hereby shall not be exclusive of any other powers or remedies available to RISE. No course of dealings between RISE and the Awardee, and no delay on the part of RISE in exercising any rights with respect to any default shall operate as a waiver of any rights of RISE.

XI. EVENTS OF DEFAULT

Any one of the following shall constitute a default under this Agreement and, if not cured during the applicable grace period, if any, shall constitute an "Event of Default":

Awardee's breach of any covenant, agreement or obligation set forth in this or any other Grant Document, which is not cured within fifteen (15) business days after the date listed on RISE's written demand.

If at any time RISE becomes aware that any one or more of Awardee's representations or warranties in this or any other Grant Document or certificate provided in connection with the Grant, including without limitation, Awardee's Application, is false, fraudulent or materially incomplete.

The Awardee's failure to comply with the nondiscrimination clauses, or with any of the foregoing rules, regulations, representations warranties, covenants or requests of this Agreement.

The Awardee fails to meet the agreed upon deliverables stated in Exhibit A.

The occurrence of any default or "event of default" under any other Grant Document.

XII. SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION

This Agreement may be suspended or terminated in whole or in part as follows:

- A. By fulfillment.** The Agreement will be considered to be terminated upon fulfillment of its terms and conditions;
- B. By mutual consent.** The Agreement may be terminated or suspended, in whole or in part, at any time, if both parties consent to such termination or suspension. The conditions of the suspension or termination shall be documented in a written amendment to this Agreement;
- C. For cause.** RISE may suspend or terminate this Agreement if the Awardee materially fails to comply with any terms of this Agreement, which include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - a. Failure to comply with any of the rules, regulations or provisions referred to herein, or such statutes, regulations, executive orders, guidelines, policies or directives as may become applicable at any time;
 - b. Failure, for any reason except those beyond Awardee's control, of the Awardee to fulfill in a timely and proper manner its obligations under this Agreement;
 - c. Ineffective or improper use of funds provided under this Agreement;
 - d. Submission by the Awardee to RISE of reports that are untimely, incorrect or incomplete in any material respect; or
 - e. Any other Event of Default as set forth in Section XI above.
- D. For convenience.** This Agreement may also be terminated for convenience by either RISE or the Awardee, in whole or in part, by setting forth the reasons for such termination, the Effective Date, and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated. However, if in the case of a partial termination RISE determines that the remaining portion of the award will not accomplish the purpose for which the award was made, RISE may terminate the award in its entirety.

E. Non-Compliance. Enforcement for noncompliance may include, but is not limited to, the following remedies if Awardee materially fails to comply with any term of this Agreement, whether stated in a federal statute or regulation, an assurance in a State plan or application, a notice of award, or elsewhere:

- a. Temporarily withhold cash payments pending correction of the deficiency by the Awardee.
- b. Disallow (that is, deny use of funds for) all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance.
- c. Wholly or partly suspend or terminate the current award for the Awardee's program.
- d. Exercise any other remedies or any other rights that may be legally available to RISE, including termination of this Agreement.

XIII. REMEDIES

Upon the occurrence and during the continuation of any Event of Default, RISE shall have the right, to demand the return of all or any portion of the Award made to Awardee, and/or to exercise or pursue any one or more of the rights, privileges and/or remedies available to RISE under this Agreement, any other Grant Document or at law or in equity.

Any such action or actions taken by RISE is intended to be cumulative and not exclusive, and may be pursued at such time and in such order as RISE may determine in its sole discretion, without impairing or otherwise affecting any other rights, privileges and/or remedies whether available under this or any other Grant Document, or permitted at law or in equity.

XIV. SURVIVAL OF REPRESENTATIONS, WARRANTIES, COVENANTS, AND AGREEMENTS

All representations and warranties, covenants and agreements in this Agreement or any certificate or document delivered in connection with this Agreement or pursuant hereto shall survive the making of the Award provided for herein for a period ending on _____. The parties acknowledge that DCHD may exercise right pursuant to relevant law which may extend beyond _____. Any partial invalidity of the provisions hereof shall not invalidate the remaining portions hereof.

XV. COSTS INCURRED PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS AGREEMENT

Costs incurred prior to the Effective Date of this Agreement or after the expiration of this Agreement will not be reimbursed by RISE, unless approved by RISE and subject to this Agreement being signed by all parties.

XVI. NOTICES AND DEMANDS

Any notices, requests, consents or demands required by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to be effective as of the date it is sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by commercial courier.

All notices and other written communications under this Agreement shall be addressed to the individuals in the capacities indicated below, unless otherwise modified by subsequent written notice.

