NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. | ConnectALL

A Division of Empire State Development

Regional and Local Assistance Program

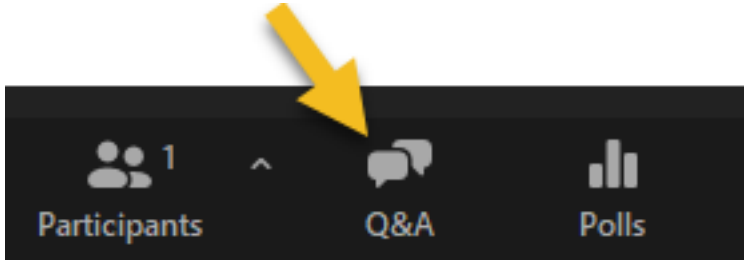
Request for Applications Information Session

June 25, 2024

WELCOME

About today's session:

- This session is being recorded. **The recording + slides will be emailed out** to all participants and posted on ConnectALL's website.
- Important links and announcements will be posted in the meeting chat. All links shared today will also be sent out via email.
- Please send your questions using the **Zoom Q&A function** or by email to: rla@esd.ny.gov.



- Questions will not be answered during this session. Answers will be posted to the ConnectALL website at **broadband.ny.gov.**

01

ConnectALL Overview

CONNECTALL OVERVIEW

ConnectALL is Governor Hochul’s initiative to transform New York's digital infrastructure, build a robust broadband marketplace, and bring affordable, reliable, high-speed internet service to all New Yorkers.

Governor Hochul delivering the 2022 State of the State address.

ConnectALL Signature Programs

- ConnectALL Deployment Program
- Affordable Housing Connectivity
- Digital Equity Program
- Connectivity Innovation
- Municipal Infrastructure Program

CONNECTALL OVERVIEW

ConnectALL will use federal funding for the Governor's five signature programs across all three of the ConnectALL goals authorized by the NYS Legislature in the WIRED Broadband Act:

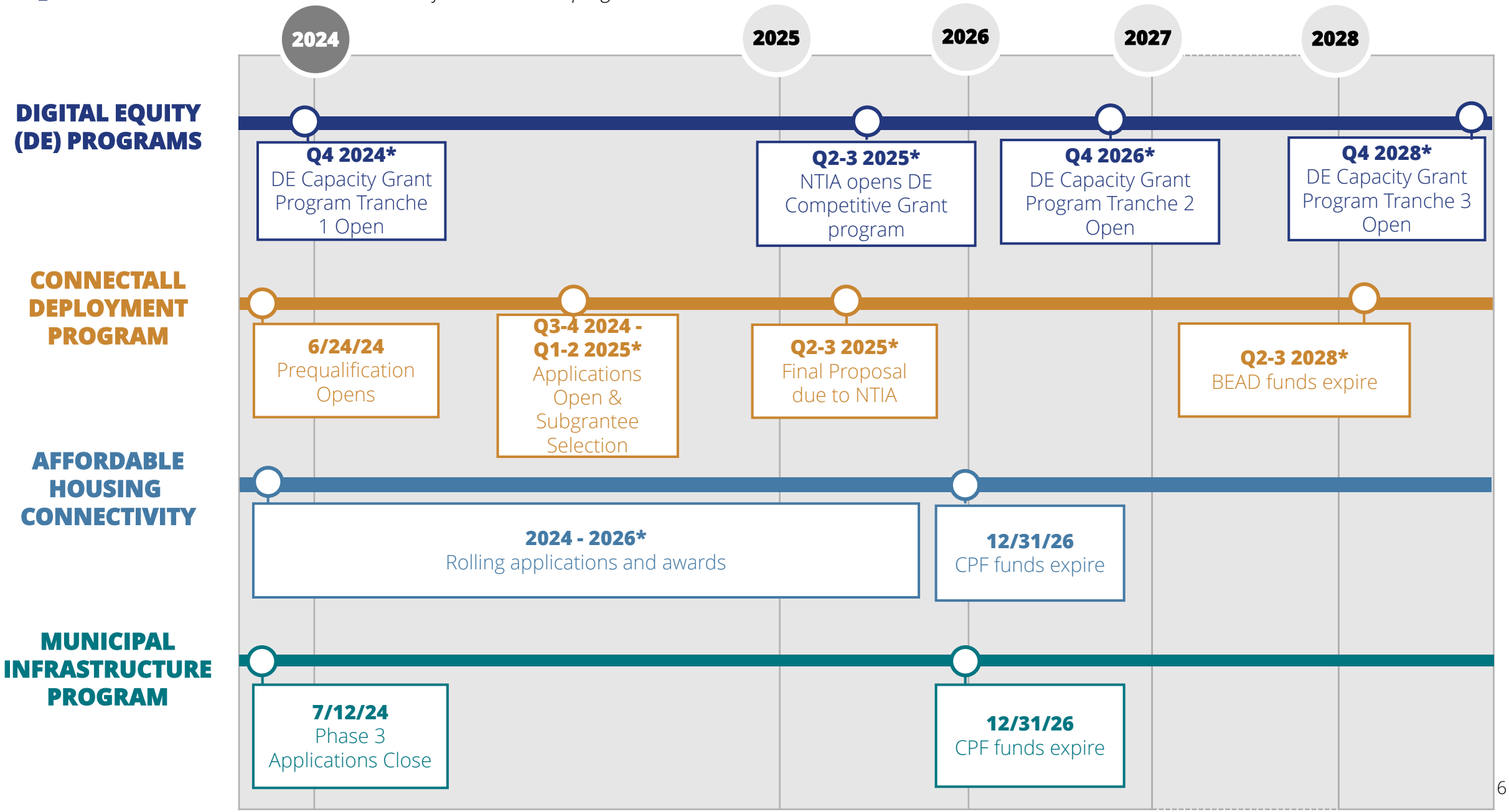
1 New York's digital infrastructure will **connect all residents and businesses** to high-speed, reliable, and affordable broadband.

2 New York will have a **robust and competitive internet marketplace** to support economic development and benefit New Yorkers with consumer choice.

