

# Guidance for FY27 Congressionally Directed Spending Requests

## **FY27 Congressionally Directed Spending Eligible Accounts**

FY27 CDS requests will be accepted in the following accounts. All CDS requests must meet the eligibility requirements for the account under which the request falls and demonstrate how the request meets those requirements in the application. Following enactment of FY27 funding bills, CDS recipients must formally apply for funding through the normal agency application process.

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### Agriculture, Rural Development, Food & Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

#### **Agricultural Research Service, Building and Facilities (ARS B&F)**

- Requests for ARS B&F may only include funding for existing facilities or facilities where funding has been provided in the past. Facilities must be ARS-owned.

#### **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Salaries and Expenses (APHIS S&E)**

- All APHIS submissions meet environmental review requirements (i.e. NEPA and ESA).
- While the entire S&E account is open for CDS requests, below are the line items within the account that are most compatible with CDS:
  - Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests
  - Pest Detection
  - Plant Protection Methods Development
  - Specialty Crop Pests
  - Tree & Wood Pests
  - Wildlife Damage Management
  - Wildlife Services Methods Development
  - Veterinary Diagnostics
  - Equine, Cervid and Small Ruminant Health
- A few APHIS programs have matching requirements:
  - Grasshopper/Mormon Cricket (Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests) – this program conducts surveys, provides technical assistance, and conducts suppression activities. When conducting suppression activities, the Plant Protection Act dictates the Federal percentage of control costs and cost-sharing for other parties. The Federal government pays the total cost of suppression on Federal land (including most tribal trust lands), 50 percent of the cost on State land, and 33 percent of cost on private land.
  - Brucellosis (Cattle Health) – this program has a 40 percent match by the States.
  - Wildlife Services – reimbursable service agreements are generally 50/50 cost-share and the States would reimburse for their portion.

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### Natural Resources Conservation Service, Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO)

- CDS recipients for WFPO must have a local sponsor. Eligible local sponsors include any State, political subdivision, soil or water conservation district, flood prevention or control district, or combinations thereof; any irrigation or reservoir company or water users' association; any Indian tribe or tribal organization.
- Any individual project may not exceed a watershed or sub-watershed size of 250,000 acres. At least 20 percent of the project's benefits must be directly related to agriculture.
- Projects are required to complete a four-step process including:
  - Preliminary feasibility study (PIFR)
  - Watershed Plan development
  - Implementation of Watershed Plan
  - Commencement of construction for authorized watershed conservation
- If a project is a "new start" it is eligible only for PIFR funding at a level of \$55,000. Funding cannot be requested for stages 2-4 until the PIFR is completed (this includes projects where the PIFR is in progress). Offices are encouraged to request funding for projects that are nearing the construction implementation phase.
- **WFPO applicants will be asked to provide:**
  - The name of the local sponsor
  - Confirmation of coordination with the Natural Resources Conservation Service State Conservationist
  - Indication of which phase of the project funding is requested

### Rural Development

USDA Rural Development staff are available to answer specific questions regarding project eligibility for Community Facility and Distance Learning & Telemedicine grants. Contact information for the Virginia office is available here: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/va>. **Rural development applicants must reach out to the Virginia USDA Rural Development Office to verify population size from the most recent census and to determine project eligibility.**

#### Rural Development, Community Facilities grants

- This program will fund **up to** 75 percent of total project costs, with match requirements based on population as follows:
  - Maximum of 75 percent when the proposed project is located in a rural community having a population of 5,000 or fewer
  - Maximum of 55 percent when the proposed project is located in a rural community having a population of 12,000 or fewer
  - Maximum of 35 percent when the proposed project is located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer
- The match requirements are outlined in the CF regulation: [7 CFR 3570.63\(b\)](#). Towns with populations over 20,000 are not eligible for this program. In addition to population density requirements, projects must primarily serve rural communities

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to be considered. If a project is located in an eligible location, but is adjacent to an ineligible area which would be a primary beneficiary of the services provided, it will be deemed ineligible.