Awarder: RISE
400 Granby St., Suite 200,
Norfolk, VA 23510

Awardee: _____
Address: _____

XVII. REQUIRED PROVISIONS OF LAW

It is the intention and understanding of the parties hereto that each and every provision of law required to be inserted in this Agreement should be and is inserted herein. Furthermore, it is hereby stipulated that every such provision is deemed to be inserted and if, through mistake or otherwise, any such provision is not inserted herein, or is not inserted in correct form, then this Agreement shall forthwith, upon the application of either party, be amended by such insertion so as to comply strictly with the law and without prejudice to the rights of either party.

XVIII. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid, the remainder of the Agreement shall not be affected thereby and all other parts of this Agreement shall nevertheless be in full force and effect.

XIX. MISCELLANEOUS

This Agreement shall bind and inure to the benefit of the parties, their respective legal representatives, successors and assigns. If any part of this Agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall nevertheless be binding. The headings of this Agreement are inserted only for purpose of convenient reference, and shall not be used in interpreting this Agreement. In construing this Agreement, feminine pronouns shall be substituted for those masculine in form (and vice versa), and plural terms shall be substituted for singular and singular for plural where the context so requires.

This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be considered a legal original for all purposes. Any counterparts signed by both parties may be introduced into evidence in any action or proceeding without having to produce or account for the others. Likewise, this Agreement may be introduced into evidence by production of separate counterparts which collectively contain signatures of all parties and which are otherwise identical in all material respects.

One or more parties may transmit his signature on this Agreement via telecopy, facsimile or other form of electronic transmission, and that such signature shall be binding and have the same effect as a manual signature upon the original.

This agreement is to be construed according to the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Venue and jurisdiction over any and all actions or proceedings arising from this agreement or the funds awarded hereunder shall be proper and exclusively exist in the state and federal courts in Norfolk, Virginia.

XX. CORRECTIVE DOCUMENTS

The Awardee shall, within seven (7) business days of a written request by RISE, execute any document(s) that RISE, in its sole discretion, determines should have been executed at or before the funding of this Award. Amendments to the provisions of the Agreement are required to be in writing and shall be executed by the authorized representatives of both parties.

XXI. VIOLATIONS OF STATE FINANCE LAW

The Awardee, including each and every principal of awardee, acknowledges and understands that the Virginia Fraud Against Taxpayers Act, Code of Virginia Section 8.01- 216 et seq., (1) makes it a violation of state law to knowingly present or cause to be presented to any employee, officer or agent of the Commonwealth of Virginia (including any division or public benefit corporation) (a) a false or fraudulent claim for payment or approval; or (b) to use or cause to be made or use a false record or statement to get a false or fraudulent claim paid or approved by the Commonwealth of Virginia. Persons who violate this section may be liable for a civil penalty of not less than \$10,957 and not more than \$21,916, plus three times the amount of all damages, including consequential damages, sustained because of their action as well as costs incurred to recover any such penalties or damages.

XXII. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement, including all Amendments and Addenda together with the Grant Documents, constitutes the entire agreement between RISE and Awardee with respect to this Award and supersedes all other prior or contemporaneous communications and proposals, whether electronic, oral, or written between RISE (or its agents) and Awardee with respect to this Agreement. In the event of a conflict between this Agreement and any of the Grant Documents, this Agreement shall control.

XXIII. ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE

In the event that RISE and/ or the Awardee shall execute this Agreement by the use of an electronic signature, such electronic signature shall create a valid and binding obligation by such Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this AWARD AGREEMENT to be executed and made effective as of the day and year first above written.

AWARDER

COASTAL COMMUNITY LLC RESILIENCE, INC. DBA "RISE"

Paul A. Robinson, Ph.D.

Executive Director, RISE

AWARDEE

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

EXHIBIT A: STATEMENT OF WORK AND BUDGET

Statement of Work and Budget custom per contract

EXHIBIT B: TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Effective Date and Commencement of Work

This Agreement is effective upon approval by RISE.

A. Awardee cannot incur any costs until the effective date of this Agreement, unless prior written approval has been given by RISE.

B. An Awardee cannot be reimbursed for any project costs until RISE has issued written clearance of all general conditions and any special conditions required.

2. Sufficiency of Funds

A. This Agreement is valid and enforceable only if sufficient funds are available to RISE by the Commonwealth of Virginia, through DHCD, for the purposes of the Program. In the event there is a withdrawal of, or any limitation on, RISE's expenditure authority or any funding of the Program, RISE may elect to terminate this Agreement, in whole or in part, in its sole discretion and upon ten (10) business days written notice to Awardee. In addition, this Agreement is subject to any additional restrictions, limitations, conditions or statute enacted by the State Legislature, promulgated in State or federal regulations or any State or federal statute, as now in effect and as may be amended from time to time which may affect the provisions, terms, or funding of this Agreement in any manner.

