



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNITY SERVICES/CSBG

Kathy Hochul, Governor  
Robert J. Rodriguez, Secretary of State

Please practice social distancing and wear a mask whenever possible for your safety and the safety of others.

## February is Black History Month

Please visit [The Historymakers at the Library of Congress](#) for more information and the internationally recognized archival collection of thousands of African American video oral histories.

## New York State Department of State Division of Community Services

### Financial Education Request for Applications (RFA) Released

For more information and to view the Request for Applications (22-CSBG-44), please click [here](#)

## Celebrate Women's History Month & Equal Pay Day

Tuesday March 14, 2023. 12:00 pm- 1:00 pm

New York State Museum, 222 Madison Ave Albany, NY 12230

This event can be attended in-person or virtually- [Register here!](#)



## New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)

NYSERDA is now funding and accepting applications for Climate Justice Fellowships under [Program Opportunity Notice \(PON\) 4772](#).

PON 4772 provides funds for professional development, training, and mentoring for individuals from priority populations. These individuals will work within organizations and businesses that advance climate justice and clean energy priorities for historically underrepresented, historically marginalized, and other disadvantaged communities. Below are some links for additional details as well as a registration link for the upcoming NYSERDA Climate Justice Fellowship Information Session.

Additionally, individuals from priority populations can now [apply online](#) to join a directory of prospective fellows that will be shared with host employers looking to hire fellows. NYSERDA invites everyone to please share this opportunity for potential fellow applicants with partners and stakeholders.

### For Additional Details and Associated Documents Visit:

[PON 4772 Solicitation Detail Page](#)

### Have Questions or Want to Learn More?

NYSERDA staff is available throughout the entire application process at [CJF@nyserda.ny.gov](mailto:CJF@nyserda.ny.gov).

## NYSERDA Climate Justice Fellowship Information Session

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 (Please feel free to share with others.)

Webinar topic: NYSERDA Climate Justice Fellowship Information Session

Date and time: Wednesday, Mar 1, 2023, 11:00 am | (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

[Registration link](#)

## New York State Education Department

The New York State Education Department's Office of Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Adult Education Program and Policy (ACCES-AEPP) promotes, develops, and supports programs that provide adult students with basic literacy, English as a Second Language, employment, college, career and apprenticeship training.

More information about the services ACCES provides is available at [acces.nysed.gov](https://acces.nysed.gov)

## Division of Consumer Protection

### New York Department of State's Division of Consumer Protection (DCP) Provides Tips to Help Consumers Reduce Spending on Transportation Costs

DCP continues its five-part money savings tips to help New Yorkers save amidst inflation and rising costs. To help your transportation dollars stretch further this year, DCP offers the following tips:

**Plan your drives ahead of time.** Combine errands into one trip to save time and money. Several short trips taken from a cold start can use twice as much fuel as a longer multipurpose trip covering the same distance when the engine is warm. Trip planning ensures that traveling is done when the engine is warmed up and efficient, and it can reduce the distance you travel saving fuel and wear/tear on your vehicle.

**Adjust your driving habits.** Always accelerate gently and maintain a steady speed. Avoid aggressive driving (speeding, rapid acceleration and sudden braking), which wastes fuel. It can lower your fuel mileage by 33 percent at highway speeds and by 5 percent around town. Your brakes will appreciate it, too.

**Keep your vehicle tuned up.** Check the air filter, tire pressure and coolant. Check your vehicle's manual for the manufacturer's recommended timeline for oil changes. A poorly maintained car uses more gas and may lead to costly repairs.

**Shop around for car insurance.** Take time to analyze your insurance premiums and comparison shop for less expensive plans. Consumers can lower insurance premiums by 5% to 20% by bundling services, increasing deductibles and paying up front.

**Use public transportation or carpool.** It benefits everyone – the community, the environment and your wallet.

**Save with pre-tax commuter benefits.** Enroll in commuter benefits to pay commuting costs with pre-tax dollars. If your employer offers this benefit, you can set aside a certain portion of pre-tax wages (up to \$300 per month), which can be used for mass transit and qualified paid parking while reducing your federal taxable income each year. That means you save by not paying federal income tax on that portion of your salary.

**Reserve parking.** There are several parking apps in the market that let you reserve parking spaces in advance in large metro areas. This helps you save time, money and gas – no need to circle the block looking for parking. You may be able to score significant savings off the drive-up rate if you reserve a parking space in advance.

The New York State Division of Consumer Protection provides resources and education materials to consumers, as well as voluntary mediation services between consumers and businesses. The Consumer Assistance Helpline 1-800-697-1220 is available Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm, excluding State Holidays, and consumer complaints can be filed at any time at [www.dos.ny.gov/consumer-protection](http://www.dos.ny.gov/consumer-protection).