- This program is subject to the Build America Buy America Act requirements which will apply to the total project cost, not just the federal cost-share portion.
- In general, CF matching funds must come from a non-Federal source. However, there are two exceptions: (1) sometimes a Federal source will state that it can be used as a match for Federal Grants and (2) when a Federal source loses its Federal identity --- such as CDBG funds that are distributed through a Governor's office (not the CDBG entitlement funding) --- a CF project having these funds as part of the capital stack can be a part of the applicant required match.
- CDS requests will be considered outside of the CF state allocations. Therefore, the sole cap that will determine the maximum grant assistance is the match requirement as described above. The average CF CDS project size funded in FY26 was \$1,000,000. When considering which CDS requests to submit, this is a good baseline to use.
- Funds may not be used for the following activities:
  - To reimburse funds for projects already constructed/acquired or projects that will be completed by the passage of the final bill.
  - To pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring costs, including purchases or rentals that are generally considered to be operating and maintenance expenses (unless a CF loan is part of the funding package).
  - To fund facilities to be used primarily for recreation purposes.
  - To fund facilities to be used primarily for business entrepreneur purposes.
- Applicants must meet environmental review requirements (i.e., NEPA).
- Applicants must complete an application with RD if awarded a CDS in the final bill.
- *Note:* there are several set-asides within the CF grant program, but congressionally directed spending requests will only be eligible for the general CF Grant program.

### Rural Development, Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program (DLT) grants

- The following project and applicant eligibility criteria must be met **prior to** a congressionally directed spending request being approved:
  - There is a flat 15 percent match (matching funds cannot come from another Federal source).
  - Full list of eligible entities, uses, and limitations can be found here: [7 CFR Part 1734 Subpart A and B](#).
  - The maximum grant size is \$1,000,000.
  - Reminder, even though for-profit entities are eligible for this program, they are not eligible for congressionally directed spending requests.
  - Broadband deployment is not an eligible use of funds for DLT.
  - Applicants must complete an application with RD if awarded a CDS in the final bill.

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### **Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS)**

CDS requests should fund local projects that further the missions of CJS agencies by increasing the understanding of the oceans and the atmosphere, protecting our communities, or promoting space- or standards- related science.

#### **Department of Commerce**

##### **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST); Scientific and Technical Research Services (STRS); External Projects**

- Projects should address standards-related research and technology development.
- Construction projects will not be accepted. NIST allows minor alterations in terms of “retrofits,” based on how the agency utilizes STRS internally, including electrical and/or HVAC upgrades, and other minor modifications (e.g., expanding a door or putting up a partition wall). Anything that could be considered new construction (e.g., pouring a foundation or erecting walls or a roof) is not allowable.

##### **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST); Construction of Research Facilities, Extramural Construction**

- Funds construction projects for non-Federal research facilities, including for projects at research institutions and colleges and universities.
- Given the significant investments necessary for construction projects, only a very limited number of projects will be supported on an annual basis.

##### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); Operations, Research and Facilities (ORF); Special Projects**

- Projects should address fisheries, marine mammals, ocean, coastal issues, climate, weather, atmospheric research, data acquisition, and forecasting programs.
- Construction projects will not be accepted.

#### **Department of Justice**

##### **Office on Justice Programs; State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance; Byrne Discretionary**

- Projects should provide additional personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems for criminal justice systems.
- CDS requests funded in a final bill will be subject to the requirements of [2 CFR Part 200](#) and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#).
- Allowable costs are those costs consistent with the principles set out in the 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, and those permitted by the grant program’s authorizing legislation. To be allowable under Federal awards, costs must be reasonable, allocable, and necessary to the project, and they must also comply with the funding statute and agency requirements.

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- This funding cannot be used for land acquisition or construction.
- Refrain from specifying brand names for equipment to ensure fair and open competition.

### **Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS); COPS Law Enforcement Technology**

- Projects should support the development of technologies and automated systems to assist law enforcement agencies in investigating, responding to, and preventing crime.
- Recipients shall include State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and their public agencies (for example, police and/or sheriff's departments).
- Allowable activities are limited to the statutorily allowable purpose areas under the [COPS Office statute](#), including the procurement of equipment, technology, or support systems, and the development of new technologies to assist recipient entities in reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime.
- CDS requests funded in a final bill will be subject to the requirements of [2 CFR Part 200](#) and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), and the applicable Award Owner's Manual.
- Refrain from specifying brand names for equipment to ensure fair and open competition.
- Requestors are cautioned against making requests for vehicles and vessels that carry with them a high maintenance cost at the conclusion of the CDS request.
- Agencies should consider the full range of potential legal, constitutional, and civil liberties and privacy implications associated with generating, acquiring, or using technology or data. For example, agencies that purchase unmanned aircraft systems must be aware of the Federal requirements and best practices for their effective and safe operation that is respectful of civil liberties and maximize the safety of citizens ([see guidance](#)).

