

Enterprise Zone Contribution Projects (EZCP) 2026 Proposal Template — Mesa County Enterprise Zone

Please familiarize yourself with Colorado EDC's "Enterprise Zone Contribution Tax Credit Overview and Policies" before proceeding.

Mesa County Enterprise Zone Contribution Project Goals

Project should align with one or more of the Mesa County 2025 strategic goals. Select one or more goal that best describes your programs/services.

Catalyze economic growth in core industries of technology, manufacturing, tourism, healthcare, agriculture, transportation and natural resources through education, infrastructure, and facilities.

Generate an increase in business and skilled worker relocations and out-of-area visitors through support of the arts, cultural and recreational opportunities, sporting activities, community facilities/events, and enrichment programs.

Promote higher average wages, and support entry level/part-time/low wage workforce with labor force development, access to upskilling, self-employment opportunities, education, job training, affordable workforce housing and business assistance centers.

Incentivize the attraction, expansion, and growth of business to increase economic development, improve the business environment, overall quality of life and improved community health access and outcomes throughout Mesa County.

Partner with community stakeholders to support the revitalization of existing business districts through rehabilitation and spawning growth of new business districts.

State of Colorado (OEDIT): EZ Project Type

Select the project type that best fits your project activity. The project must link to job creation and retention or business expansion in the broader Mesa County Enterprise Zone.

Capital Campaign: Projects are focused on raising funds for a specific capital project that will serve the broader community. This can include the purchase and/or renovation of a facility.

Operations: Projects that attract additional resources to programs/services that promote new economic activity in the zone and achieve near-term goals.

Combined Capital/Operations: At times the goals of a particular Contribution Project may benefit from being both a Capital Campaign and an Operations Project.

State of Colorado (OEDIT): EZ Project Categories

Select the project category that is most aligned with your proposed project.

Community Facility: Projects for new or improved facilities that enhance the local EZ economy. The Project may address a variety of unmet community needs that keep people living in the area and where those residents support local service and retail businesses.

Workforce Housing: Projects that create housing units and/or fund the operations of organizations that are focused on the development and provision of housing within enterprise zones with the objective of retaining and growing the workforce.

Workforce Development/Job Training: Projects focus on training EZ residents for employment within the EZ. Projects are vocational in nature and should have support from an employer, local government, or workforce center.

Visitor Event/Attraction: Projects attract non-resident visitors into the EZ and bring revenue into the EZ community at large. May support tourist attractions, museums, fairgrounds or events.

Healthcare: Projects may support healthcare operations or capital campaigns when healthcare access is hindering economic development. The application must show that services are needed to retain or attract an EZ workforce.

Business Assistance: Projects that serve businesses with training, counseling, financing, feasibility studies, and other resources. May include entrepreneurship programs & incubators.

Economic Development Organizations: Projects dedicated to the economic development of a region.

Transportation: Projects may support transportation operations or capital campaigns that provide or improve transportation for the EZ workforce.

Infrastructure: Projects may include networks or systems such as water, sewer, broadband, solar farms, wind farms, EV charging stations, telecommunications and streetscapes.

Organization Information

Enterprise Zone: Mesa County EZ

Organization has had previous Contribution Projects in the Mesa County EZ

This is a new proposal to join the Mesa County EZ

1. Organization Name

2. Organization Structure

3. Organization Tax ID

5. Phone

6. Website

7. Address

8. City

9. Zip Code

4. Colorado Secretary of State Certificate of Good Standing

Certificate attached

10. Is the project located in the Enterprise Zone?

Yes — project is located within the Enterprise Zone

No — describe distance from the EZ:

11. If outside of the EZ, attach form justifying Enterprise Zone Contribution Project.

Justification form attached

Project Activities

Provide information about specific program/activities that directly support Mesa County's economic development goals. Use third-person point of view (e.g., "The program will increase participation..." not "Our program hopes to...").

Question 12: Describe the specific programs and activities included in this EZ Contribution Project. What will be funded with EZ contribution dollars?

Be concise. The first sentence appears on the tax credit certificate sent to donors. Only these activities may be supported by EZ contributions. Limit: 3,000 characters.