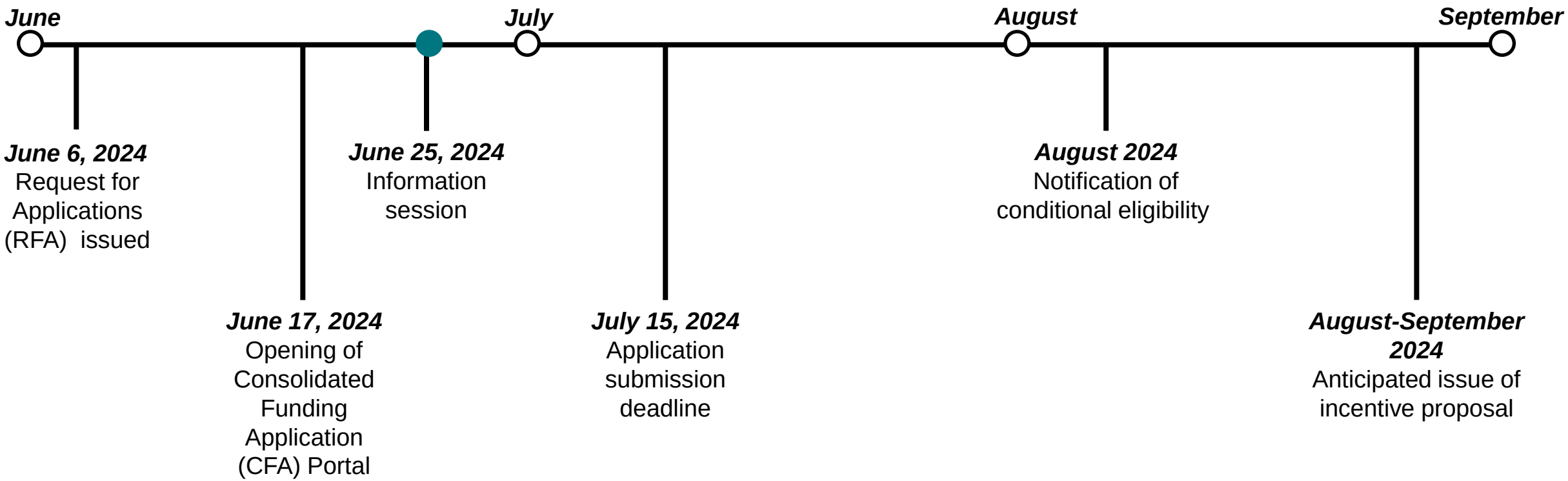
3 **A statewide mobilization** with partners in State, regional, county, local, and Tribal governments, and in the private, nonprofit, and academic sectors **will end the digital divide.**

CONNECTALL GRANT OPPORTUNITIES TIMELINE*

**Dates are tentative. This chart is not inclusive of all ConnectALL programs or initiatives.*



REGIONAL AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TIMELINE 2024-2025



02

Request for Applications Overview

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

The Regional and Local Assistance RFA is now available at **broadband.ny.gov**. The online portal to submit applications is open until July 15.

Goal:

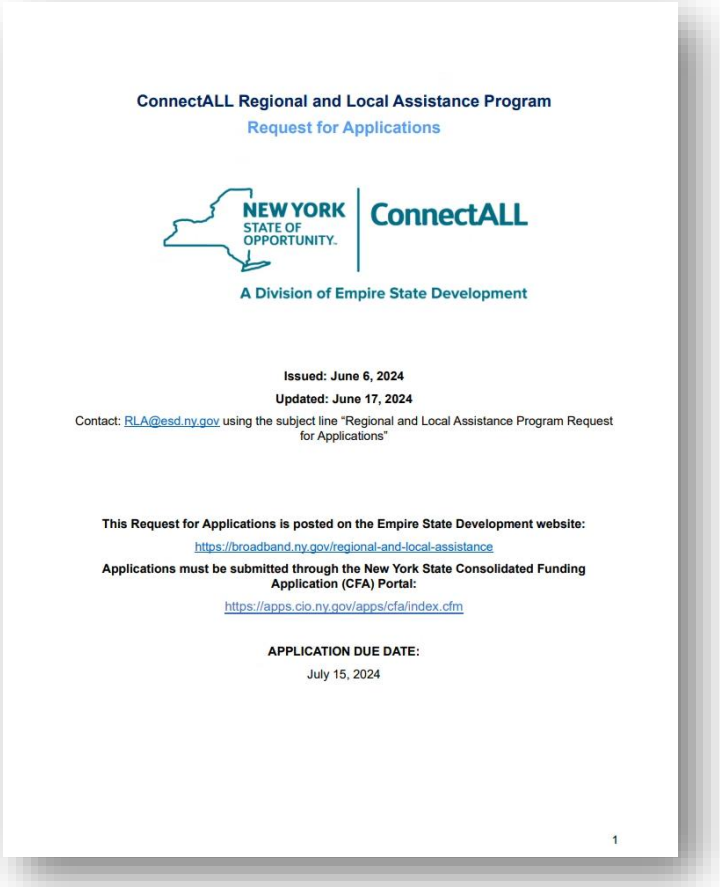
- Assist government entities to plan or prepare for broadband deployment or digital equity initiatives

Eligible Applicants:

- New York local governments, counties, municipalities, Tribal Governments, and other government entities or entities created by units of government

Eligible Uses of Funds:

- Non-capital uses only; no construction
- Identifying and preparing areas in need of internet service or new investments in broadband infrastructure or digital equity initiatives
- Development of financing for broadband facilities or improving operations related to broadband facility management
- Preparation of studies, plans, scopes, designs, and other planning documents


ConnectALL Regional and Local Assistance Program

Request for Applications

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. | ConnectALL

A Division of Empire State Development

Issued: June 6, 2024

Updated: June 17, 2024

Contact: RLA@esd.ny.gov using the subject line "Regional and Local Assistance Program Request for Applications"

This Request for Applications is posted on the Empire State Development website:

https://broadband.ny.gov/regional-and-local-assistance

Applications must be submitted through the New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Portal:

https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/index.cfm

APPLICATION DUE DATE:

July 15, 2024

1

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must identify whether they are applying for a grant for planning or for capacity.

Planning grants fund the development of plans, scopes, designs, or other documentation to prepare for the implementation of broadband deployment projects, public-sector led digital equity programs, or other efforts consistent with the ConnectALL mandate.

Capacity grants fund internal staff capacity for eligible applicants to implement broadband deployment projects, public-sector led digital equity programs, or other efforts consistent with the ConnectALL mandate.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Requirements specific to planning grants:

Maximum request and award is $249,999

No minimum request and award for planning grants

Funded planning activities must be completed within 24 months

Requirements specific to capacity grants:

Maximum request and award is $150,000

Minimum request and award is $50,000

Funded activities or purchases must be completed within 24 months and sustained at minimum 12 months beyond the grant period

Requirements for all Regional and Local Assistance Program awards:

- Grantee commitment to participate in meetings with ConnectALL and other grantees
- Grants may be subject to Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) participation goals
- Matching funding may be factored in as criteria, but will not be a strict requirement for award

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

1 | Attachments:

- ✓ Organizational chart
- ✓ Resumes of key personnel
- ✓ Funding Request Template *(download from broadband.ny.gov)*
- ✓ Letters of support

2 | Applicant Profile, Experience, and Qualifications:

- ✓ Applicant details and contact information
- ✓ Proposed grant funding arrangement
- ✓ Applicant's experience with broadband planning, infrastructure deployment, and/or digital equity coordination projects
- ✓ Applicant's experience administering grant funds

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

3 | Approach and Scope:

- ✓ Planning or Capacity grant
- ✓ Project plan and estimated timeline
- ✓ Capacity gap the Applicant faces
- ✓ Capacity resources the Applicant needs to address the capacity gap
- ✓ What work has been done by the Applicant or others to address the capacity gap
- ✓ Interest of any partners or vendors to support the project
- ✓ Sustainability plan

4 | Impact:

- ✓ Project area and its needs relative to broadband service or digital equity
- ✓ Applicant positioning to share findings and outcomes with other entities
- ✓ Extent to and ways in which the proposed project will address broadband barriers and/or opportunities for Digital Equity Act Covered Populations (listed in Appendix A of the RFA)