### **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**

#### **Safety, Security and Mission Support (SSMS)**

- Projects should focus on science education, research, and technology development related to NASA's mission.
- Medical research projects and projects at NASA- owned Visitor Centers or a State's designated Space Grant Consortium will not be funded.
- This account cannot fund construction but may be used for equipment, research funding, or education programs.

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## Energy and Water Development

### Army Corps of Engineers

Investigations

Construction

Operation and Maintenance

Mississippi Rivers & Tributaries

### Bureau of Reclamation

Water and Related Resources

For the Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation, only authorized projects and programs will be considered for funding. For the Corps of Engineers, with the exception of Operation and Maintenance, an authorized project or program that has not received funding in prior years is considered a new start. Few, if any, new starts will be funded.

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### Financial Services and General Government (FSGG)

CDS projects should not be viewed as continuous funding sources and should be distinct from competitive grant opportunities at the relevant agencies. CDS projects should be viewed as a *way to jump start an activity*, not sustain it over time.

#### Small Business Administration (SBA), Administrative Provision

- Projects in support of small businesses, including but not limited to entrepreneur training, counseling, and research.
- *Note:* SBA CDS funding cannot be used to provide seed capital for small businesses, nor can it be used by the CDS recipient to make grants/loans.

#### National Archives and Records Administration, National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC)

- Projects that help ensure online public discovery and use of historical records collections, encourage public engagement with historical records, strengthen the nation's archival network, or publish documentary editions of historical records. This includes initiatives like record digitization, programming, and online availability of records.

#### National Archives and Records Administration, Repair and Restoration

- Projects that direct spending for presidential libraries or new archival facilities.

#### General Services Administration (GSA), Federal Buildings Fund, Construction and Acquisition or Repairs and Alterations Accounts

- Construction projects typically include federal courthouses, federal buildings, or land ports-of-entry.
- Repairs projects must be federally owned properties in need of repair or alteration and are typically federal buildings or federal courthouses.
- *Note:* Eligible projects do not include state or county facilities, DOD facilities, VA facilities, or transportation infrastructure facilities. The recently enacted Infrastructure legislation (IIJA) provided funding to complete all land ports-of-entry projects on GSA planning lists.

#### Office of National Drug Control Policy, Administrative Provision (ONDCP), Prevention Grants

- Preferred prevention programs would include community-based coalitions which, as part of their application, propose data-driven, evidence-based prevention interventions; have established measurable objectives; and proposed implementing a comprehensive mix of strategies. Also, DFC-funded coalitions recently trained by CDC to implement Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) as part of their substance use prevention efforts are recommended.
- *Note:* Programs should not be substance specific. Treatment programs are not eligible for CDS under this account.

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### **Office of National Drug Control Policy, Administrative Provision (ONDCP), High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Grants**

- Projects that provide public safety equipment to support local law enforcement efforts to combat illicit drug trafficking in HIDTA-designated areas.
- Projects should focus on strengthening operational capacity to disrupt drug trafficking organizations.
- Recipients must partner with a regional High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program (identified here), codified via a memorandum of understanding.

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## Homeland Security

### FEMA – Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Projects

- Requested projects must meet the eligibility requirements of the PDM grant program, including the non-federal cost-share requirement, benefit-cost ratio, and environmental and historic preservation requirements. For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2027 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state agency responsible for administering mitigation grants in the requestor’s state must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that entity will serve as the administrative agent for the grant.
  - **Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency affirming that it believes the project is eligible.**
- In addition to the PDM grant program requirements listed above, the Subcommittee will principally seek to fund projects that are important to states and local communities but which may not receive adequate attention under the larger Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program.
- CDS requests under this account will be required to answer the following questions and provide a letter of support from the appropriate state agency.
  - Requested projects must meet the eligibility requirements of the PDM grant program, including the non-federal cost-share requirement, benefit-cost ratio, and environmental and historic preservation requirements. Full requirements can be found in the fiscal year [24 NOFO for the “Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program.”](#) **Applicants will be asked to explain how their project fits these requirements.**
  - In addition to the PDM grant program requirements listed above, projects must be important to states and local communities but may not receive adequate attention under the larger Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program. **Applicants will be asked to explain how their project is important to the community and its prospects under the BRIC program.**
  - For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2027 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state agency responsible for administering mitigation grants in the requestor’s state must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that entity will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. **Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency affirming that it believes the project is eligible.**

