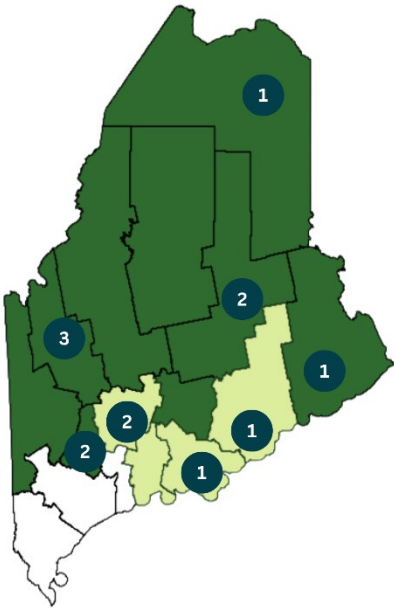




State of Maine 2026 Catalyst Program Awards



2026 Applicant Summary		
	Spring Round	Fall Round
Total Number of Applicants	25	
Total Funds Requested	\$12,981,111.60	
Total Number of Awards	12	
Total Funds Awarded	\$8,114,478.70	

Spring 2026 Awards

Androscoggin County (CD-02)

Award to: Tree Street Youth

Project: Tree Street Youth has been awarded \$1,000,000.00 to construct the 7,500-square-foot Canopy Center in Lewiston, offering affordable childcare, community meeting space, and youth workforce training. The project will create 120 new childcare slots and deliver career exploration for up to 100 youth, building on secured Congressionally Directed Spending and active fundraising. Construction is scheduled for July 2026–July 2027, positioning the center as a neighborhood anchor that expands economic mobility for working families.

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$ \$2,097,755.49

Award to: Town of Livermore Falls

Project: The Town of Livermore Falls has been awarded \$1,000,000.00 to rehabilitate 1.1 miles of failing sanitary sewer along Route 17, supporting downtown businesses, medical offices, municipal facilities, and multifamily housing. Objectives encompass relining mains, replacing 88 service connections, repairing deteriorated manholes, eliminating inflow, and coordinating with MaineDOT's roadway and drainage upgrades to avoid duplicate disruption and costs. With CWSRF financing secured and unanimous local approval, the project reduces failures and combined sewer overflows, stabilizes rates in a high-poverty area, and supports economic revitalization.

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$2,351,000.00

Aroostook County (CD-02)

Award to: Ashland Water & Sewer District

Project: Ashland Water & Sewer District has been awarded \$680,000.00 to replace an approximately 1,000-foot essential water main that crosses the Aroostook River and serves

90% of the customer base. Objectives include installing a directional-drilled subsurface segment under the riverbed, upgrading valves, and completing open-trench installation for remaining sections to reduce wear, improve reliability, and enhance fire protection. With geotechnical analysis complete and construction targeted for late 2026, the project addresses a critical system vulnerability and strengthens service resilience for residents and businesses.

Grant Amount: \$680,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$926,550.00

Franklin County (CD-02)

Award to: Spruce Mountain Educational Fund

Project: Spruce Mountain Educational Fund has been awarded \$368,000.00 to implement outdoor recreation infrastructure upgrades at the municipally owned ski area in Jay, ME. Objectives include installing a sprinkler system to open the lodge's second floor, enhancing compressed air capacity for efficient snowmaking, and modernizing three rope-tow lift lines to improve reliability and safety. The project expands four-season operations, increases early-season terrain, promotes health and wellness, and sustains affordable access for underserved youth.

Grant Amount: \$368,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$460,000.00

Award to: Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Project: The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry has been awarded \$1,000,000.00 to construct a multi-use pedestrian and snowmobile bridge over the Sandy River, extending the 14-mile Whistle Stop Trail directly into downtown Farmington. The project's primary purpose is to improve safe, non-vehicular connectivity to employment centers, health services, education, and tourism assets, yielding documented annual economic impacts in jobs, wages, and tax revenue. With the majority of funding committed and construction planned for 2027–2028, the bridge advances outdoor recreation, workforce mobility, and regional resilience.