3. Litigation

A. If any provision of this Agreement, or an underlying obligation, is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity, at the sole discretion of RISE, shall not affect any other provisions of this Agreement and the remainder of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. Therefore, the provisions of this Agreement are, and shall be, deemed severable.

B. Awardee shall notify RISE immediately of any claim or action undertaken by or against it which affects or may affect this Agreement or RISE and shall take such action with respect to the claim or action as is consistent with the terms of this Agreement and the interests of RISE.

C. In the event that any legal or administrative claim or action (“Claim”) is taken, filed, or asserted by or against any party to this Agreement, or any contractor or subcontractor thereof, or with respect to the Project, RISE may, in its sole and absolute discretion, and in addition to any other rights or remedies it may have hereunder, elect to either suspend or terminate this Agreement, in whole or in part, or to proceed forward under this Agreement. RISE shall have a period of ninety (90) business days from its receipt of notice of a Claim to notify Awardee in writing of its decision to either suspend, terminate, or proceed forward. In the event RISE elects to terminate this Agreement, Awardee shall promptly submit its final Funds Request, together with those of its contractors and subcontractors, to RISE for processing, and upon payment thereof, the parties shall have no further rights or obligations under this Agreement, except for those rights and obligations which are expressly stated as surviving such a termination. Awardee shall ensure that all contracts or agreements with its contractors or subcontractors shall contain a provision similar to this paragraph.

4. Equal Opportunity Requirements and Responsibilities

Awardee and its contractors and subrecipients shall comply with all of the following Federal laws, and their Virginia state equivalents:

A. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964: This act provides that no person shall be excluded from participation, denied program benefits, or subject to discrimination based on race, color, and/or national origin under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

B. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (The Fair Housing Act): This act prohibits discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex and/or national origin. This law also requires actions which affirmatively promote fair housing. Awardee will meet all civil rights related requirements pursuant to 24 CFR 570.503(b)(5).

C. Restoration Act of 1987: This act restores the broad scope of coverage and clarifies the application of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. It also specifies that an institution which receives federal financial assistance is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability or age in a program or activity which does not directly benefit from such assistance.

D. Section 109 of Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 [42 U.S.C. 5309]: This section of Title 1 provides that no person shall be excluded from participation (including employment), denied program benefits, or subject to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex under any program or activity funded in whole or in part under Title 1 of the Act.

E. The Fair Housing Amendment Act of 1988: This act amended the original Fair Housing Act to provide for the protection of families with children and people with disabilities, strengthen punishment for acts of housing discrimination, expand the Justice Department jurisdiction to bring suit on behalf of victims in federal district courts, and create an exemption to the provisions barring discrimination on the basis of familial status for those housing developments that qualify as housing for persons age 55 or older.

F. The Housing for Older Persons Act of 1995 (HOPA): Retained the requirement that the housing facilities must have one person who is 55 years of age or older living in at least 80% of its occupied units. The act also retained the requirement that housing facilities publish and follow policies and procedures that demonstrate intent to be housing for persons 55 or older.

G. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975: This act provides that no person shall be excluded from participation, denied program benefits, or subject to discrimination on the basis of age under any program or activity receiving federal funding assistance.

H. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973: It is unlawful to discriminate based on disability in federally assisted programs. This Section provides that no otherwise qualified individual shall, solely by reason of his or her disability, be excluded from participation (including employment), denied program benefits, or subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal funding assistance. Section 504 also contains design and construction accessibility provisions for multi-family dwellings developed or substantially rehabilitated for first occupancy on or after March 13, 1991.

I. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA): This act modifies and expands the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to prohibit discrimination against “a qualified individual with a disability” in employment and public accommodations. The ADA requires that an individual with a physical or mental impairment who is otherwise qualified to perform the essential functions of a job, with or without reasonable accommodation, be afforded equal employment opportunity in all phases of employment.

J. Equal Employment Opportunity Act: This act empowers the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to bring civil action in federal court against private sector employers after the EEOC has investigated the charge, found “probable cause” of discrimination, and failed to obtain a conciliation agreement acceptable to the EEOC. It also brings federal, state, and local governments under the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

K. Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) of 1986: Under IRCA, employers may hire only persons who may legally work in the U.S., i.e., citizens and nationals of the U.S. and aliens authorized to work in the U.S. The employer must verify the identity and employment eligibility of anyone to be hired, which includes completing the Employment Eligibility Verification Form (I-9).

L. Uniform Guidelines on Employee Selection Procedures adopted by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in 1978: This manual applies to employee selection procedures in the areas of hiring, retention, promotion, transfer, demotion, dismissal and referral. It is designed to assist employers, labor organizations, employment agencies, licensing and certification boards in complying with the requirements of federal laws prohibiting discriminatory employment.

M. Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974 (revised Jobs for Veterans Act of 2002): This act was passed to ensure equal employment opportunity for qualified disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam War. Affirmative action is required in the hiring and promotion of veterans.

5. Environmental Compliance

If applicable, the Awardee shall assist RISE, RISE's technical assistance consultant, and any environmental compliance consultant/engineer, should one be procured, so that National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements and Virginia Environmental Impact Report Procedure (VAEIR) requirements are met. Under federal regulations, the Awardee cannot act as lead agency for NEPA, as DHCD is required to be lead agency for the CDBG-NDR funds. Awardee shall not assume the role of lead agency for any VAEIR review process. DHCD or one of its designees shall assume the lead agency role for VAEIR.

6. Clean Air and Water Acts

This Agreement is subject to the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 1857 et seq., the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq., and the regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency with respect thereto, at 40 CFR, Part 15, as amended from time to time.

7. Federal Labor Standards Provisions

Awardee and its contractors and subrecipients shall comply with all of the following:

- A. "Anti-Kickback Act of 1986" (41 U.S.C. 51-58)** The act prohibits attempted as well as completed "kickbacks," which include any money, fees, commission, credit, gift, gratuity, thing of value, or compensation of any kind. The act also provides that the inclusion of kickback amounts in contract prices is prohibited conduct in itself. This act requires that the purpose of the kickback was for improperly obtaining or rewarding favorable treatment. It is intended to embrace the full range of government contracting.
- B. Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act - CWHSSA (40 U.S.C. 3702)** requires that workers receive "overtime" compensation at a rate of one and one- half (1-1/2) times their regular hourly wage after they have worked forty (40) hours in one week.

8. Lead Based Paint Hazards

Activity(ies) performed with assistance provided under this Agreement are subject to lead-based paint hazard regulations contained in CFR, Part 35 (Lead Disclosure). Any grants or loans made by the Awardee with assistance provided under this Agreement shall be made subject to the provisions for the elimination or mitigation of lead-based paint hazards under these regulations. The Awardee shall be responsible for the notifications, inspections, and clearance certifications required under these regulations.

9. Bonus or Commission, Prohibition Against Payments of

The assistance provided under this Agreement shall not be used in the payment of any bonus or commissions for the purpose of:

- A. Obtaining RISE's approval of the Application for such assistance; or,
- B. RISE's approval of the Applications for additional assistance; or,
- C. Any other approval or concurrence of RISE required under this Agreement, Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, or the State regulations with respect thereto; provided, however, that reasonable fees for bona fide technical, consultant, managerial or other such services, other than actual solicitation, are not hereby prohibited if otherwise eligible as program costs.

10. Contractors and Subrecipients

A. RISE has adopted procurement standards under 2 CFR 200.318-326. The Awardee shall follow these same standards. In addition, Awardee shall not enter into any agreement, written or oral, with any contractor or subrecipient without the prior determination that the contractor or subrecipient is eligible to receive Commonwealth funds and is not listed on the Federal Consolidated List of Debarred, Suspended, and Ineligible Contractors.

B. An agreement between the Awardee and any contractor shall require:

1. Compliance with the applicable State and federal requirements described in this Agreement, which pertain to, among other things, procurement, nondiscrimination, Americans with Disabilities Act, Equal Employment Opportunity and Drug-Free Workplace; and, compliance with the applicable provisions relating to labor standards and Section 3 as described in Sections 11 and 16, above. Appendix II of 2 CFR Part 200 sets forth mandatory provisions for incorporation into non-Federal entity contracts involving federal funds awards.
2. Maintenance of at least the minimum State-required Workers' Compensation Insurance for those employees who will perform the grant activities or any part of it.
3. Maintenance, if so required by law, of unemployment insurance, disability insurance and liability insurance, which is reasonable to compensate any person, firm, or corporation, who may be injured or damaged by the contractor, or any subcontractor in performing the grant activity(ies) or any part of it.
4. Compliance with the applicable Equal Opportunity Requirements described in Section 11, of this exhibit.
5. Compliance with the policies, guidelines and requirements of OMB Uniform guidance at 2 CFR 200 the Uniform Administrative Requirements, as well as all state/federal laws, regulations and RISE guidelines applicable to the activities set forth in this Agreement.

C. Contractors and Subrecipients: Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 Contractors and subrecipients shall comply with all of the following:

1. Publish and give a policy statement to all covered employees informing them that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the covered workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees who violate the policy.
2. Establish a drug-free awareness program to make employees aware of a) the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace; b) the policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace; c) any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and d) the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations.
3. Notify employees that as a condition of Program, the employee must a) abide by the terms of the policy statement; and b) notify the employer, within (5) five business days, if he or she is convicted of a criminal drug violation in the workplace.
4. Notify the contracting or granting agency within 10 (ten) business days after receiving notice that a covered employee has been convicted of a criminal drug violation in the workplace.
5. Impose a penalty on or require satisfactory participation in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program by any employee who is convicted of a reportable workplace drug conviction.
6. Make an ongoing, good faith effort to maintain a drug-free workplace by meeting the requirements of the act.