Economic Development Goals Addressed

Question 13: State the project's overall goal as it relates to the selected economic development strategy. The goal must be achieved within the project time frame (5 years). Limit: 3,000 characters.

a. Overall goal of the project

b. Clearly define 3–4 objectives

Objectives are the measurable steps your organization will take to achieve the stated goal. Recommended: SMART format (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Results-oriented, Timed).

c. Short-term (1–2 years) and long-term outcomes (3–5 years) anticipated

Outcomes are the changes you expect to see as a result of your project.

d. If this is a capital campaign, provide a timeline and cost estimates for design and construction.

Impact: Job Creation / Business Expansion / Community Benefit

Question 14: How will project activities and objectives (both directly and indirectly) support job creation and retention and/or business expansion in the broader Enterprise Zone? Provide insight/data on the local EZ community and how the greater community benefits.

Question 15: Additional Supporting Resources — Identify any additional resources (Federal, State, Community) supporting this effort. Limit: 1,000 characters.

Project Timeline & Supporting Documents

Question 16: Date of Project Completion (maximum term is 5 years; e.g., if approved in 2026, maximum designation through 12/31/2031)

Question 17: Attach a map showing the Enterprise Zone area, project location, and area of impact. Interactive OEDIT EZ map is recommended.

EZ map attached

Community Support

Question 18: Is the project supported by the organization's Board of Directors? What other groups/entities support the organization pursuing EZCP designation?

Question 19: Attach any Letters of Support from Program Partners

Letters of Support attached

Budget / Expected Contributions

Question 20: What is the annual project budget? (What will it cost to run the EZ Contribution Project activities? This may be a portion of your organization's budget.)

Question 21: Dollar value of cash contributions expected in first year as a Contribution Project:

Question 22: Dollar value of expected in-kind donations (including stock gifts) in first year:

Question 23: What type of in-kind donations do you plan to accept?

Allowed in-kind donations generally follow Federal Charitable Guidelines.

Question 24: What minimum donation amount (if any) will you require for the donor to receive the EZ Contribution Tax Credit? (Note: minimum cannot exceed \$250.)

Fundraising Strategy

Question 25: Describe your fundraising strategy (1–2 paragraph max). What activities, special events, or outreach efforts are used to engage donors and educate them about the EZ tax credit? How will your organization meet the minimum threshold — at least 5 donors claim EZ tax credit and/or at least \$5,000 raised in a given year?

Organization Applicant Attestation

By checking each box below, the applicant acknowledges and agrees to the following:

Question 26: I am aware that EZ Contribution Project status is at the discretion of the Zone Administrator and the Colorado Economic Development Commission. Project status is generally renewed on a calendar year basis with an annual re-certification process.

Question 27: I agree to abide by the policies and reporting requirements of the local Enterprise Zone Administrator, the EDC, and the Urban and Rural Enterprise Zone Act (C.R.S. 39-30-101 to 109). EZ contributions are restricted to those programs/services included in this proposal and approved as eligible.

Question 28: I agree to pay the 2% administrative fee on cash and stock donations on a semi-annual basis. EZCP designation may be revoked if delinquent beyond 90 days.

Question 29: I am aware of the minimum threshold of fundraising activity to maintain EZCP designation. For projects active at least 12 months: at least 5 donors contributing OR \$5,000 submitted for EZ tax credit during the past year.

Question 30: I am aware that donors may claim 25% of a cash donation as an income tax credit (12.5% for in-kind). The credit is capped at \$100,000 per taxpayer with the balance carried forward up to 5 years.

Question 31: I am aware that the highest minimum donation I may require from a contributor in order to receive EZ tax credit is \$250.00.

Question 32: I am aware of the \$750,000 tax credit certification limit per project per year. If submitting only cash contributions, the maximum amount that can be submitted in a calendar year is \$3 million.

Project Manager & Submission

Question 33: Name of Project Manager for this Contribution Project

Question 34: Date of Application

Submit this proposal draft to mcezadmin@gjincubator.org. In addition to the proposal, please include Letters of Support, EZ Map, Certificate of Good Standing, and Annual Report as separate attachments.