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### FEMA – Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program

- Projects must meet the eligibility requirements of the EOC grant program, including the non-federal cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements. Full requirements can be found in the fiscal year 2024 [NOFO for the “Emergency Operations Center Grant Program”](#) .
- For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2027 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state administrative agency (SAA) must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that agency will serve as the administrative agent for the grant.
  - **Applicants will be asked to provide a letter of support from the appropriate SAA affirming that it believes the project is eligible.**
- CDS requests under this account will be required to answer the following questions and provide a letter of support from the appropriate state agency.
  - Requested projects must meet the eligibility requirements of the EOC grant program, including the non-federal cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements. Full requirements can be found in the fiscal year 2024 NOFO for the “Emergency Operations Center Grant Program.” **Applicants will be asked to explain how their project fits these requirements.**
  - For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2025 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state administrative agency (SAA) must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that agency will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. **Applicants will be asked to provide a letter of support from the appropriate SAA affirming that it believes the project is eligible.**

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### Interior, Environment and Related Agencies

Please note that the Subcommittee will only consider CDS requests for projects that are not included in the President's budget request or for projects that would be funded above the President's budget request. Interior CDS requests must meet the eligibility requirements for the programs in one of the following accounts and will be required to complete the supplemental questions under that account.

#### **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Water and Wastewater Infrastructure, State and Tribal Assistance Grants:**

- The subcommittee anticipates that the vast majority of requests made to the Interior Subcommittee will be for water infrastructure grants to fund local wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects within the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. This includes construction of, and modifications to, municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. The subcommittee will be limiting water infrastructure grants only to projects that are publicly-owned or owned by a non-profit entity. Privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for water infrastructure grants. The subcommittee has previously considered projects benefiting both a clean water and drinking water system. Any such project must meet the qualifications below and must be requested under the Clean Water CDS account.
- The subcommittee will accept CDS requests for local and/or municipal projects included on a state's most recently finalized Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan (IUP). The subcommittee may consider projects that are eligible for funding under State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) guidelines (detailed below), but are not on the state IUP list. There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any state or local water infrastructure grant funded through congressionally directed spending. For example, a \$1 million project could receive a maximum of \$800,000 from the Federal government, with the remaining \$200,000 the responsibility of the grantee. In almost all cases, other federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share. Please note that only the non-federal portion of assistance provided by a State Revolving Loan Fund can be applied towards a project's matching requirement.
- **CDS requests under this account will be required to answer the following questions.**
  - Is the project on the state's most recently finalized Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan? **Required YES or NO**
  - Is the project on the state's most recently finalized Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan? **Required YES or NO**
  - What is the project purpose, e.g., drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and/or water quality protection?
  - How will the project help the recipient meet applicable water standards—e.g. improve drinking water quality or improve surface/groundwater quality?

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- Is this project primarily to support existing water needs or to support future growth? Note that projects primarily to support future growth are typically ineligible for State Revolving Funds. Is this request seeking funding for planning and design, construction, or both?
- Describe the project recipient—are they a municipality? Public water system? Other public entity?
- What is the total estimated cost of the project, based on the facilities plan or preliminary engineering report?
- What is the amount requested for the project?
- Is the amount requested scalable to a lower amount and if so, what is the minimum amount?
- Please list any funding received from federal appropriations, including the fiscal year and source of funding (Clean Water SRF, Drinking Water SRF, STAG grants, USDA Rural Development Program, FEMA, or others)?
- Does the community have a financing plan certified by an authorized local official demonstrating how it will cover the matching funds of 20% or more?
- What are the anticipated non-federal sources of funding for this project?