11. Insurance

The Awardee shall have and maintain in full force and effect during the term of this Agreement such forms of insurance, at such levels as may be determined by the Awardee and RISE to be necessary for specific components of the grant activity(ies) described in Exhibit A.

12. Reporting Requirements

During the term of this Agreement, the Awardee must work with RISE, RISE's technical assistance consultants, and other partners in submitting reports by the dates identified, respectively, or as otherwise required, at the discretion of RISE.

13. Monitoring Requirements

RISE shall perform a monitoring of project activities and/or fiscal monitoring of the Program in accordance with requirements of 42 U.S.C. 5304(e)(2), as amended and as modified by Federal Register Notice FR-5936-N-01. The Awardee shall be required to resolve any monitoring findings to RISE's satisfaction by the deadlines set by RISE. Awardee will work with RISE, and RISE's technical assistance consultant, to conduct ongoing monitoring compliance of parties who are implementing Program activities. Awardee shall assist RISE and RISE's technical assistance consultant in complying and maintaining recordkeeping files to facilitate any audit reviews under applicable law for all activities under this agreement.

RISE shall determine the areas of monitoring, the number of monitoring visits, and their frequency. Monitoring shall address program compliance with contract provisions, including to but not limited to eligible activity, and eligible costs.

14. Inspections of Program Activity

RISE and DHCD reserves the right to inspect any Program activity(ies) performed hereunder to verify that the Program activity(ies) is being and/or has been performed in accordance with the applicable federal, state and/or local requirements and this Agreement.

- A.** Awardee shall inspect any Program activity performed by contractors and subrecipients hereunder to ensure past and current grant activities meet the applicable federal, state and/or local requirements per this Agreement.
- B.** Awardee agrees to require that all Program activities found by such inspections not to conform to the applicable requirements be corrected, and to withhold payment to its contractor or subcontractor and subrecipients, respectively, until it is so corrected.

15. Access to Records

Awardee and its contractors and subrecipients shall at all times during the term hereof provide to RISE, DHCD, the State, or any of their duly authorized representatives, access to any books, documents, papers, and records for the purpose of making audit, examination, excerpts, and transcriptions.

16. Bonus or Commission, Prohibition Against Payments of

A. Awardee must have intact, auditable fiscal and program records at all times.

B. Awardee agrees that RISE or its designee will have the right to review, obtain, and copy all records pertaining to performance of this Agreement. The Awardee agrees to provide RISE or its designee with any relevant information requested. Awardee shall permit RISE or its designee access to its premises, during normal business hours for the purpose of interviewing employees and inspecting and copying such books, records, accounts, and other material that may be relevant to a matter under investigation for the purpose of determining compliance. Awardee further agrees to maintain such records for a minimum period of five (5) years after RISE notifies Awardee that the DHCD RISE grant contract has been closed. Awardee shall comply with the caveats and be aware of the penalties for violations of fraud and for obstruction of investigation.

C. An expenditure that is not authorized under this Agreement or that cannot be adequately documented shall be disallowed. If this determination is made after reimbursement was made to Awardee, then expenditure must be reimbursed to RISE or its designee by the Awardee. Expenditures for grant activity(ies) not described in Exhibit A shall be deemed authorized if the performance of such grant activity(ies) is approved in writing by RISE prior to the commencement of such grant activity(ies).

D. Absent fraud or mistake on the part of RISE, the determination by RISE of the allowability of any expenditure shall be final.

E. Notwithstanding the requirement of A-F above, RISE will not reimburse the Awardee for any audit cost incurred after the expenditure deadline of this Agreement.

1. The audit shall be performed by a qualified State, local or independent auditor. The agreement/contract for audit shall include a clause which permits access by RISE to the independent auditor's working papers.
2. If there are audit findings, the Awardee must submit a detailed response to RISE for each audit finding. RISE will review the response and, if it agrees with the response, the audit process ends, and RISE will notify the Awardee in writing. If RISE is not in agreement, the Awardee will be contacted in writing and informed what corrective actions must be taken. This action may include the repayment of disallowed costs or other remediation.
3. RISE shall not approve reimbursement for any expenditures for the audit, prior to receiving an acceptable audit report.
4. If so directed by RISE upon termination of this Agreement, the Awardee shall cause all records, accounts, documentation and all other materials relevant to the grant activities to be delivered to RISE as depository.

