

# 2024 BBEDC PROGRAM DIRECTORY

Complete information, forms, program deadlines, and applications for BBEDC programs can be found online at [www.bbcdc.com](http://www.bbcdc.com), through community liaisons, or by contacting BBEDC at 1-800-478-4370.

## Regional Fisheries

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**The Vessel Upgrade Grant Program** – Grants of up to \$17,500 for setnetters and up to \$35,000 for drift boats are available to aid with the cost of vessel repairs, deck and fish hold upgrades, engine purchases, RSW system maintenance, electronics upgrades, and other improvements that enhance fish quality and harvesting efficiency. For projects exceeding the maximum grant amount, grant funds can also be combined with qualifying commercial fishing loans. Resident fishers who have not received a Vessel Upgrade Grant in the previous three years may be eligible for an additional Vessel Upgrade Grant with full program benefits. An In-Season Emergency Provision is available for fishers who experience a catastrophic engine or drive train failure mid-season.

Applicants must be a BBEDC CDQ or Bristol Bay watershed community resident, have a history of and commitment to participating in the region's commercial salmon fishery, own the vessel or vehicle, and own an Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) Bristol Bay Limited Entry Salmon Permit or provide a copy of a contract with a CFEC watershed resident permit owner declaring their intention to fish with the applicant for the coming season. The applicant must also remain a resident in a CDQ or Bristol Bay watershed community and continue participation in the region's salmon fishery for three consecutive years following receipt of the grant.

**4E Halibut Program** – Applications to fish the Area 4E CDQ halibut fishery are available from BBEDC after January 1. Applications can be requested from BBEDC or your community liaison, and BBEDC will mail you a 2024 application if you registered to fish 4E CDQ Halibut in 2023. Completed applications are due by April 1 and evidence of state licenses and other required documents need to be provided prior to the opening of the 4E CDQ halibut season on May 1. Fishers will receive a hobo temperature device that is required to be used while fishing throughout the 2024 halibut season as part of an ongoing effort to monitor and record the water temperature and its correlation with halibut harvests.

**Bristol Bay Ice** – BBEDC owns two ice barges, the Bristol Maid and the Bristol Lady. We also partner with fish processing companies and third parties to distribute ice in fishing districts across Bristol Bay. Please contact the Regional Fisheries Department to find out more about our icing plans for the 2024 season. Taking advantage of the icing bonuses paid by salmon processors often requires that fishers have insulated fish holds, totes, or slush bags for storing ice and chilling fish on board. Please check with your processor before the season to ensure that your operation is ready to ice and is equipped to meet quality standards.

**Pre-Season Advance Program** – Being prepared for the upcoming fishing season is essential. The Pre-Season Advance Program provides up to \$5,000 to help resident fishers pay pre-season expenses such as nets, insurance, license renewals, fuel, groceries and other fishing necessities. The advance and a \$25 application fee must be repaid by July 15 of the year in which it was advanced. Repayment must be guaranteed by a promissory note signed by the borrower and a purchase order from the applicant's fish company.

**RSW Purchase Program** – The RSW Purchase Program provides grants of up to \$22,000 to assist with the purchase of Refrigerated Sea Water (RSW) systems for qualifying commercial salmon operations. RSW systems enable

fishers to enhance their quality of catch by chilling fish at the point of harvest, which is an effective alternative to icing. Applicants must be a BBEDC CDQ or Bristol Bay watershed community resident, have a history of and commitment to participating in the region's commercial salmon fishery, own the vessel, own an Alaska CFEC permit for harvesting salmon or provide a copy of a contract with a CFEC resident permit owner declaring their intention to fish with the applicant for the upcoming season. Applicants must also remain residents in a CDQ or Bristol Bay watershed community and continue participating in the region's salmon fishery for three consecutive years following receipt of the grant.