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

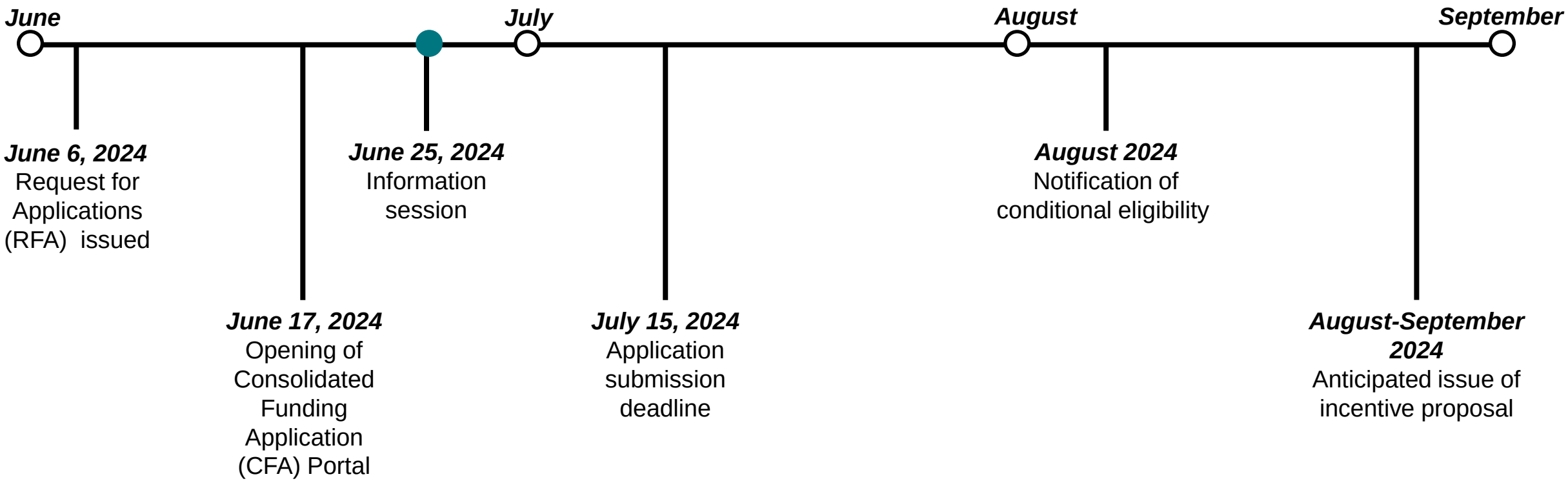
5 | Disclosures, Program Alignment and Compliance:

- ✓ Acknowledgement that grants awarded may be subject to MWBE utilization goals
- ✓ Acknowledgement of all Project Requirements
- ✓ Acknowledgement project does not duplicate federal or State funding
- ✓ Acknowledgement of compliance with any/all addenda to the Request for Applications

SELECTION CRITERIA

Criterion	*Scoring Weight*
Applicant Profile, Experience, and Qualifications *Qualifications of key personnel, past management experience, past grant administration experience, project management approach*	5%
Approach and Scope *Demonstrated capacity gap and approach to address gap*	50%
Impact *Entity capacity to better address broadband service or digital equity needs and projected benefit for Digital Equity Act Covered Populations*	30%
Funding Request *Soundness of financial assumptions*	5%
Letters of Support *Letters or other documentation in support of the application*	10%
Total	**100%**

SELECTION TIMELINE



03

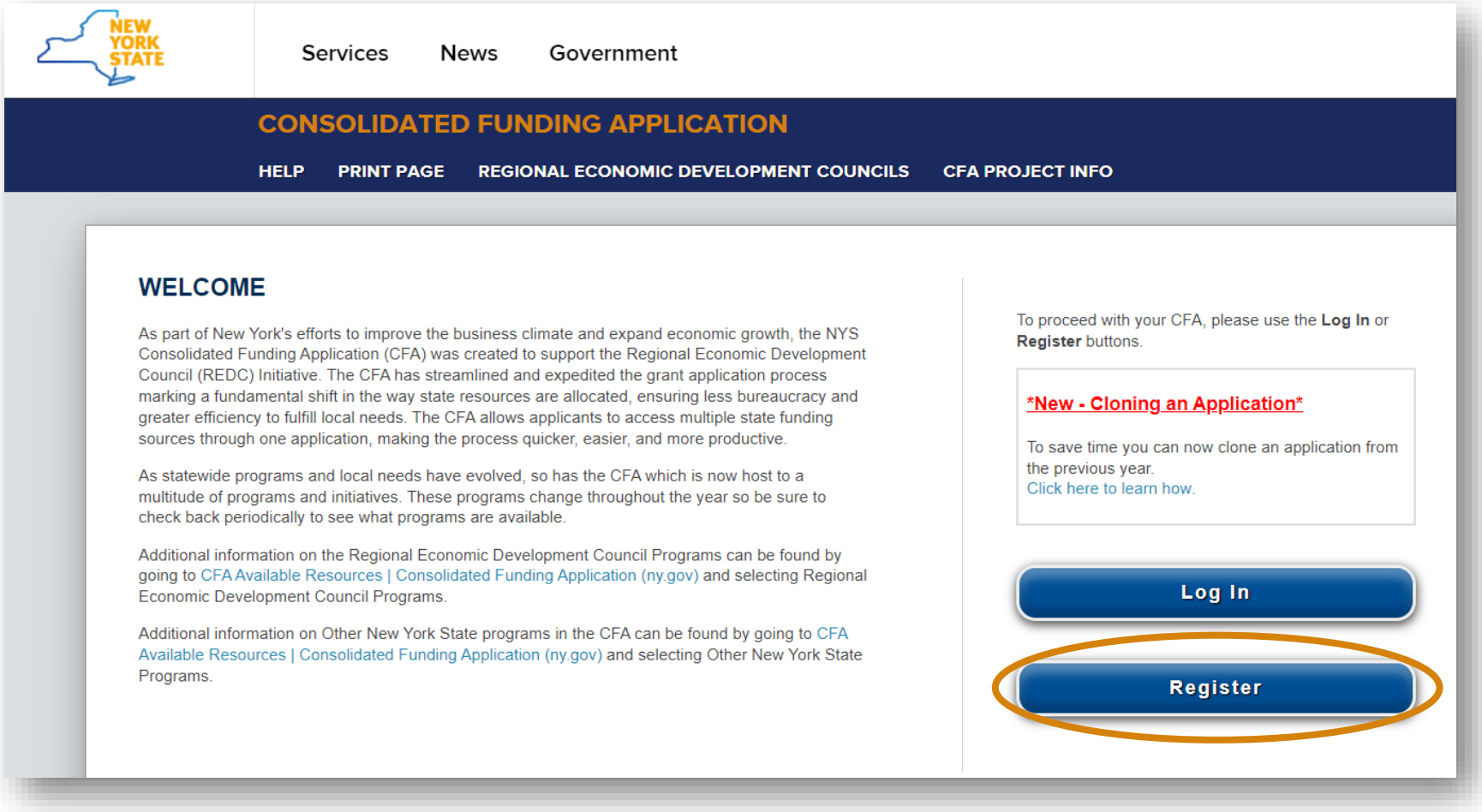
How to Apply

HOW TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted through the New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

Create an account by registering at https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/index.cfm

Note: Once your account is created, you will receive an email with a token required to access the CFA going forward. Save the token in an easy to access location.