### **SFC: IHS, Sanitation Facilities Construction:**

- For Tribal water CDS projects within the Sanitation Facilities Construction account, the subcommittee will accept CDS requests for projects included on the Indian Health Services' (IHS) Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS) list.
- In exceptional circumstances, the Subcommittee may consider projects that are eligible for funding under the Criteria for the [Sanitation Facilities Construction Program](#) but are not on the SDS list (see pg. 5-1 through 5-12 of the Criteria).
- **Applicants under this account will be required to answer to the following questions:**
  - Is the project on the IHS Sanitation Deficiency System list? **Required YES or NO**
  - If the answer to the question above is **NO**, explain how the project is eligible under the Criteria for the Sanitation Facilities Construction Program?
  - What is the project purpose, e.g., drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and/or water quality protection?
  - Is the amount requested scalable to a lower amount and if so, what is the minimum amount?
  - Is this request seeking funding for planning and design, construction, or both?
  - Is the preliminary planning and engineering design completed for this project?
  - When will this project be ready to proceed to construction?

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- What is the total estimated cost of the project, based on the facilities plan or preliminary engineering report?
- Please list any funding received from federal appropriations, including the fiscal year and source of funding (Clean Water SRF, Drinking Water SRF, STAG grants, USDA Rural Development Program, FEMA, or others), if applicable?
- If applicable, does the community have a financing plan?

### National Park Service, Historic Preservation Fund (HPF):

- The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), established to help fund the programs engendered by the National Historic Preservation Act (Public Law 89-665; 54 USC 300301 et seq.), was designed to preserve historical and archaeological sites in the United States of America. The subcommittee anticipates that most requests will be made within the HPF for the Save America's Treasures (SAT) program. All HPF grantees must meet standards set by the Secretary of the Interior and comply with the audit requirements, and each successful CDS recipient must complete an application through grants.gov. The subcommittee will accept CDS requests for non-formula funded activities within HPF that meet the qualifications of HPF programs. Please note that acquisitions of collections or historic properties are not eligible under the HPF. For more information, please visit [here](#). The maximum project amount is \$500,000.
- The subcommittee will review requests for projects in the context of existing HPF grants. For example, for SAT, the subcommittee will require that the property be listed as an historic place on the National Register of Historic Places or as a National Historic Landmark. (Member offices are encouraged to inquire with their State Historic Preservation Office to confirm listings (<https://ncshpo.org>)). Other HPF programs have varied eligibility requirements which will be the basis of the subcommittee's consideration.
- For HPF, if the request is for property, does the property meet the HPF program requirements of being listed on the National Register of Historic Places or as a National Historic Land
- CDS requests under this account will be required to answer the following questions.
  - If the request is for property, does the property meet the HPF program requirements of being listed on the National Register of Historic Places or as a National Historic Landmark individually or as contributing to an historic district?  
**Required YES, NO, or N/A**
  - What type of entity is the recipient (e.g., non-profit organization, state or local government, educational institution, federally-recognized Indian Tribe, Alaska Natives, or Native Hawaiian organizations)? **Please specify.**
  - Has the project received a previous federal grant in the past? For the Saving America's Treasures (SAT) program, previous projects can be viewed [here](#).

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**Please answer one of the following: YES and note the year, the amount, and the federal program; or NO.**

- If the request is for SAT, does the recipient have in place, or a plan to provide, the one-to-one match with non-federal cash and/or in-kind contribution? **Please answer YES, NO or N/A.**
- Would the requested project fund an eligible activity under the HPF? For example, for SAT, please visit [here](#). **Please answer YES or NO.**

### **SPF: USFS, State & Private Forestry, Forest Resource Information and Analysis:**

- The State & Private Forestry account provides technical and financial assistance grants to non-federal forest landowners, including state, Tribal and local governments. Activities within this account include forest health management, cooperative fire protection, wood innovation, and urban and community forestry. Requests must meet USFS eligibility requirements for the appropriate grant program.
- Project requests should be part of the state's Forest Action Plan, or contribute to meeting the goals of the Forest Action Plan.
- For U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry (SPF), is this project part of or contribute to the state's Forest Action Plan? **Required YES or NO**
- CDS requests under this account will be required to answer the following questions.
  - For U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry (SPF), is this project part of or contribute to the state's Forest Action Plan? **Required YES or NO**
  - Is the project part of a state Forest Action Plan or otherwise ranked in a prioritized list (provide list name and rank)?
  - How does this project contribute to the state Forest Action Plan?
  - What is the federal nexus for this project and why should there be a federal funding component?
  - Has this project received previous federal funds (provide year, amount, and program)?
  - What is the total cost of the project? Are there matching funds or partner contributions?
  - Is the amount requested scalable to a lower amount and if so, what is the minimum amount?
  - What is the timeline for this project?
  - Describe how the project will conserve and steward working forests or open space, protect forest health from insects and disease, meet urban and community forestry goals, create opportunities for innovative wood use, improve fire mitigation efforts, or otherwise benefit communities and forested lands.