**RSW Support Program** – The RSW Support Program provides annual assistance of up to \$1,000 to BBEDC CDQ or Bristol Bay watershed community resident fishers who have installed or plan to install a Refrigerated Sea Water (RSW) system in their fishing vessel. Funds can be used for consultation prior to and during installation, spring tune-ups, repairs, and winterization of RSW systems. These benefits help fishers earn more from the region's fisheries resources by improving fish quality. Applicants must own the vessel and either own an Alaska CFEC permit for harvesting salmon or provide a copy of a contract with a CFEC resident permit owner declaring their intention to fish with the applicant for the coming season.

**Quality Improvements Program** – Chilled fish are worth more money, and to help resident fishers earn the best price for their catch, BBEDC provides a one-time benefit of slush ice bags, insulated totes, padded deck mats and flexible sheet foam fish-hold insulation to BBEDC CDQ or Bristol Bay watershed community resident commercial fishers. Replacement products are not provided, except that patch material for slush bags is available. Slush bags, padded deck mats, and flexible foam insulation require that applicants own a boat or set net fishing equipment such as a skiff or vehicle and either own a CFEC Bristol Bay Limited Entry Salmon Permit or have a contract to fish with a resident permit owner for the coming season. Insulated totes require that the fisher own a CFEC Bristol Bay salmon permit.

**Fisheries Habitat Protection Grant** – A limited number of grants of up to \$5,000 are available to support individual endeavors to protect the habitats that sustain the Bristol Bay fisheries. Larger awards are available for organizations with this mission that are based in Bristol Bay. Grant distribution is project specific and will require the applicant to provide a project narrative, budget, timetable for completion, and reportable deliverable outcomes. All proposals are due by April 1, 2024. Contact BBEDC Regional Fisheries Staff for more details.

*Some programs have specific reporting requirements for the subsequent three consecutive salmon seasons following grant distribution. Following each season, fishers must submit the required documents in a timely manner. For more information about reporting requirements, contact Regional Fisheries staff or visit [www.bbcdc.com](http://www.bbcdc.com)*

# Education, Employment & Training

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**Harvey Samuelsen Scholarship Trust** – Scholarships are awarded to Bristol Bay CDQ residents earning degrees from accredited colleges or universities as full-time students. Eligibility requirements are:

- Resident of a Bristol Bay CDQ community
- HS diploma or GED
- Enrolled in an accredited college or university
- Registered as a full-time student in a degree program
- Undergraduates must have a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA
- Graduate students must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA

Award amounts vary from year to year. The full-year application deadline is June 7, 2024, at 5:00 PM, with a mid-year application opportunity in January 2025 for the spring term.

**Student Loan Forgiveness Program** – As an incentive for residents who graduate from a college or technical school to return to Bristol Bay, BBEDC offers assistance with their student loan repayment. Applicants must have been a resident of a Bristol Bay CDQ community prior to earning their degree/license/certification and then worked in a Bristol Bay CDQ community for 12 months before applying. The program forgives up to \$20,000 of a student loan with payments disbursed to the lending agency over a five-year period. In the first year 10% of the loan principal is forgiven, 20% the second year, 30% the third year, 50% the fourth year, and 100% the fifth year. Participants must keep loan payments current and maintain full-time employment in the Bristol Bay to remain eligible.

**College Development Fund** – Financial aid is offered to Bristol Bay CDQ residents pursuing college degrees on a part-time basis from within their home community. The program prioritizes the utilization of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Bristol Bay Campus or distance delivery from the University of Alaska or Alaska Pacific University systems. Other U.S. institutions may be considered with written justification from the applicant. Eligibility requirements are:

- Resident of a Bristol Bay CDQ community
- Enrolled in a degree program
- Registered as a part-time student
- Undergraduates must have a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA
- Graduate students must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA

Awards will pay for tuition, books, and fees up to \$1,500 per term. High school students taking college courses for dual credit may also apply for the College Development Fund. Applications are accepted year-round and must be received three full business days before classes start. Students must apply each term.