17. Signs

The Awardee shall insure recognition of the role of DHCD and RISE in providing funding, services and efforts through this Agreement. All activities, facilities and items utilized pursuant to this Agreement shall be prominently labeled as to role of DHCD and of RISE. In addition, the Awardee will include a reference to the support provided herein in all publications made possible with funds made available under this Agreement, see Exhibit C – Awarder Recognition.

If the Awardee places signs stating that the activity is funded with private or public dollars and RISE is also providing financing, it shall indicate in a typeface and size commensurate with RISE's funding portion of the project that RISE is a source of financing through the RISE Program.

18. Procurement

The Awardee shall comply with the procurement provisions, administrative requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State, Local and Federally Recognized Indian tribal governments and 2 CFR 200.318 through 200.326, per RISE's certification of these procurement standards.

In accordance with federal register notice FR-5936-N-01, a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number must be collected.

19. Obligations of Awardee with Respect to Certain Third-Party Relationships

The Awardee shall remain fully obligated under the provisions of this Agreement notwithstanding its designation of any third party or parties for the undertaking of all or any part of the Scope of Work with respect to which assistance is being provided under this Agreement to the Awardee. The Awardee shall comply with all lawful requirements of RISE necessary to ensure that the Scope of Work, with respect to which assistance is being provided under this Agreement to the Awardee, is carried out in accordance with RISE's Assurance and Certifications, including those with respect to the assumption of environmental responsibilities of RISE under Section 104(g) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 [42 U.S.C. 5304(g)].

20. Energy Policy and Conservation Act

This Agreement is subject to mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Pub. L. 94-163, 89 Stat. 871).

21. Fund Reduction

If, after RISE is awarded funds and enters into a grant agreement with DHCD, RISE then or subsequently proposes to make a substantial amendment to any of the Program activities, then DHCD and RISE reserve the right to amend the award and change the budget amounts under this Agreement.

22. Reporting

Awardees shall report amounts shown in project sources and uses forms and all amounts expended on eligible activities under this Agreement. Parties shall provide information as requested by RISE for purposes of reporting to federal, state and local entities.

23. Performance Measures and Related Remedies

Performance Measures and Penalties provisions are set forth in Exhibit A.

24. Disputes

Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, any dispute arising under or relating to the performance of this Agreement, which is not disposed of, by mutual agreement of the parties shall be decided by a two-tier process. First, the Awardee will present their dispute documentation to Executive Director of RISE for review and resolution. If the dispute cannot be resolved by the Executive Director, then it will be presented to the Board of Directors. The decision of the Board of Directors shall be final, conclusive and binding.

25. Federal Register Notice(s)

The parties agree that in addition to complying with all other terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement and the various Exhibits thereto, to the extent additional requirements or conditions are imposed upon RISE by DHCD relating to the Program, the parties will be required to comply with such additional requirements or conditions.

26. Non-Discrimination Language from 41 CFR Part 60-1.4(b)

Awardee shall comply with Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, entitled "Equal Employment Opportunity", as amended by Executive Order 11375 of October 13, 1967, and as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations (41 CFR chapters 60).

27. Program Design/Feasibility

Awardee will demonstrate that the engineering design for a facility or infrastructure under this Agreement is feasible prior to obligation of funds for construction. This demonstration is satisfied if a registered professional engineer (or other design professional) certifies that the design meets the appropriate code or industry design and construction standards. Awardee will design projects that to the greatest degree possible, use construction methods that are high quality, green construction, energy and water efficient, healthy indoor environments, resilient and mitigating the impact of future disasters.

28. Procurement of Recovered Materials

A non-Federal entity that is a state agency or agency of a political subdivision of a state and its contractors must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR Part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

EXHIBIT C: AWARDER RECOGNITION

Please find below guidelines for recognition of DHCD and RISE in any work done as a result of this Agreement. Note, any public information and all of the items below must be approved by RISE in advance of publication or posting.

Written Documents

All written documents must include the following language, unless otherwise specified in writing by RISE:

1. "This [program/project] is made possible by funding from RISE, which is funded through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development."
2. Written documents should also include the RISE logo.

Internet Information and E-Mail Information

1. Internet information must include all of the items required for written documentation and a link to RISE's website.

Offices Open to the Public Providing Services Funded by RISE

1. All offices must include a sign including all of the items required for written documentation.

Construction Signs

1. All construction signs must include a sign including all of the items required for written documentation.
2. All construction signs must also include the name of the project, an expected end date for the project, the name of the Awardee, and a phone number for the public to call to obtain information about the project. This must be a phone number maintained by the Awardee or one of its subcontractors.