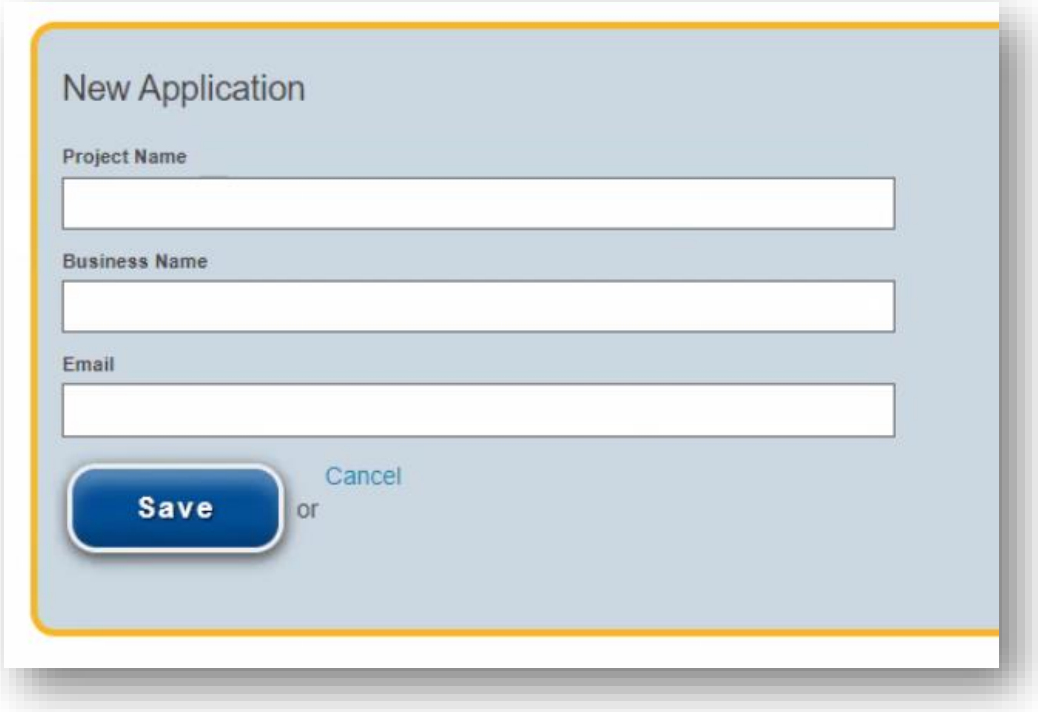
HOW TO APPLY

Navigating the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

Once logged in, create a "New Application" and fill in the fields shown here.

"Project Name" is for your reference only. The following naming conventions are recommended:

- “OrgName RLA”

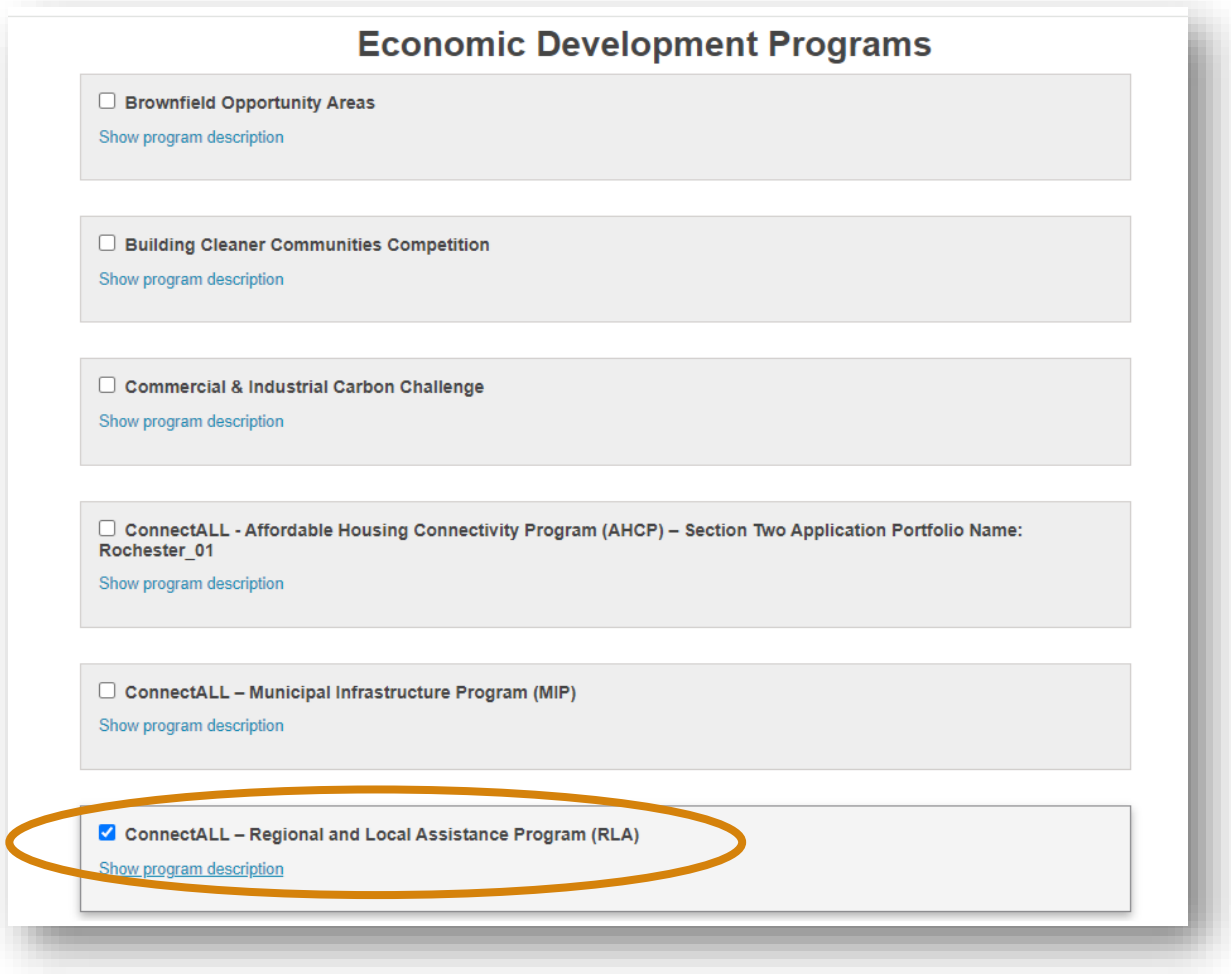


HOW TO APPLY

Navigating the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

To begin your application, you must select the appropriate "Program."