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### Projects on Agency Lists:

- Funding for projects included in the fiscal year 2027 President's Budget should be submitted with the Member office's programmatic requests if the request is for funding at or below the President's request level. The subcommittee will only consider CDS requests for projects that are not included in the President's Budget or for funding levels that are above the amounts provided in the President's Budget. The subcommittee will have a strong preference for projects included on agency submitted priority lists.
- LWCF: Great American Outdoors Act, Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Funds the federal acquisition of lands and water for conservation and/or encouragement of outdoor recreation. Land acquisition project requests funded from the LWCF should be requested through the agency that will eventually manage the land being acquired (either BLM, FWS, NPS, or USFS) or in the case of the Forest Legacy Program, it is the state.
  - BLM, Land Acquisition
  - FWS, Land Acquisition
  - NPS, Land Acquisition
  - USFS, Land Acquisition
  - USFS, Forest Legacy

### Land Management Agencies, Local Projects and Research:

- In order for requests to be considered within this category, they must be relevant to the specified mission area within the bureaus listed below and contribute to responsible stewardship of land, wildlife, and recreation resources or contribute to priority research areas that inform stewardship of those resources. Proposed projects should contribute to local, state, and federal efforts to benefit species, habitat, and/or enhanced stewardship of land and water resources. Project funding is not intended to primarily fund annual operations and maintenance of existing programs at the state, federal, or local level.
  - BLM, Management of Land and Resources, Land Management Priorities: Projects for activities related to land, wildlife, and aquatic habitat management.
  - NPS, National Recreation and Preservation, Statutory and Contractual Aid: Projects for activities relating to operating, managing, and preserving resources, including as authorized by law.
  - FWS, Resource Management, Stewardship Priorities: Projects for fish and aquatic conservation, habitat conservation, recovery, and restoration activities.
  - USGS, Surveys Investigations and Research, Status and Trends: Projects for high priority and core science research, and ecosystem and water resources related activities.

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### **Bureau of Indian Affairs, Operation of Indian Programs, and Special Initiatives:**

- BIA provides direct services and funding for compacts and contracts for Tribes to provide programs for a wide range of activities. While the Subcommittee will not consider CDS projects for individual tribes, the Subcommittee may consider requests from other eligible entities that honor the commitment to invest in Tribal communities, create economic opportunities, foster cultural heritage, promote efficient and effective Tribal governance, and conserve natural resources.

### **Environmental Protection Agency, State and Tribal Assistance Grants, STAG Infrastructure Grants:**

- Requests will only be considered for projects related to existing funding categories and activities within the STAG account that will result in improvements in environmental quality and/or human health.
- In order to consider a request that falls into one of the “Other” categories outlined above, the subcommittee requires detailed information about the project.
- CDS requests under this account will be required to answer the following questions.
  - Describe the project and make the case for its consideration.
  - Is the recipient entity a federal agency, state agency, Tribal entity, local city/county agency, university or college, or non-profit organization?
  - Does the project meet the eligibility and matching requirements for a specific grant program (provide description)?
  - Does the relevant federal agency have the authority to provide funds to this project and/or recipient (cite authority)?
  - Is the project specifically authorized (cite public law or other authority)? Is the project on federal land or a federal facility?
  - Is the project funded in the President’s budget request (provide amount and describe any difference between the budget and your request)?
  - What is the federal nexus for this project and why should there be a federal funding component?
  - What is the total cost of the project?
  - Has this project received previous federal funds (provide year, amount, and program)?
  - Are there matching funds or partner contributions?
  - Is this request being submitted to other subcommittees for consideration (note subcommittee, program, amount, and other relevant information)?
  - Is the project ranked on any federal, state, or other prioritized list (provide list name and rank)?
  - What is the timeline for this project and why are federal funds required in this fiscal year?
  - What are the estimated start and completion dates for the project?
  - Can the project obligate all of the requested funding within 12 months of receipt?

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### **Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee Guidance (LHHS)**

In an effort to promote transparency and facilitate consideration of CDS requests, requesters must provide the necessary details on how requested funds would be used for each CDS project. LHHS CDS projects should not be viewed as continuous funding sources and should be distinct from competitive grant opportunities at the relevant agencies. CDS projects should be viewed as a way to jump start an activity, not sustain it over time. Successful CDS requests will match the project to the authorization or mission of an agency or account and have the support of local officials or communities.

