**🎯 Promising Programs & Funds in Connecticut**

| **Program / Fund** | **What It Offers / Focus** | **Notes on How Trucking / Logistics Could Use It** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Minority Business Revolving Loan Fund (CT / HEDCO)** | Loans and lines of credit ($10,000 to $100,000) for minority- and women-owned CT businesses. [CT.gov+1](https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Business-Development/05_Funding_Opportunities/Minority-Business-Funding?utm_source=chatgpt.com) | While this is a **loan**, it’s lower-interest and more accessible for minorities. Use it for down payments, repairs, or expansion. |
| **WBDC Ignite Grant (Women-owned in CT)** | Grants up to **$10,000** for clearly defined growth projects in women-owned businesses. [WBDC](https://ctwbdc.org/ignite-grant-for-women-owned-businesses/?utm_source=chatgpt.com) | If you’re female (or part female ownership), this can help cover equipment, upgrades, or business expansions (not operational or debt costs). |
| **CT DECD / Minority Business Initiative** | Offers access to capital, technical assistance, and contracting support for minority-owned firms in CT. [CT.gov+2CT.gov+2](https://portal.ct.gov/decd/content/business-development/01_type_of_business/minority-owned-businesses?utm_source=chatgpt.com) | Use this for mentorship, certification (MBE/SBE), and to tap into state contracts in transportation or procurement. |
| **Small Business Express / Small Business Grants (CT DECD)** | Grants or funding support between $5,000 and $25,000 for growth projects. Priority can go to minority, women, or underserved businesses. [CT.gov](https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Business-Development/01_Type_of_Business/Small-Businesses?utm_source=chatgpt.com) | If your trucking business has a growth project (e.g. buying equipment, scaling operations), you may qualify. |
| **Southeastern Connecticut Enterprise Region (SeCTer) Grants** | Seed and growth grants, technical assistance; priority to minority- and women-owned. [Chelsea Groton Bank](https://chelseagroton.com/learning-hub/networking/grants-investment-resources/?utm_source=chatgpt.com) | If you're operating in southeastern CT or can base operations there, this is a strong local opportunity. |
| **Farmington / Local Municipal Grants** | Local grants for women or minority businesses in CT, sometimes for expansion or pivot projects. [explorefarmington.com](https://www.explorefarmington.com/business-grant-loan-opportunities?utm_source=chatgpt.com) | Check your town or county’s economic development office—some smaller grants can fund parts of your trucking setup. |
| **CT Small Business Boost Fund** | Loans (not grants) from $5,000 to $500,000 with more flexible terms; prioritizes underserved, minority, and women-owned businesses. [Gusto+4Connecticut Small Business Boost Fund+4CT Small Business Center+4](https://ctsmallbusinessboostfund.org/?utm_source=chatgpt.com) | While it’s a loan, the favorable terms and accessibility make it useful if grants aren’t available. |
| **Minority Construction Council Small Business Support Program** | Technical assistance and some funding support especially for minority- and women-owned businesses in certain CT areas (Greater Bridgeport, Waterbury, etc.). [Minority Construction Council](https://mccforct.org/smallbusinesssupportprogram/?utm_source=chatgpt.com) | Even though it targets “construction,” you might align part of your business (e.g. logistics for construction, fleets serving construction sites) to qualify. |