Completed Projects

1. All completed projects must include permanent recognition of RISE.

EXHIBIT D: Allocation of Award

Grant \$ _____

Revenue-Based Loan \$ _____

[NOTE: TERMS WILL BE AGREED UPON BETWEEN COMPANY AND RISE]

RISE Resilience Innovation Fund Revenue-Based Loan Parameters

Pursuant to the allocation of the Award as stated in this Exhibit D, Awardee is eligible to receive not to exceed \$ _____ as a Revenue-Based Loan (“RBL”) under the Program. The terms on which the RBL is made are as follows:

Disbursements. The RBL shall be disbursed upon a schedule to be agreed upon.

Repayment. Repayment of the RBL, or any amounts disbursed to Awardee as a Revenue-Based Loan, shall begin 12 months after the date of execution of this Agreement (the “Beginning Date”). Starting on the Beginning Date and continuing through the Term of the RBL, Awardee shall make monthly payments, on the 10th day of each month, calculated as 5% of gross revenue received by Awardee for the preceding month.

For the first two (2) years, the monthly payments shall only be based upon gross revenues derived from the sale of products or services related to or developed under the Program with Commonwealth funds (“Project-Based Gross Revenue”). Project-Based Gross Revenue shall refer to revenues generated through the following:

- X% of all gross revenues produced from ABC Product.

Beginning on the first day of the third year after the Beginning Date, the amount of the monthly payments shall be based upon all gross revenue received by Awardee.

The calculation of “gross revenue” shall be made according to GAAP standards. If the Parties jointly determine that the gross revenues are insufficient or otherwise too unstable to support both the repayment of the RBL and Awardee’s operations, the Parties may agree to modify the terms of the RBL. Awardee may prepay the Repayment Amount, as defined below, without penalty.

Term. The term of this RBL shall be five (5) years from the Beginning Date (this initial period plus any extensions hereunder are defined as the “Term”). If the Awardee has not repaid a total of 1.2 times the original aggregate RBL principal (together the “Repayment Amount”), then RISE shall have the option to extend the Term for an additional five (5) year term. If the Awardee has not paid the entire Repayment Amount by the end of the first additional five (5) year term, then RISE shall have the option to extend the Term for a second additional five (5) year term. RISE shall forgive any balance of the Repayment Amount still outstanding after the second five (5) year term has expired. Notwithstanding anything else in this paragraph to the contrary, the Term shall end no later than when the Awardee has repaid a total of 1.2 times the original aggregate RBL principal.

Audit. From the Beginning Date through until the earlier of the complete repayment of the RBL or the end of the Term, whichever occurs first, Awardee shall provide monthly income statements to RISE. During the first two years, Awardee shall separately state Project-Based Gross Revenues. At the end of the Awardee's fiscal year, Awardee shall provide to RISE an estimate of revenue and expenses for the next fiscal year. RISE shall have the right to audit Awardee's books and records, including, without limitation, tax returns, financial statements and balance sheets, to verify the information provided and the correct amount of monthly payments.

Appendix 2: Awardee Billing and Reporting Guidelines

This document provides guidelines for Award Winners regarding the following areas:

Billing and Reimbursement

Procurements

Contracting and Subcontracting

Monthly Reporting

Contract/Scope/Budget Amendments

Recordkeeping

Billing and Reimbursement

Due Dates and Times

Invoices must be itemized into one-month increments and include supporting documentation. Submit invoices using the RISE invoice template via the only form by 9am ET on the **1st and/or 15th of each month**.

Late submissions will be processed on the next invoice date.

If a due date falls on a weekend/holiday, submit by **9:00 a.m. on the next business day**.

Submission Method

All invoices must be submitted through the RISE Invoice Form. **Invoices sent via email will not be processed or reviewed.**

Calendar Year Restriction

Invoices must include expenses for a **single calendar year only**.

Separate invoices are required for expenses spanning multiple years.

Example: An invoice submitted in February with expenses from December and January will not be accepted.

Maximum Amount

Invoices must not exceed \$40,000.00 per submission.

Reimbursement Requests

Submit reimbursement requests within 60 days of expenses incurred.

Late submissions require written approval to be processed.

Invoice Requirements

Invoices **must be itemized into one-month increments** with supporting documentation provided for each month.

Each invoice must include:

- Invoice number (consecutive order)
- Submission date
- Task details (number, title, and subtitles to be billed against)
- Percentage completed to date for each task
- Total award amount and billed-to-date amount
- Start and end dates for work completed for each task
- Clear billing period (e.g., work completed in October but billed in December should have October as the billing period)
- Use the RISE invoice template, save as a PDF, and attach it to your submission.

Grant and Loan Awards

Submit grant and loan awards on separate invoices.

Supporting Documentation

Timesheets with hourly rates and proof of payroll payments

Vendor/contractor invoices and receipts: (Note: Purchases or Agreements for goods and services that total over \$10,000 require Awardee to maintain records of procurement. All contracts for goods and services require Awardee/Vendor contract to include Contract Provisions for Professional Services. These documents (a contract along with a procurement file) may be requested by RISE as additional supporting documentation before payment of an invoice).