For more consumer protection tips, follow the Division of Consumer Protection on social media!

Twitter: @NYSConsumer

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nysconsumer](http://www.facebook.com/nysconsumer)

## New York State Office for New Americans (ONA)

### ONA Highlights Human Trafficking Prevention Month for Immigrants

January is National Human Trafficking Prevention Month. On January 30, 2023, ONA hosted a webinar on "**Combatting Human Trafficking and Assisting Immigrant Survivors in New York State.**" The presenters for this webinar were from the Governor's Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking, which coordinates all interagency human trafficking activities in the state. The webinar's goal was to discuss New York State's Human Trafficking Programs, what to expect when a referral is made, and other resources to assist survivors.

The webinar provided participants with information on: How to recognize and assist immigrant survivors of human trafficking; Discover red flags, indicators, and vulnerabilities to aid in the fight against human trafficking; Know where to find resources; and how to get more information and assistance for immigrants affected by human trafficking.

If you would like to receive the recording and materials from this webinar, please contact ONA at [NewAmericans@dos.ny.gov](mailto:NewAmericans@dos.ny.gov)

## New York State Homes & Community Renewal

Enterprise Community Partners, working in collaboration with New York State Homes and Community Renewal ("HCR"), is making up to \$10 million available for the newly established Making Moves Program ("MMP") to facilitate greater housing choice for Section 8 tenants across New York State.

Funding is being offered through a Request for Proposals ("RFP") at the following link: [New York State Making Moves Program RFP | Enterprise Community Partners](#). Potential applicants should watch the web site for updates. Technical assistance will be made available to assist with proposal preparation.

## Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2024-2025 CSBG State Plan

The New York State, Division of Community Services has begun drafting the FFY 2024-2025 CSBG State Plan and will be asking the NYS Community Action network for input. Please keep an eye out for updates!

## NYSCAA & DOS Workplan Template Survey

New York Community Action Agencies: we'd like to know what you think about the Workplan Templates! Please take the six-question survey [here](#)

## NYSCAA & DOS Regional Meetings

The 2023 Regional Meetings will bring together staff from the New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA), Department of State (DOS), and the CAAs to provide feedback on the CSBG 2024-2025 State Plan, engage in dialogue, discuss best-practices, network with peers, and hear about innovative solutions to common needs across the state.

The Department of State and NYSCAA **encourage staff of all levels and departments to attend!**

All meetings are scheduled 10:00 am- 1:00 pm. Registration information will be available soon.

### New York City & Long Island

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Host: NYC Department of Youth & Community Development  
2 Lafayette St, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10007

### North-Central Region

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Host: Oswego County Opportunities, Inc.  
Location TBD

### Capital District

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Host: LifeWorks Community Action  
Location TBD

### Western Region

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Host: Connecting Communities in Action  
82 W Hetzel Street, Salamanca, NY 14779

### South-Central Region

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Host: Greater Opportunities for Broome and Chenango  
44 West Main Street, Norwich, NY 13815

## Division of Community Services Reminders:

### CSBG Advisory Council Meeting

**Thursday, March 30, 2023, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Members of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Advisory Council will meet in-person at the following locations:

- ❖ Albany – One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Room 505, Albany, NY 12231
- ❖ Buffalo – 295 Main Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Suite 821, Buffalo, NY 14203
- ❖ New York City – 123 Williams Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Room 231, New York, NY 10038

Members of the public may join in-person or via videoconferencing. Please let DOS know if you plan to attend at: [dos.sm.DCS@dos.ny.gov](mailto:dos.sm.DCS@dos.ny.gov)

### CSBG Eligibility Guidelines at 200% FPL for FY 2023, 2023 Poverty Guidelines Released

The Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The language in the current Continuing Resolution allows for the use of the 200% FPL CSBG Eligibility Guidelines until September 30, 2023.

Health and Human Services [2023 Federal Poverty Guidelines](#)

**Please send Newsletter content and submissions to [dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov](mailto:dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov)**

**To be added to our newsletter distribution list, please email [dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov](mailto:dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov)**

## Additional Resources for the CSBG Network

Community Action Partnership - [Resource Library](#)

Community Action Program Legal Services (CAPLAW) - [Resource Library](#)

June 27-29, 2023: CAPLAW 2023 National Training Conference in Austin, Texas

National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP) - [Annual Report Resources](#)

New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA)- [NYSCAA Learn](#)

New York State Weatherization Directors Association - [Training Calendar](#)

The Department of Public Service- [Winter Preparedness 2022-2023](#)

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