The Regional and Local Assistance RFA is listed in the CFA under "Economic Development Programs" as ”ConnectALL – Regional and Local Assistance Program (RLA)"

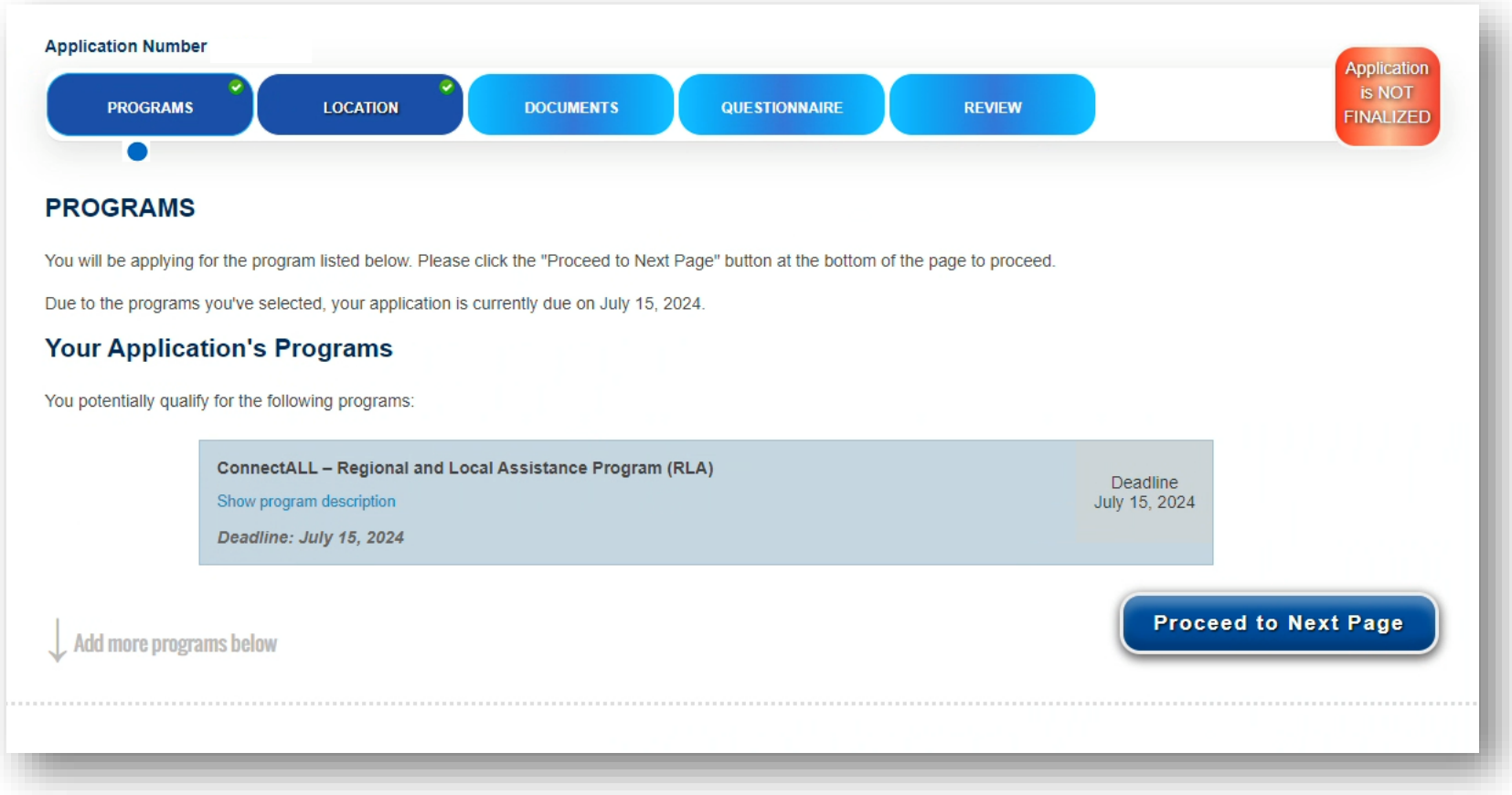


HOW TO APPLY

Navigating the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

The application begins with threshold questions. Once answered, applicants who meet the threshold requirements will see this page.

Select "Proceed to Next Page" to continue.

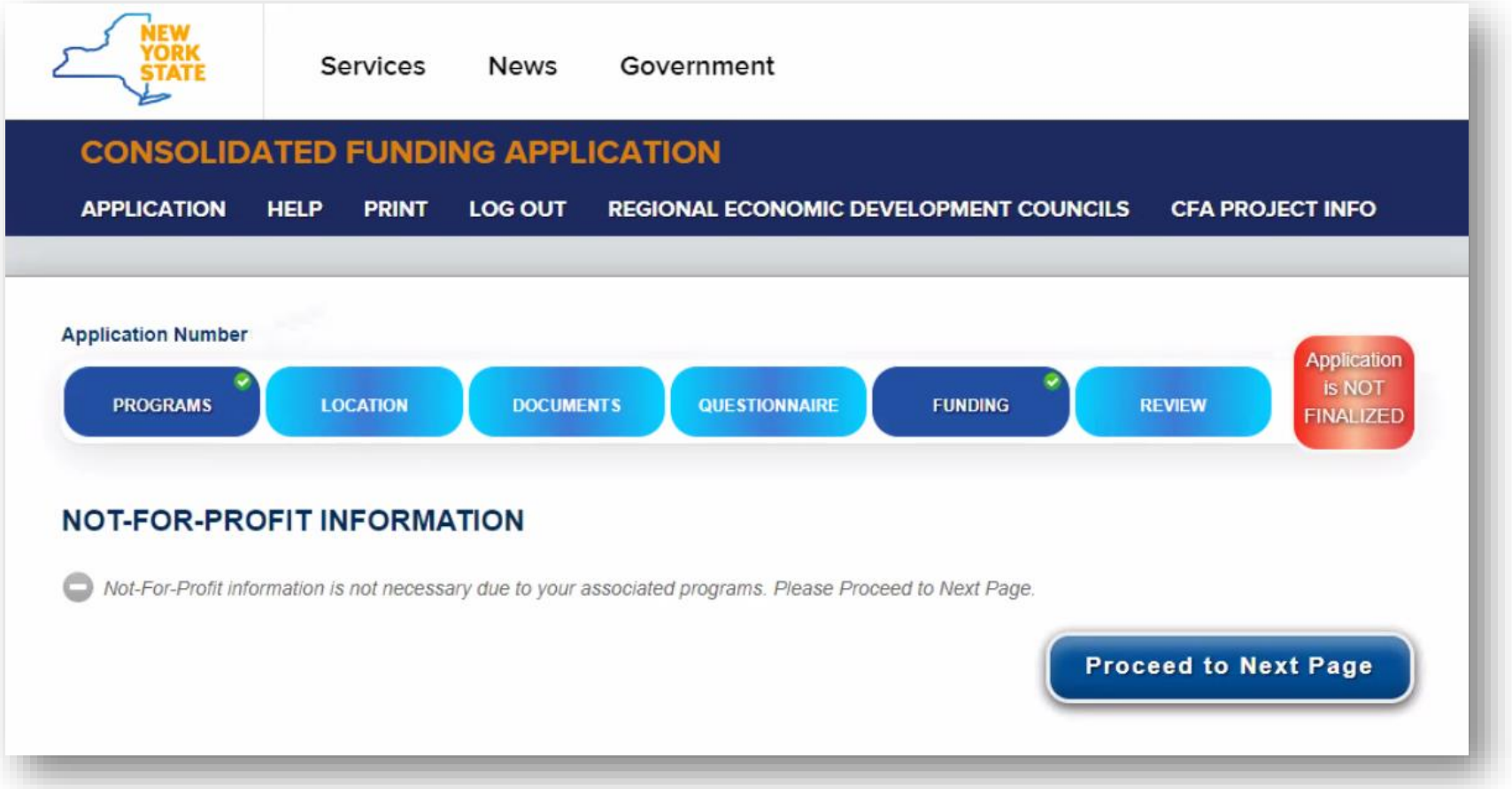


HOW TO APPLY

Navigating the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

The "Not-For-Profit Information" application page is not relevant for this Program.