#### **Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration – Training and Employment Services**

- CDS requests under ETA (through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) demonstration authority) should clearly articulate a project purpose and be focused on meeting the employment and training needs of workers. Generally these projects should include direct services which could include career services, training services (including work-based training), supportive services, and other permissible services, as they are defined in WIOA. Typical activities include training unemployed individuals to increase their skills and obtain employment and enhancing the skills of incumbent workers to get higher-paying jobs.
- CDS requests should include a basic budget that clearly describes how the funds will be used for specific activities to achieve the project's goals.
- CDS funding may be used for the purchase of equipment, but generally only if it is an incidental part of the larger project to provide direct services (a similar standard applies to curriculum development). If a larger portion of the CDS funding is expected to be used for equipment or curriculum development, please note that and provide a detailed justification for why such investments are necessary to meet the employment and training needs of individuals.
- CDS funding within ETA cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities or the purchase of land or buildings, and ETA CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.
- Finally, CDS projects will be expected to have measurable outcomes and demonstrate a linkage with the state or local workforce investment system.

#### **Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) – Program Management**

HRSA CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies. If more than one entity plans to be involved in an effort for which you would like to request funding, you must break out each entity as its own CDS request and submit funding details specific to its role in the overall project. Recipients have three years from the date of a completed application to spend a

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construction award, while equipment-only and rural health awards are for one year. CDS requests within HRSA should be submitted through the Program Management account and must fall under one of the following categories:

- **Health Facilities Construction and Equipment**
  - CDS requests for the cost of limited-scope construction, renovation, or capital equipment purchase for facilities for health, mental health, or substance abuse services, training of health professionals, or medical research. Examples of eligible facilities include hospitals, health centers, and clinics; skilled nursing facilities; mental health centers; facilities for schools of medicine, nursing, or other health professions; and medical research laboratories.
  - In addition to construction and renovation, CDS funding can be used to acquire capital equipment, such as lab equipment, x-ray machines, or telehealth and information technology. **The Committee will not consider a CDS request for federal funding within this account that exceeds \$15 million.**
  - Equipment-only CDS requests—that is, requests not involving construction—are permissible. Generally, any equipment having a useful life of more than one year and a unit cost of at least \$5,000 will be eligible as capital equipment. In addition, equipment with lower costs may also be eligible, provided that it is treated as an item of capital expense under the recipient institution’s pre-existing, written accounting policies. Equipment expenses for health information systems and electronic medical records systems are permitted expenditures.
  - The costs of expendable supplies such as pharmaceuticals, lab chemicals, or office paper are not eligible.
  - HRSA Health Facilities funding cannot be used to acquire land or purchase existing buildings, or to pay salaries or other operating costs. Funding cannot be used to pay for work previously completed. Additionally, projects involving the acquisition of mobile health clinics or electronic medical records are categorized as equipment-only projects and must be submitted separately from any construction component of the request. CDS requests can be used for architectural and engineering costs associated with an eligible construction project, but cannot be used for general feasibility studies or planning and design.
  - If the CDS requester’s construction project is expected to begin imminently, please note that CDS construction projects must adhere to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) / National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requirements prior to initiating any physical preparation, demolition, alteration and renovation, or construction related to the project.

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- **Rural Health**
  - Projects to improve health care in HRSA-designated rural areas. Examples of eligible activities include medical, dental, or mental health care services; health promotion and education; chronic disease management; telehealth services; and improvements to emergency medical services. CDS funds can be used for services only in areas that meet HRSA's definition of rural. For lists of eligible rural areas and further information regarding that definition, see: <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/about-us/definition/index.html>.
  - Please note that CDS requests for Rural Health initiatives cannot include construction as a component of the project.
- **HRSA applicants will be asked to respond to the following questions in the order listed below with as brief a response as possible, preferably one word or one sentence:**
  - If your request includes equipment, please confirm that all equipment meets the following criteria:
    - The equipment has a useful life of more than one year and a unit cost of at least \$5,000 OR is treated as an item of capital expense under the recipient institution's pre-existing, written accounting policies. **Required YES/NO.**
    - Includes equipment expenses for health information systems and electronic medical records systems that ARE permitted expenditures. **Required YES/NO.**
    - Your request does NOT include the costs of expendable supplies such as pharmaceuticals, lab chemicals, or office paper as they are not eligible. **Required YES/NO.**

