Community Development Block Grant Office Hours

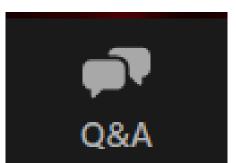
HCD's CDBG Team Wednesday, November 13, 2024





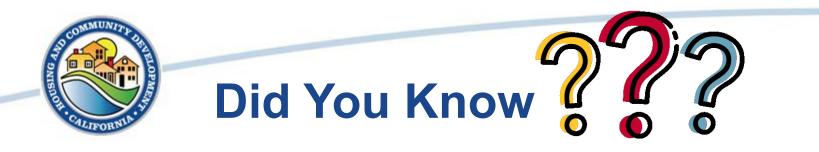
How to ask a question

- Webinar questions:
 - Click "Q & A" chat bubble to submit a question to the team
 - You may ask questions anonymously, but if you want your name, organization, or region associated with your question, you will need to type it in the "Your Name" box
 - The team will read questions after the presentation and will provide answers if possible
 - All questions will be saved and recorded as part of the public record





All OTC funds have been exhausted.



Businesses assisted with CDBG funds must have an active SAM.gov registration?

*Except for Microenterprises when using the LMCMC National Objective.







- GMM Updates
 - Appendix 6-3: CDBG Financial Reporting Form
 - Appendix 6-8: CDBG Program Income Reporting Form
 - Appendix 12-1: Combined Closeout Package



Application Support

Click "Apply" from the solicitation's website (<u>eCivis</u> - <u>Grants Network</u>) to create a new Sub Application. Do **NOT** create an application directly from the portal without first clicking "Apply" through the solicitation website as this may prevent an eCivis budget from generating.



Questions and Answers: Please submit your question(s) via Zoom Q+A





Question: Program design should center community voices and needs authentically. However, working with CDBG is the lack of support for this process in terms of how project budgets are structured and how funding can be used. The 7% GA budget is insufficient to meet the growing requirements and requests for program administration, data collection and analysis, risk analysis/planning/mitigation, and program design. Community engagement is time intensive, and the onus is on the applicant to bear the cost of development of projects, which small, rural communities are challenged to do for the most part.

<u>Answer:</u> Thank you for your feedback. To help us better address your concerns, please email our CDBG team inbox at <u>CDBG@hcd.ca.gov</u> with more details.



Question: I'd like to note that the federal procurement requirements make it challenging to find local contractors who can comply, resulting in larger construction firms from the Bay Area being the primary bidders. This issue is unfortunately common in rural communities.

Answer: Thank you for your feedback. We understand the challenges with procurement in rural communities. While HCD does not have control over the federal procurement requirements; we often have the opportunity to provide feedback. We appreciate your insights and will take them into account.



Question: Food is not an allowable expense under 2 CFR 200 unless it directly benefits the program. Small rural jurisdictions often lack the funds to provide food, especially to accommodate various dietary requirements and restrictions. It would be beneficial to use 2 CFR 200 relevant costs for outreach efforts.

<u>Answer:</u> Providing food and childcare is something CDBG recommends for outreach efforts, but it's only advisable if your jurisdiction has sufficient general administration funds. Please note that this is a recommendation and not a requirement.

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