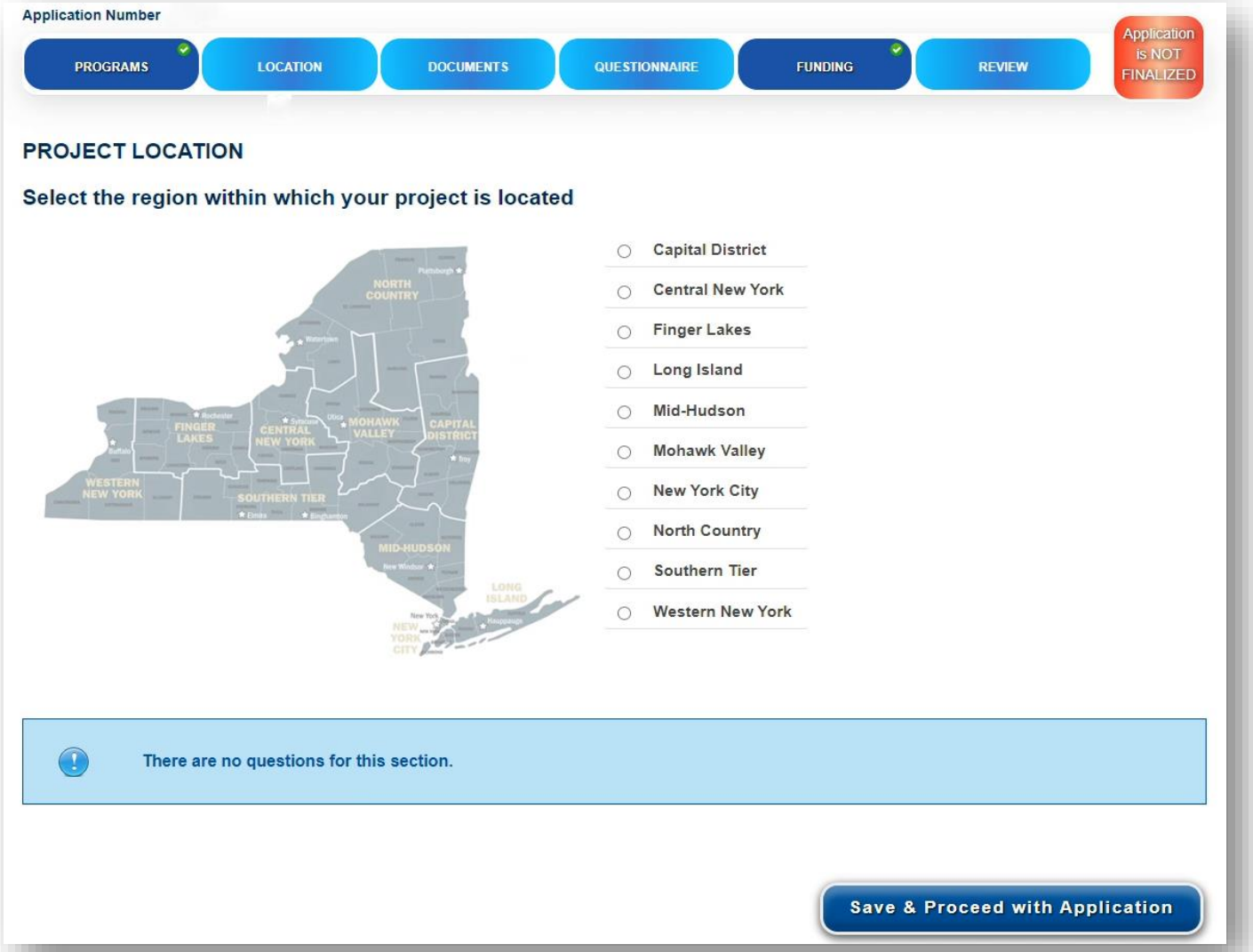
Select "Proceed to Next Page" to continue.



HOW TO APPLY

Navigating the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

On the "Project Location" page Applicants should select the region their project is located in. If the project spans multiple regions, select the primary region.

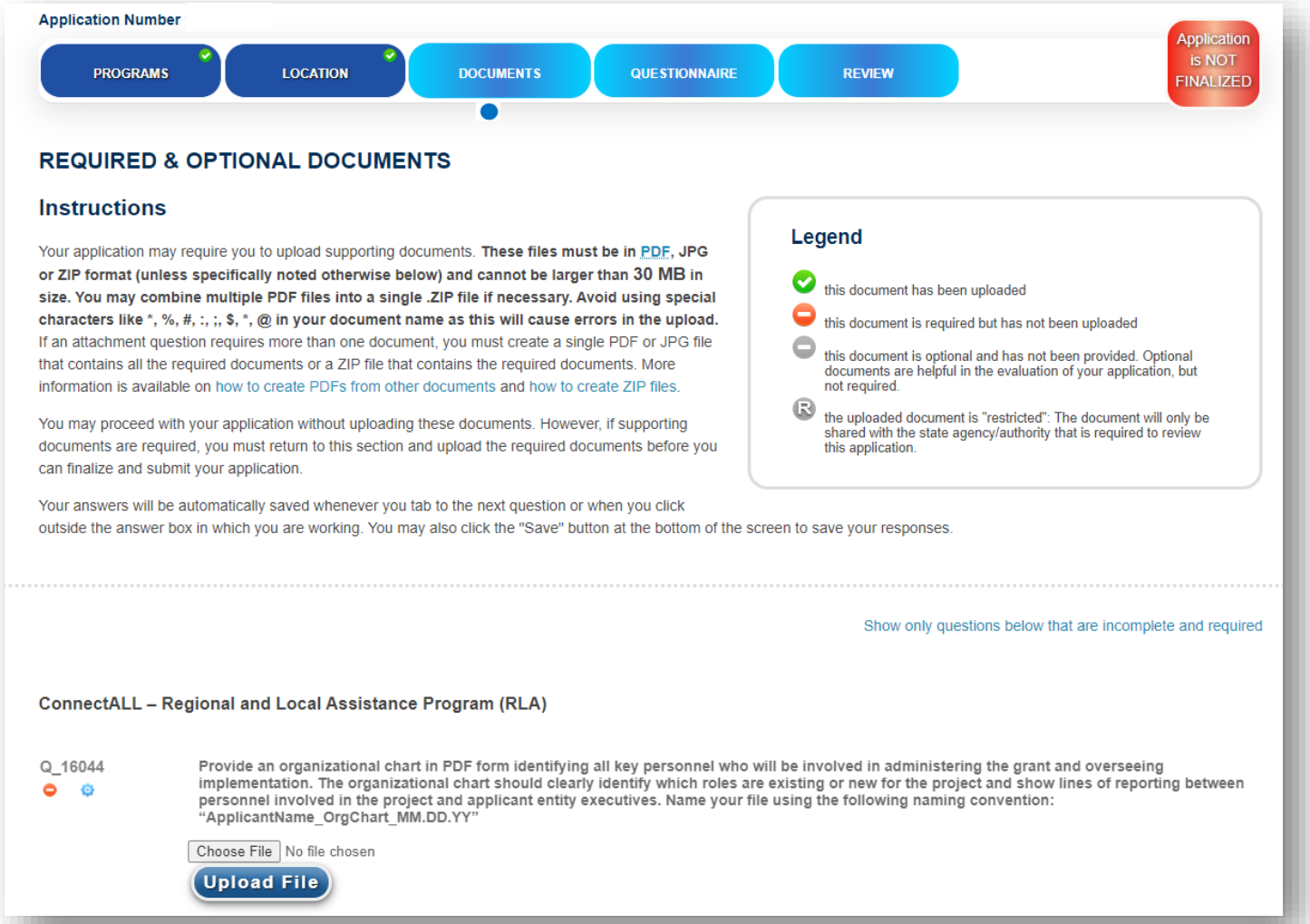


HOW TO APPLY

Navigating the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

The "Documents" and "Questionnaire" tabs contain the remainder of the application questions and requirements.

