



PY 2020/2021

Community Development
Block Grant (CDBG)

APPLICATION WORKSHOP

THURSDAY – JANUARY 6, 2021 @ 10AM

CDBG Funding Available

- ▶ PY'2020 - \$5,492,396
PY'2021 - \$5,674,078
(along with recaptured/unobligated prior year funds) – Est. \$13M
- ▶ Rolling applications (Ongoing)
 - ▶ Affordable Housing (LMH) – Development/Preservation of affordable housing opportunities
 - ▶ Economic Development (LMJ) – Job Creation/Retention
 - ▶ Residential Rehabilitation (LMH) – Rehabilitation of private homes
- ▶ Annual Competitive Application
 - ▶ Public Facilities/Improvements
 - ▶ Essential Services
 - ▶ Planning (Limited)

CDBG Timeline

- ▶ Timeline (Annual Competitive Application)
 - ▶ January 6, 2022 Application Workshop/Materials
 - ▶ March 3, 2022 Applications Due
 - ▶ Apr-May Suspend Ongoing Applications
 - ▶ May 30, 2022 Awards Announced

- ▶ Note - 4 Year Expenditure Deadline ('17 and prior year funds must be 100% expended)

[Community Development Block Grants | Office of Housing & Community Development \(ri.gov\)](#)

CDBG – Eligible Applicants

- ▶ Only non-entitlement municipalities are eligible to apply.
 - ▶ 33 of the 39 municipalities
 - ▶ Cranston, East Providence, Pawtucket, Providence, Warwick & Woonsocket are “Entitlements” and receive their own CDBG allocations.
- ▶ Non-entitlement municipalities may use:
 - ▶ Contractors
 - ▶ Subrecipients (including non-profit organizations)

CDBG – Caps/Limits

- ▶ There are NO overall application dollar limits/caps
- ▶ There are, however, limits on the number of proposed activities
 - ▶ Public Facilities/Improvements – Up to 3 proposals
 - ▶ Essential Services – Up to 4 proposals (consolidated individual non-profit requests)
 - ▶ Planning (1 proposal allowed)
- ▶ Regional Activities (assignment of limits/caps possible)
 - ▶ Limited to activities which serve both impacted communities (or more)
 - ▶ Community may “assign” their activities to another community
 - ▶ The recipient community:
 - ▶ Assumes administration of the activity
 - ▶ Increases their application limit by the activity assumed
 - ▶ Proposals only appear in the assigned community’s application

CDBG National Objective & Eligible Activities

- ▶ National Objective & Eligibility – Must meet both tests
- ▶ Eligibility
 - ▶ Housing and Community Development Act 105(a) – Citations Below
 - (8) – Public Services
 - (2) – Public Facilities/Improvements
 - (4) – Rehabilitation of Buildings
 - (1) – Acquisition of Real Property
 - ▶ New Construction (105a15)
 - ▶ Address all elements for eligibility category

CDBG National Objective & Eligible Activities

- ▶ Primary National Objective – Low/Moderate Income Benefit (at or below 80% AMI)
 - ▶ LMH (Housing) – Housing (Rolling)
 - ▶ LMJ (Jobs) – Economic Development (Rolling)
 - ▶ LMA (Area Benefit) – “Service” Area, Most Recent Census – ACS/Survey Data LMISD – All people in a defined area
<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/acs-low-mod-summary-data/>
<https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Notice-CPD-14-013-Guidelines-for-Conducting-Income-Surveys-LMI-CDBG-Activity.pdf>
 - ▶ LMC (Limited Clientele) – Serves a specific subpopulation which is predominately (>51%) LMI
 - ▶ Define terms (Poverty), Show Income Limits for Participation, Family Size & Income, Presumed)
Documentation is Key!

[Guide to National Objectives and Eligible Activities for State CDBG Programs - HUD Exchange](#)

Note: Urgent Need & Slums/Blight also possible but lower priority

Application Procedures

▶ Citizens Participation

- ▶ 2 public hearings held at different stages of the program are required per 24 CFR Part 570.486

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-24/subtitle-B/chapter-V/subchapter-C/part-570>

- ▶ At least one of those hearings must be conducted prior to submittal. Hearing must cover housing and community development needs.
- ▶ 15 (working) days comment period preferred

▶ State Process of Review

- ▶ Staff (complete scoring)
 - ▶ Complete, Fundable, Process, Program Design (including Drawdown threshold)
- ▶ Committees (guided by scores)
 - ▶ Timeliness, Other Sources/review, Capacity/Performance, Feasibility/Accuracy
 - ▶ (PFI – OHCD, DEM, DOT, EOC, Public) (ES/PS – OHCD, EOHHS, EOC/DLT, Public)

CDBG, Review Criteria

- ▶ Capacity/Performance
 - ▶ Timely drawdowns with complete backup
 - ▶ Reports submitted on time
 - ▶ No unresolved audit/monitoring findings
 - ▶ Timely completion of Environmental Reviews and Contracting
 - ▶ Complete applications with detailed scope of work and accurate activity budgets

CDBG Environmental Review

- ▶ Choice Limiting Actions Prohibited
 - ▶ Do not obligate or expend funds until completion of the environmental review process
 - ▶ The process is complete when a ROF has been issued by OHCD (or when Certification of Exemption signed)
 - ▶ Bidding or Signing of P&S can be considered a “choice limiting action”
 - ▶ Restriction applies to CDBG and non-CDBG funds on a project
- ▶ Review must be completed prior to contracting but may be conducted at any time
- ▶ 8-Step Process (Floodplain)

<http://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review>

[Community Development Block Grants | Office of Housing & Community Development \(ri.gov\)](#)

CDBG, Labor Standards

- ▶ Applies to CDBG funded construction projects in excess of \$2,000
 - ▶ A/E or Acquisition do not trigger requirements
- ▶ Davis Bacon and Related Acts
 - ▶ Wage Determination and Classifications (Minimum Wage paid)
 - ▶ Factor into cost estimates
- ▶ Grantee (Municipality) assures compliance
 - ▶ Collection/review of payroll records
 - ▶ Site visits (posting)/interviews
 - ▶ Bid documents

Contacts

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Main CDBG Materials Submittal Portal: doa.cdbg@doa.ri.gov