



[Build Now-NY Home](#)
[About the Program](#)
[Success Stories](#)
[Participating Sites](#)
[Build Now-NY News](#)
[Contact Us](#)
[Additional Resources](#)
[Shovel Ready Program](#)
[GORR Homepage](#)

Build Now-NY



Program Overview

The Build Now-NY program assists local governments, economic development organizations, public authorities, and real estate developers to "**pre-permit**" sites they are promoting. By doing the advance work needed to secure the necessary permits, [New York State](#) and its local partners are able to reduce the amounts of time and money that a business would spend on construction of a new facility. These savings are a valuable incentive for local businesses that are expanding, as well as for out-of-state businesses seeking a new location. The highly successful Build Now-NY program [results in economic growth and new jobs](#) for local residents.

Build Now-NY provides matching grants to assist the local entities in paying for the professional services that are required to pre-permit their site(s). Eligible services include:

- completing a State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR)
- ensuring proper zoning and park covenants
- undertaking historic and archaeological surveys
- completing engineering studies, site maps, development plans, and related items
- performing soil sampling, test borings, and related items
- designing and engineering public infrastructure installation or upgrades

Funds awarded **may not** be used for the following:

- reimbursement of in-kind services
- grant administration and personnel costs
- purchase or cost of office supplies, materials, or equipment
- travel, per diem, or entertainment expenses
- purchase or acquisition of real property or other fixed assets
- materials and/or labor costs associated with the construction of roads, infrastructure, or buildings

Participation in the Build Now-NY program also provides the site developer with technical expertise and assistance regarding permitting issues from the [Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform \(GORR\)](#) and marketing assistance from [Empire State Development \(ESD\)](#). This teamwork between New York State and local developers greatly increases the chances for successful development of the site.

Applying for funding through the Build Now-NY program helps local officials and economic developers focus on exactly what type of business they would like to attract to their community. All applications for funding must specify which of the State's approved business types will be recruited to the site. The applicant must then demonstrate that the site is suitable for that type of business development.

In 2006, Build Now-NY Round 4 provided [development profiles](#) for 3 business classes that have been successfully recruited to New York State. These profiles are valuable sources of information that can help guide local discussion of the benefits and impacts of businesses in each of these categories. The profiles also include essential information, such as typical business profiles and project requirements.

For each of the three types of economic development projects, a list of criteria has been developed. These criteria mirror the factors and issues that professional site selectors consider when developing projects. They fall in two categories – "Musts" and "Wants", and are listed at the end of each development profile.

Musts criteria include:

- Sufficient developable contiguous acreage
- Transportation access
- Proper zoning
- Outside of the 100-year flood plain
- Free of environmental issues
- Availability of utilities

Those sites chosen to participate in the program received reimbursement for half of their eligible costs, subject to a capped overall amount. This amount has risen over time, as different funding rounds have been announced. The Round 1 maximum was \$50,000, but was increased to \$75,000 in Round 2. The maximum matching grant for the most recent round (Round 4) was \$100,000. Round 3 differed from the other Rounds in that the financial assistance was provided in the form of an interest free loan, rather than a matching grant.

To learn more about Build Now-NY, explore the following pages:

- [Success Stories](#)
- [Map of Build Now-NY Sites](#)
- [Build Now-NY News](#)

Or use the navigator bar on the left to view other sections of the Build Now-NY website.