

The Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program (DCIP): FY2020 Funding and Approved Projects

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Investment in infrastructure near military installations that supports servicemembers and their families is of continued importance to many [Members of Congress](#) and other [elected officials](#). Congress legislated the *Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program* (DCIP) to help address deficiencies in this type of infrastructure.

What is DCIP?

Enacted under Section 2861 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 (P.L. 115-232) and codified in [10 U.S.C. §2391](#), DCIP is a Department of Defense (DOD) program that gives the Secretary of Defense (SECDEF) the authority to

...**make grants, conclude cooperative agreements, and supplement funds** available under Federal programs administered by agencies other than the Department of Defense to assist State and local governments **to address deficiencies in community infrastructure** supportive of a military installation... (Emphasis added)

[10 U.S.C. §2391](#) defines *community infrastructure* as a project or facility that includes:

- any transportation project;
- a school, hospital, police, fire, emergency response, or other community support facility;
or
- a water, waste-water, telecommunications, electric, gas, or other utility infrastructure project.

It further clarifies the project or facility must be:

- located off a *military installation* (as defined in [10 U.S.C. §2687](#)); and
- owned by either a State or local government; or
- owned by a not-for-profit, member-owned utility service.

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A statutory condition of this authority is that the SECDEF must make a determination that “such assistance will enhance the military value, resilience, or military family quality of life at such military installation.” Another statutory requirement is that eligible State or local governments must “contribute not less than 30% of the funding for the community infrastructure project,” except where projects are located in a [rural area](#) (a city/town/unincorporated area with 50,000 or less inhabitants) or for “reasons related to national security.”

Beyond statutory requirements, DOD has specified [additional requirements](#). For instance, projects must be complete, useable, and “construction-ready”—meaning final planning and design, environmental planning, and local permitting actions are largely complete and the project can commence within 12 months of an award. Projects must also be endorsed by the local installation commander and eligible proposers must “agree to contribute 50% or more of the funding for the project”—a 20% increase to the statutory minimum—except where a statutory exception is met.

How is DCIP Managed?

DOD’s [Office of Economic Adjustment](#) (OEA) is a [DOD Field Activity](#) that administers DCIP under its broader [Community Investment program](#). OEA, together with the *Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program Review Panel* (hereafter the “review panel”) and the SECDEF, makes decisions regarding DCIP. OEA sets grant proposal requirements, the deadline for submitting proposals, and, with the SECDEF, the criteria that will be used to select proposals. The review panel scores and ranks proposals to recommend to the SECDEF for invitation of a formal grant application. The SECDEF then approves ranked proposals before funding is awarded.

FY2020 Appropriations

Although the FY2019 NDAA authorized DCIP, defense appropriations for FY2019 did not include funding for it. The FY2020 NDAA (S. 1790) authorized appropriations for DCIP up to \$75,000,000, and in December 2019, Congress appropriated [\\$50,000,000 in budget authority](#) for DCIP in the [Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020](#).

FY2020 Approved Projects

On May 6, 2020, the SECDEF approved the launch of DCIP and specified that the program’s “priority focus” was “military family quality of life, military resilience, and military value (in that order).” On May 26, 2020, DOD announced a [Final Federal Funding Opportunity](#) for those interested in obtaining DCIP funding. The notice provided the requirements for submitting proposals, outlined proposal selection criteria, and set a submission deadline of June 26, 2020.

On August 12, 2020, DOD announced its list of approved projects whose proposers would be *invited* to submit a formal grant application for DCIP funding (**Table 1**). OEA published the [tiered rankings for all 109 proposals](#) evaluated. Invited proposals were all ranked as “Tier 1”—meaning they met the [selection criteria](#) for enhancing *military family quality of life* (versus *military value* or *resilience*). OEA also published the amount of funding each project would receive, allocating nearly all \$50 million in DCIP appropriations. Pending grantee acceptance by September 23, 2020, all DCIP funding would be obligated in FY2020, and according to DOD would “remain available for expenses up to five years.”

Table I. FY2020 Invited Proposals
By DCIP Funding Amount (Highest to Lowest)

Project	Proposer	Supported Installation	State / Territory	Total Project Cost	DCIP Funding	% Funded by DCIP
Aim High - Big Sky Recreation Center	City of Great Falls	Malmstrom Air Force Base	Montana	\$20,000,000	\$10,000,000	50.0%
Watertown Family YMCA Community	Jefferson County Industrial Development	Fort Drum	New York	\$18,100,000	\$9,000,000	49.7%
Campus Connections and Learning Space	Louisiana Department of Economic Development	Fort Polk	Louisiana	\$7,599,418	\$6,839,476	90.0%
Recreation & Wellness Center	South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority	Ellsworth Air Force Base	South Dakota	\$12,625,900	\$6,312,950	50.0%
Magic City Discovery Center	City of Minot	Minot Air Force Base	North Dakota	\$11,924,336	\$6,293,820	52.8%
Multipurpose Recreation and Emergency Center	Municipality of Chalan Pago-Ordot	Joint Forces on Guam	Guam	\$6,444,852	\$3,506,426	54.4%
Learn D.C. Charter School	Lawndale Educational and Regional Network	Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling	District of Columbia	\$2,988,432	\$1,494,216	50.0%
Emergency Medical Services	City of Sierra Vista	Fort Huachuca	Arizona	\$1,438,000	\$1,438,000	100.0%
Reconstruction of the Jack Amyette Recreation Center	City of Jacksonville	Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune	North Carolina	\$5,000,000	\$1,000,000	20.0%
STEM Complex	Abilene Independent School District	Dyess Air Force Base	Texas	\$1,925,214	\$962,607	50.0%
Air Power Park Tidal Flooding	City of Hampton	Joint Base Langley-Eustis	Virginia	\$1,844,017	\$707,009	38.3%
Early Childhood Center	Waynesville R-VI School District	Fort Leonard Wood	Missouri	\$1,354,475	\$677,238	50.0%
Silver Valley USD Sports Complex	Silver Valley Unified School District	Fort Irwin National Training Center	California	\$521,695	\$521,695	100.0%
Facility Upgrades	Mountain Home School District	Mountain Home Air Force Base	Idaho	\$426,500	\$426,500	100.0%

Infrastructure Upgrades	Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs	Joint Region Marianas	Northern Mariana Islands	\$335,000	\$335,000	100.0%
Fitness Challenge Course	County of Prince William	Marine Corps Base Quantico	Virginia	\$500,000	\$250,000	50.0%
TOTAL DCIP FUNDS TO BE OBLIGATED:					\$49,764,937	

Source: [DOD Office of Economic Adjustment](#).

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