**Salmon Camp** – The Bristol Bay Salmon Camp provides high school and middle school students with an opportunity to learn about Bristol Bay salmon biology and management. Students participate in classroom studies in limnology, fisheries management, and research and work alongside professionals in the field. Enjoy a learning experience and fun activities on beautiful Lake Aleknagik. Plans for the 2024 Salmon Camp will be announced in April.

**Community/Group Training Fund** – Funding is offered to BBEDC village, city, and borough governments and accredited/known training providers to provide training opportunities that are either fisheries-related or deemed capacity-building for BBEDC CDQ residents seeking new or enhanced skills related to their fishing operations or employment.

**Vocational Program** – Funds are available for residents who are interested in advancing in vocational education or those who are seeking new or enhanced skills related to their primary employment. Complete applications must be received by BBEDC seven full business days prior to the start of classes to be considered for funding. BBEDC will prioritize training at facilities in-region (SAVEC is our preferred provider), in-state, and lastly, within the United States. Funding eligibility criteria include:

- Fisheries-related training directly related to the fisher's operation, including industry-related skills training or training that could lead to entry into a Bristol Bay commercial fishery as a crew member.
- Job-readiness training that would provide new or enhanced current employment skills for those unemployed with the goal of increasing employability.
- Employer-mandated training required for continued employment (Limited to \$2,500 per year).
- Training or certifications that could lead to a direct employment advancement or pay increase with the current primary employer.
- Continuing education training to maintain certifications that are required for the current occupation.
- Full-time vocational-technical education program leading to a nationally recognized certification, license, or degree that could lead to direct employment in the vocation.

**Internships** – Many exciting opportunities for internships in Bristol Bay are available to both youth and adults. Youth internships are offered to CDQ community residents between the ages of 14 to 17 and provide educational and training elements within an employment position. Adult internships are designed to allow residents to work with partnering businesses and agencies to gain practical work experience related to interests and career goals. If you are interested in applying for an internship, have ideas for new internship opportunities, or are a business/organization interested in providing an opportunity through this program, contact BBEDC Education, Employment and Training staff.

**Seasonal Employment Opportunities** – Residents of BBEDC communities who wish to learn new work skills and gain experience through on-the-job training in entry-level employment are encouraged to apply for positions created through this program. BBEDC works cooperatively with organizations and businesses in the region to create short-term seasonal positions for residents. Seasonal Employment positions are available throughout the year based on available funds. Businesses and organizations interested in providing an employment opportunity through this program are encouraged to contact BBEDC Education, Employment and Training staff.

**Bering Sea Employment** – BBEDC will assist individuals who are interested in a seafood processing job in the Bering Sea. There are seasonal employment opportunities available with the pollock fisheries, longliners, crab boats, multi-species bottom fish boats, floating processors, and land plants. Positions are available year-round to residents from the Bristol Bay watershed communities. BBEDC works with residents to complete an application and then share those with partner organizations in the Bering Sea. There is also some financial assistance available to those who need help purchasing gear, plane tickets, or testing associated with the employment position.

## \*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\*

The BBEDC Residency Form and the Relationship Disclosure Form are required for **ALL** BBEDC programs. Residency Forms must be renewed annually with supporting documents and Relationship Disclosure Forms must accompany every application.

**Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation**  
P.O. Box 1464 • 411 First Avenue East • Dillingham, AK 99576  
Phone: 907- 842-4370 • Toll-free: 1-800-478-4370 • Fax: 907-842-4336 •

# Economic Development & Permit Brokerage

Alice Ruby, [alice@bbedc.com](mailto:alice@bbedc.com)

**Interest Rate Assistance** – BBEDC resident fishers are provided an opportunity to reinvest in their commercial fishing operations through relief from a portion of the interest on fishery-related loan payments.

- Participation is limited to one loan per individual.
- Applicants must be BBEDC CDQ community residents.
- Loans must be in good standing.
- Applicants must apply prior to making the current loan payment.
- Applicants must allow at least two weeks for application processing.
- Payments are made directly to the lending institute.