All questions that require an attachment to be uploaded are located in the "Documents" tab.

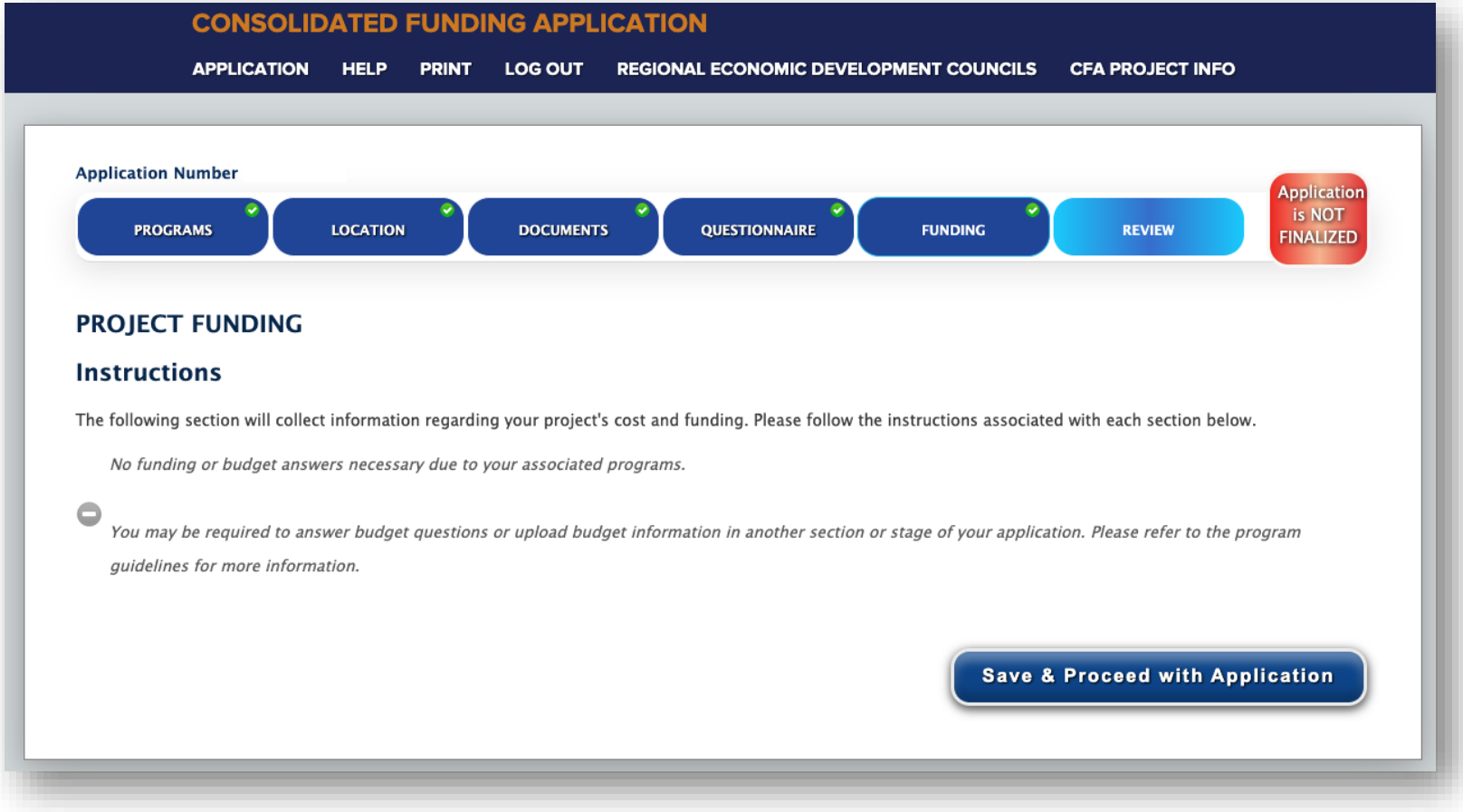


HOW TO APPLY

Navigating the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

The ”Funding” application page is not relevant for this Program.

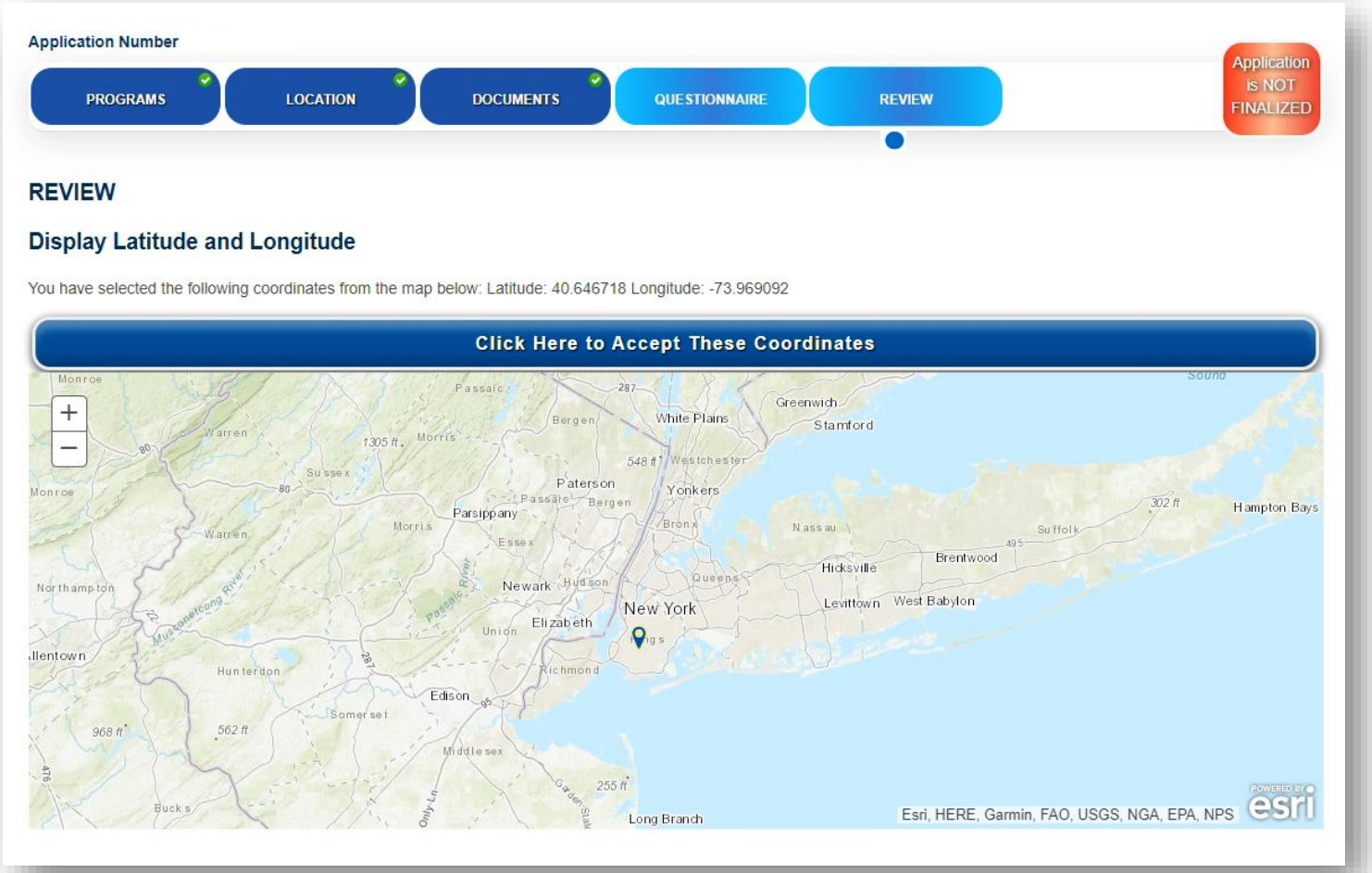
Select ”Save & Proceed with Application" to continue.



