

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Application Workshop 2024 *Program Overview*



Division of Community and Regional Affairs, Grants Section

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LGIT

10/31/2024

General Information

- Federal program funded by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- For the 2024 funding cycle, we will have approximately \$2.6 million to distribute statewide
- Will fund approximately 5 to 7 applications



National Objectives

Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 identifies three national objectives:

- *Benefit Low and Moderate Income people*
- *Prevent slums and blighted areas (inner city)*
- *Address urgent community development needs*



Housing & Community Development Plan

- Comprehensive statewide plan for Housing and Community Development
- Coordinated with other agencies that receive HUD funds (AHFC, Mental Health Trust)
- 5-year plan
- Annual updates
- Public participation



State's Priorities

- Health and safety issues
- Address public facility problems
- Combine and coordinate funds
- Benefit LMI persons



Activities Considered to Benefit LMI

- **Area-Wide Benefit**
- **Limited Clientele**
- **Housing**
- **Job Creation or Retention**



Area-Wide Benefit – Basic Rule

- **An activity that benefits all residents in a particular area or areas, where at least 51% of the residents are Low and Moderate Income persons**
- **An activity which serves an area that is not primarily residential does not qualify**



Limited Clientele – Basic Rule

An activity which benefits a clientele who are generally presumed to be principally LMI:

- Abused children
- Battered spouses
- Severely disabled adults
- Migrant farm workers
- Elderly persons
- Homeless persons
- Illiterate adults
- Persons living with the disease AIDS



Housing Activities

- An activity which adds or improves permanent residential structures
- *Note:* The State of Alaska CDBG program does not target housing activities although they are eligible under the CDBG guidelines



Job Creation or Retention

- A job activity is one which creates or retains
 - **permanent jobs,**
 - at least 51% of which are either **held by** LMI persons, or **considered to be available to** LMI persons
- Jobs which are created only during the construction of a CDBG project **do not count** toward job creation



Funding Categories

Community Development

Planning

Special Economic Development



Community Development

Acquisition, construction, reconstruction, and improvements of public facilities such as:

- health clinics
- daycare centers
- shelters for the homeless
- water and sewer systems
- solid waste disposal facilities
- community centers



Community Development

- docks and harbors
- electrical distribution lines
- fuel and gas distribution systems
- transportation improvements
- removal of architectural barriers
- acquisition or disposition of real property
- design and engineering plans
- fire protection facilities and equipment



Planning

- Conduct studies
- Collect data
- Marketing and feasibility studies
- Comprehensive land use plans or erosion control plans
- Community economic development plans
- Capital improvement plans
- Updates to any of the above



Special Economic Development

- Grantee must create jobs, and
- 51% of the jobs must be filled by LMI persons
- *For example:*
 - CDBG funds are used to build a fish processing plant, and then jobs are created at the plant once it is finished



Ineligible Activities

- **Heavy Equipment**
- **Government Buildings**
- **Regular Government Operations**
- **Maintenance and Operation**
- **Political Activities**



General Program Policy/Requirements

Who can apply?

- Incorporated Cities & Boroughs

Maximum Grant Amount

- \$850,000

Competitive process



Application Process

Annual Application Cycle

- Sent out in September
- Due Friday, December 6, 2024 @ 4:30 p.m.
- Awards made in February/March
- Firm deadlines
- Application materials available online

<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/GrantsSection/CommunityDevelopmentBlockGrants.aspx>



General Program Policy/Requirements

- **Single-purpose project**
- **Completed project must provide public benefit**
- **Past Recipient**
 - **75% expended**
 - **Project substantially complete**
- **One application per eligible applicant**



General Program Policy/Requirements

- **Project is ready to go**
- **Match funding in place**
- **Public Hearing & Citizen Participation**
- **Cost Reimbursable**
- **Administrative cost limit**



General Program Policy/Requirements

- Federal Requirements such as:
 - Environmental Review
 - Federal labor standards
 - Davis-Bacon wages for contracted labor
- Registration Requirements:
 - Unique Entity ID (UEI) number
 - <https://www.sam.gov/content>



General Program Policy/Requirements

- Building standards
- Operation & Maintenance budget
- Site Control
- Design & Engineering
- Costs prior to grant agreement – ineligible
- Build America, Buy America (BABA)



Build America, Buy America (BABA)

- HUD has implemented a new policy providing preference to American-made products
- For FFY23, this requirement is specific to projects over \$250,000 using iron and steel.
- If this applies to your project(s), BABA may go into effect and your contractor may be asked to provide proof of compliance*

*Note: HUD is working to introduce a waiver to BABA if certain requirements are met



An application will most likely score well if...

- There is evidence that the community has thought the project through;
- There is strong, documented community support;
- Documentation verifying funds are available to complete the project and to operate it when the project is complete;
- There is someone within the City/Borough who is taking on the project.



Other Resources

<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/DivisionPublications.aspx>

Under Grants Tab:

- **Grant Recipient Construction Manual**
- **Grant Training Manual**
- **Labor Standards Guide**

Under Planning Tab:

- **Capital Project Management**
- **What is Site Control ... and Why is it Important?**



DIVISION OF COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Division Publications

Welcome to the Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) online publications library. This website includes various publications regarding local government, financial assistance, community planning, and community socioeconomic research. Publications are authored by various DCRA staff, partner agencies, or associated consultants. Documents must be viewed and printed using Adobe Acrobat, which can be downloaded for free at the following location: [Adobe Acrobat READER](#)

▶ **General Division**

▶ **Alaska Native Language Preservation & Advisory Council (ANLPAC)**

▼ **Grants**

- [Grant Recipient Construction Manual \(17M\)](#)
- [Grant Training Manual](#)
- [Labor Standards Guide - 2009 Revision](#)

▶ **Local Boundary Commission (LBC)**

▶ **Local Government**

▶ **Office of the State Assessor**

▼ **Planning**

- [AK Statute 44.33.755 Muni Trust Land Regs](#)
- [Alaska Municipal Land Management Handbook](#)
- [Alaska Planning Commission Handbook](#)
- [Alaska Sanitation Planning Guide for Small Communities](#)
- [Alaska Sanitation Planning Guide for Small Communities - Technical Appendices](#)
- [Capital Project Management Handbook](#)
- [Community/Borough Map](#)
- [Community Planning for ANCSA 14\(c\) Land Reconveyances](#)
- [Floodplain Management Quick Guide](#)
- [Getting Started on ANCSA 14\(c\)\(3\): A Basic Guide for City and Village Councils](#)
- [Planning Powers for Alaska Communities](#)
- [Understanding and Evaluating Erosion Problems](#)
- [What is Site Control ... and Why is it Important?](#)



QUESTIONS?



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