**Tax Preparation Program** – BBEDC assists residents of its 17 communities with filing timely IRS tax returns by offering up to \$150 for professional preparation of personal tax returns by a resident tax preparer. The application process to apply:

- Residents submit a complete 2024 Tax Preparation Application Form.
- All adults receiving services must have on file or submit a current BBEDC Affidavit of Residency with appropriate support documents.
- Participant submits a Relationship Disclosure Form with the application.
- Tax Preparer is on BBEDC's approved tax preparer list.
- Only 2023 tax returns are eligible, preparer will require a BBEDC approval card before preparation of a tax return.
- Application period is January 1 through April 30 (BBEDC may extend the application period if the IRS filing deadline is extended).

**Bristol Bay Permit Brokerage** – BBPB strives to promote ownership of limited entry permits by residents of the region by providing services at no charge other than required agency fees. Services include but are not limited to:

- Serves as a liaison for residents to assist with vessel license renewals, permit renewals, permit transfers and other related communications with the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) and U.S. Coast Guard.
- Listings for the sale/purchase of permits and boats. Crew and permit holder listings.
- Assistance with documents for sale and transfer of permits and boats.
- Provide agreement templates for use by fishers for leases and emergency transfers.
- Sample crew contract.

**Arctic Tern Program** – Grants of up to \$6,000 per BBEDC community are available to the Tribal or City government in each community. The funds are intended to address the challenge of limited opportunities for employment and educational activities for youth under the age of 17. The grants provide exposure to the world of work and/or educational opportunities that will allow them to gain self-confidence, career awareness, financial literacy, and interpersonal competencies needed to succeed over the long-term.

**Technical Assistance Program** - BBEDC provides resident entrepreneurs and communities with a source of assistance in developing business plans, feasibility analysis (small projects), grant mentoring, completing loan applications, financial counseling, and the other technical aspects of developing small businesses. The program provides assistance to successful applicants from an established and experienced consulting firm, the Alaska Business Development Center (ABDC). The applicants must actively work with the consultant towards a finished product.

**Community Liaison Program** - A grant is made available to each BBEDC community to provide liaison services. Liaisons promote BBEDC programs and serve as a point of contact for BBEDC staff and residents for program delivery at the community level.

**Community Block Grant Program** - The Community Block Grant Program provides grants to BBEDC communities' Tribal or City government to fund projects that promote sustainable community and regional economic development. The BBEDC Board determines the annual funding available to communities.

A portion of the funds may be used for home heating fuel/electric assistance for eligible residents, maintenance & operations for community-owned ice machines, and/or other community facilities on an annual basis. The amount budgeted for 2024 is \$750,000 per community. The application period is January 1, 2024 through November 30, 2024.

**Personal Finance/Education** - BBEDC contracts with Money Management International (MMI); a group that specializes in personal financial education and counseling. MMI assists individual residents by phone and in-person with one-on-one counseling, obtaining, and reviewing credit reports, personal finances, debt management, credit recovery and identity theft. A MMI counselor travels to the region on a regularly established basis.

**Grant Writing Assistance** - Through an application process, BBEDC provides the services of experienced and successful grant writers to BBEDC City and/or Tribal governments. The choice of the firm assigned is reserved to BBEDC. Services include targeted project funding searches and/or varying levels of proposal development as well as grant proposal mentoring.

**Permit Loan Program** - The program provides a menu of financial and/or technical services to eligible residents of the 25 Bristol Bay watershed communities. Services may include loan guarantee, down payment grant, interest assistance, principal reduction assistance, technical assistance and/or training. Participation is contingent upon the applicant's ability to obtain and maintain a loan from approved lenders. Participants are required to demonstrate that they meet all eligibility requirements annually throughout the term of their participation. Eligibility requirements include maintaining residency in the region, fishing each year, annual review by business planning team, at least 8 hours of continuing education and assuring that the loan is in good standing. The term of each individual's participation is generally determined by the term of the loan received to purchase the permit. Applications are accepted from September 1 through April 1.