HOW TO APPLY

Navigating the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

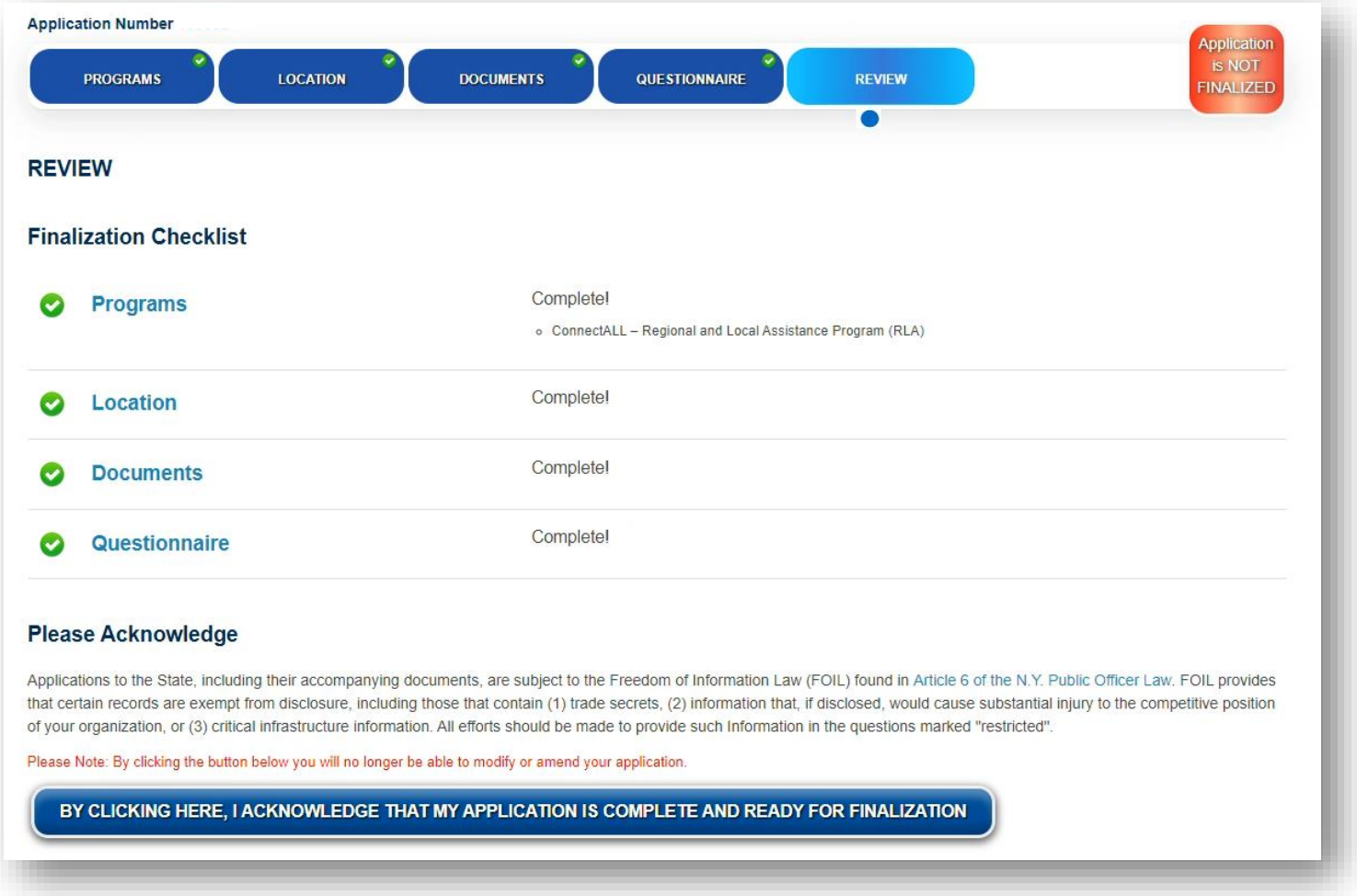
On the “Review” page, select an approximate latitude and longitude for the applicant entity's address. This does not have to be exact. Click "Click Here to Accept These Coordinates" to advance.



HOW TO APPLY

Navigating the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA)

Click the Acknowledgement button at the bottom of the screen to submit your application. **You will not be able to make changes after you submit.**



HOW TO APPLY

Application Review

After application submission…

→ Applicants will receive an update on the status of their application via email.

→ Applications may be approved, rejected, or subject to further review.

→ Additional documentation or demonstrations of compliance may be required prior to grant award.

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Questions?

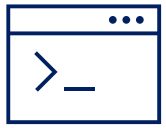
Use Zoom Q&A feature at the bottom of your screen or send to RLA@esd.ny.gov

HOW TO APPLY

The RFA contains information on how to determine eligibility for the program and how interested parties can apply.

Review the **RFA** and appendices at:

https://broadband.ny.gov/regional-and-local-assistance



Create an account for New York State's **Consolidated Funding Application portal** to access the application.

https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/login.cfm

Consult the **Application Instructions and Checklist** to gather everything required for a complete application.

Email ConnectALL with questions at RLA@esd.ny.gov using the subject line "Regional and Local Assistance"

COMING UP

June

- The Regional and Local Assistance RFA is open in the Consolidated Funding Application
- Slides and the recording from today's session will be posted online

July

- ConnectALL will review applications as they come in
- All applications will be due July 15

August-September

- ConnectALL will notify applicants that are conditionally eligible for awards
- ConnectALL and selected grantees will execute incentive proposals

Visit broadband.ny.gov for information on upcoming events and engaging with ConnectALL

OTHER PROGRAM UPDATES

Municipal Infrastructure Program

Phase 3 application deadline extended to July 12:
https://broadband.ny.gov/municipal-infrastructure-program

ConnectALL Deployment Program Prequalification Application

Register for the Prequalification Information Session, June 26:
https://broadband.ny.gov/connectall-deployment-program

Digital Equity Technical Assistance Fund

Eligible Applicants are nonprofit organizations and Tribal nongovernmental entities.
Register for the Information Session, June 27:
https://broadband.ny.gov/digital-equity-technical-assistance-fund

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Thank you!

Contact the ConnectALL Office:
ConnectALL@esd.ny.gov