Completed deliverables or narrative reports: This must include a completed deliverable for any task billed at 100% or as required by the awardee's scope of work and budget. For deliverables in progress and billed below 100%, please include a summary of work completed per task per billing period.

Proof of Payment: All reimbursements must be prepaid before submitting to RISE for reimbursement. Proof of payment in the form of bank statement, ACH confirmation or credit card statement is required for submission with each coordinating invoice.

General Ledger (GL) showing all prepaid expenses for reimbursement. The GL should only show invoices and payments that reflect the RISE award.

Please track all equipment and supply purchases for \$5,000 or more in a log provided by RISE.

Reimbursement Timeline

Average processing time: **30 business days**, barring questions or errors.

Missing documentation resets the timeline and may cause delays.

Status inquiries should be sent to RISE only after 30 business days.

RISE can request additional documentation for any invoice, as needed, at any time during the contract period and for up to five (5) years after the contract's conclusion for auditing purposes.

Procurement Guidelines

Micro Purchases

A micro-purchase is the acquisition of supplies, services or other property that does not exceed \$10,000 (or \$2,000 in the case of construction projects), in aggregate total.

To the extent practicable, RISE Awardees should distribute micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers. Micro-purchases are awarded without soliciting competitive quotes if RISE Awardees have determined that the price is reasonable.

Small Purchases (\$10,000–\$100,000)

Any purchase \$10,000 and over will require the awardee to solicit three quotes prior to completing the purchase. If the small purchase procedure is used, RISE Awardee obtains a price or rate quote from an adequate number of qualified sources.

Three quotes or more constitutes an adequate number of sources, unless the material or service needed is limited in supply.

These quotes may be obtained from qualified sources via telephone, fax, email, mail, or other reasonable method.

While receiving quotes from qualified sources, RISE Awardee must maintain written documentation on the names of the businesses contacted and how they were contacted, the prices that were quoted, and the basis for selecting one firm over the other(s) once all quotes have been received.

To determine how to select one firm over the others, one or more of the following methods must be applied and documented in the procurement process:

- Compare competitive prices received in response to the solicitation to one another;
- Compare proposed prices with prices under existing contracts and with prices proposed in the past for the same or similar items/services;
- Apply rough yardsticks (e.g., dollars per pound, per square foot, per hour, etc.) to compare prices and highlight significant inconsistencies that warrant additional pricing inquiry; and
- Compare competitive price lists, published catalog or market prices of commodities and products, similar indices, and discount or rebate arrangements.

For any purchase \$10,000 and over, the Small Purchase Form provided should be completed to document the steps described above. The form must be filed for monitoring purposes.

If contracting directly with an entity(ies) included in the submitted application to the RISE Challenge, RISE Awardee does not have to conduct the procurement process described above.

Contracting and Subcontracting

Awardees must enter into a contract with any contractor receiving a portion of the RISE award, including application partners/team members (firms, non-profits, universities, individual contractors).

All contracts must include **Contract Provisions for Professional Services**.

For amendments to existing contracts, contact RISE for guidance.

Contracting and Subcontracting

Attend a monthly progress check-in call.

Submit the Monthly Progress Report Form **24 hours before the call**.

RISE cannot process reimbursements if monthly reports are overdue.

Contract/Scope/Budget Amendment Requests

Please budget approximately 20 business days for contract amendment requests to be reviewed, prepared, and executed in a final document. Pending amendments may affect Awardee's ability to request a reimbursement, so please plan your amendments accordingly. When submitting an amendment request, please include:

Documents to be amended: Specify the document(s) involved, such as the contract, scope, schedule, budget, or other relevant documents.

Details of requested changes: Clearly outline the changes being proposed, including applicable start dates.

Justification narrative: Provide a clear explanation for why the amendment is needed.

Supporting documentation: Attach any relevant documents amended or prepared by your organization that support the request.

Ensuring your submission is complete and accurate will help facilitate a timely review.

Recordkeeping

RISE conducts periodic monitoring of awardees to ensure compliance with contractual and funding requirements. Specific records related to invoice submissions may also be requested before reimbursements or payments are authorized. To support compliance, awardees are encouraged to maintain the following five categories of records, ensuring documentation is properly retained and accessible for review by RISE, its funders, or auditors as needed. Awardees should maintain records in five categories:

RISE Award Records: Proposal, agreements, approved budgets, etc.

Contractor/Vendor Records: Procurement records, contracts, correspondence.

Reporting Records: Monthly reports submitted to RISE.

Expenditure Records: Invoices, proof of payment, bank statements.

Internal Business Records: Payroll, insurance, financial statements.