**Emergency Transfer Grant** - With the goal of helping residents to gradually become permit owners, grants of up to 50% of the emergency transfer (lease) fee (not to exceed an established maximum) for Bristol Bay limited entry drift and set permits are available to eligible BBEDC resident fishers. Among program requirements are the following:

- Demonstrate residency in a BBEDC CDQ community.
- Meet income eligibility requirements.
- Have a market.
- Participate in financial counseling.
- Operate on or with a vessel or site owned and/or operated by a resident of one of the Bristol Bay watershed communities.

Participants may receive no more than a maximum of 3 grants except where progress can be demonstrated on a plan for ownership of a permit. Applications are accepted after March 18, 2024.

**Shore Fishery Lease Grant** – The Shore Fishery Lease Grant Program provides eligible BBEDC residents with a grant of up to \$800 (and no more than 75% of the total cost) of gaining a State of Alaska Shore Fishery Lease. Among the program requirements are the following:

- Demonstrate residency in a BBEDC CDQ community.
- Ownership of a Bristol Bay set net permit.
- Demonstrate that the applicant has a market.
- Demonstrate recent participation in set net fishing.
- Confirmation of use of the site they wish to lease.
- Do not have a DNR Shore Fishery Lease.

**Vessel Acquisition Program** – The program offers resident fishers the opportunity to obtain a competitive and efficient vessel (including a truck, provided that the applicant can demonstrate it is the primary vehicle for harvest and delivery of fish in their individual fishing operation). Through an evaluative process, participants may receive technical assistance, principal reduction assistance, interest subsidy, training and/or down payment assistance. The program allows an opportunity for an incentive for the purchase of vessels equipped with RSW systems. A resident that has participated in the program previously may be considered to be eligible for a second application provided that they meet program requirements. Participation is contingent upon the applicant's ability to obtain and maintain a loan from approved lenders. The term of each individual's participation is generally determined by the term of the loan received to purchase the permit. Participants are required to demonstrate that they meet all eligibility requirements annually throughout the term of their participation. Eligibility requirements include maintaining residency in the region, fishing each year, annual review by business planning team, at least 8 hours of continuing education and assuring that the loan is in good standing. Applications are accepted from September 1 through April 1.



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**Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation**  
P.O. Box 1464 • 411 First Avenue East  
Dillingham, AK 99576

*Dear BBEDC CDQ Community Members,*

*Enclosed are brief descriptions of the programs offered by BBEDC in 2024, and a contact list for local Community Liaisons. We strongly encourage you to contact your liaison or BBEDC staff for any additional information you might need. Remember: BBEDC’s residency policy allows no longer than a 60 consecutive day absence unless requirements for an excused absence are met. If you need assistance determining residency qualifications, please do not hesitate to contact us before your absence. All local BBEDC staff can be reached at 1-800-478-4370 or 842-4370. The variety and range of programs being offered is incredible and we strongly encourage you to take advantage of them.*

*Michael Link  
President/Chief Executive Officer*

Community Liaisons

Aleknagik – Shellie Aloysius .....	842-2856	Naknek – Stevi Rae Angasan .....	246-4210
Clarks Point – Mariano Floresta .....	236-1479	Manokotak – Leah John.....	289-1429
Dillingham – Savanna Cavanaugh.....	842-2384	Pilot Point – Victor Seybert .....	797-4162
Egegik – Jonathon Olsen .....	233-4036	Port Heiden – John Christensen, Jr .....	837-2296
Ekuk – June Hoover.....	842-3842	South Naknek – Carvel Zimin Jr .....	469-0713
Ekwok – Sophie Kaleak .....	464-3349	Togiak – Joe Alexie.....	493-5003
King Salmon – Joni O’Domin.....	469-0588	Twin Hills – Debbie Snyder.....	493-2520
Levelock – Chadalin Washington .....	287-3167	Ugashik - Mike Enright.....	797-2400

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