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$4,222,000.00

Award to: Workforce Housing Coalition Western Maine Mountains

Project: Workforce Housing Coalition Western Maine Mountains has been awarded \$1,000,000.00 to construct essential public sewer and roadway infrastructure enabling approximately 50 workforce housing units in Carrabassett Valley. The scope includes installation of sewer mains, treatment components, and a town-spec roadway, with operations transitioned to the Carrabassett Valley Sanitary District upon completion. By unlocking year-round housing for 75–100 workers, the project strengthens labor force stability and advances regional competitiveness.

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$1,919,650.00

Hancock County (CD-02)

Award to: Brooksville Town House

Project: Brooksville Town House has been awarded \$902,938.00 (with matching funds secured) to build the town's first all-tide public pier, landing, and boat ramp at Betsy's Cove in Buck's Harbor. The project will dredge a channel and basin to six feet at MLLW, construct a 16-foot-wide, 120-foot-long pier with ADA-accessible ramp and floats, install a hoist, and replace the deteriorating launch. With all permits issued and engineering underway, the

infrastructure supports commercial fisheries, recreation, emergency response, and maritime workforce retention on a defined 2026–2028 schedule.

Grant Amount: \$902,938.00

Total Project Amount: \$1,805,877.00

Kennebec County (CD-01)

Award to: Central Maine Growth Council

Project: Central Maine Growth Council has been awarded \$485,000.00 to scale its hub-and-spoke commercialization engine, incubating 83 high-growth enterprises and creating 57 jobs across Kennebec and Somerset Counties. The program delivers weekly-sprint cohorts, embedded mentorship, advanced financial modeling, and rapid-prototyping infrastructure, with a 33.63% non-federal match already secured. Over a 39-month timeline, projected outcomes include \$14.4 million in investment and \$11.3 million in sales, anchored at the Bricks Coworking & Innovation Space.

Grant Amount: \$485,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$744,395.05

Knox County (CD-01)

Award to: Matinicus Isle Plantation

Project: Matinicus Isle Plantation has been awarded \$70,400.00 to acquire approximately three acres comprising the island's only airstrip and associated easements, preserving a critical transportation lifeline for a remote, unbridged community. Funding covers land purchase, legal, and survey costs, with completion expected in 60–120 days of award. Securing long-term site control protects emergency access, mail and supply delivery, and resident travel essential to island sustainability.

Grant Amount: \$70,400.00

Total Project Amount: \$88,000.00

Penobscot County (CD-02)

Award to: IBEW Augusta Electrical JATC

Project: Augusta Electrical JATC has been awarded \$497,560.70 to upgrade industry-standard lab equipment, modernize training rooms, and reduce cost barriers for first-year apprentices across rural Maine. The program enhances hands-on training for 90–130 apprentices annually, improves safety, and supports an earn-while-you-learn pathway to middle-class electrical careers. Strengthening instructional capacity aligns training with today's jobsites and increases retention for partner contractors.

Grant Amount: \$497,560.70

Total Project Amount: \$626,030.00

Award to: Old Town Water District

Project: Old Town Water District has been awarded \$520,000.00 to construct approximately 11,563 linear feet of 12-inch HDPE transmission main to improve water service for Old Town and the University of Maine. The project is backed by \$3.56 million in Congressionally Directed Spending and completed engineering and permitting milestones, including NRPA authorization. Upgraded infrastructure will support fire protection, future development, and long-term system reliability.

Grant Amount: \$520,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$5,100,000.00

Washington County (CD-02)

Award to: City of Calais

Project: The City of Calais has been awarded \$590,580.00 to rebuild and extend the Calais Waterfront Walkway, connecting downtown to the Canadian border crossing and regional trail networks. The project adds wayfinding, interpretive art, ADA-accessible picnic tables, a bike repair station, and a new staircase, while replacing a failing retaining wall adapted for public art. By strengthening cross-border recreation, the walkway promotes economic development, public health, and a long-standing community vision for a riverfront gathering space.

Grant Amount: \$590,580.00

Total Project Amount: \$738,580.00

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