### **Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) – Health Surveillance and Program Support**

- CDS requests within SAMHSA should be submitted through the Health Surveillance and Program Support account and must fall under one of the following categories:
  - **Substance Abuse Treatment**—funding to support programs that improve access, reduce barriers, and promote high quality, effective treatment and recovery services.
  - **Substance Abuse Prevention**—funding to support programs to prevent the onset of illegal drug use, prescription drug misuse and abuse, alcohol misuse and abuse, and underage alcohol and tobacco use.
- Needle Exchange: A General Provision prohibits the award of funding for projects which distribute sterile needles or syringes for I.V. drug injection.
- Use of Illegal Substances: A General Provision prohibits the award of funding for projects which promote the legalization of illegal drugs or substances.
- CDS funding within SAMSHA cannot be used for construction (other than a limited

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amount of renovation necessary to carry out a funded project), and SAMHSA CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.

- Mental health projects are no longer eligible under this account for FY27; substance abuse treatment and substance abuse prevention continue to be eligible.

### Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF) – Children and Families Services Programs

- CDS requests within ACF should be submitted through the Children and Families Services Programs account and must fall under one of the following categories:
  - **Child Abuse Prevention**—projects to improve the prevention, assessment, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect through research, model service improvement, information dissemination, and technical assistance. Projects must serve or target abused and/or neglected children and their families.
  - **Social Services Research and Demonstration (SSRD)** —projects to promote the ability of families to thrive through financial self-sufficiency in order to reduce poverty and to promote the healthy development and greater well-being of children and families. Projects can serve a diverse population including: low-income individuals, children, youth, families, individuals with developmental disabilities, and Native Americans.
    - SSRD is for research or demonstration projects, so there should be some learning built in to show whether this use of funds achieved its intended outcomes and can be duplicated elsewhere. SSRD funds may pay for part of research and demonstration projects that are consistent with the legislation. Therefore, cost sharing is required, but there is no statutory minimum for cost sharing. The match need not be a monetary contribution—it can be in-kind such as administrative oversight or reduced indirect recovery.
- CDS funding within ACF cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities, and ACF CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.

### Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Community Living (ACL) – Aging and Disability Services Programs

- CDS requests within ACL should be for projects to improve the ability of older adults and individuals of all ages with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in their communities. Generally, CDS requests should focus on improving access to, or the quality of, education, training, support services, and independent living services for older adults and individuals with disabilities.
- CDS funding within ACL cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities, and ACL CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.

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### Department of Education, Innovation and Improvement – Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE)

- Elementary and secondary education CDS requests can be designated under this heading for a wide variety of elementary and secondary education projects, including instructional services, afterschool centers, curricula development, teacher training, acquisition of books and computers, arts education, social and emotional learning activities, full-service community schools, and early childhood education. In general, the focus of elementary and secondary education CDS requests should be providing early childhood or K-12 educational services.
- CDS requests to provide and improve special education services at the elementary and secondary levels are also eligible under this heading. These CDS requests may include early intervention services for infants and toddlers, transition services, and postsecondary education services.
- Eligible CDS recipients are state education agencies, school districts, colleges and universities, and other public and private nonprofit entities. Generally, CDS requests intended for individual schools are provided to the applicable school district and not directly to the individual school.
- CDS funding within FIE cannot be used for construction or renovation of school buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling or minor alterations in a previously completed building, for example as part of technology upgrades. Daycare and childcare projects that do not include educational services are also not eligible under this account.

### Department of Education, Higher Education – Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)

- CDS requests through FIPSE should primarily be focused on improving access to, or the quality of, postsecondary education. This can include a range of activities as authorized and specified in section 741(a) of the Higher Education Act ([20 U.S.C. 1138\(a\)](#)). CDS recipients are usually colleges and universities but may include other public and private nonprofit organizations.
- Examples of the types of CDS requests that can be funded under FIPSE include projects to hire and train faculty, establish and improve degree programs, improve teacher preparation programs, develop and improve curricula, upgrade technology, equipment, and telecommunications, provide student support, and implement university partnerships with school districts. If a significant portion of CDS funds are expected to be used for the purchase of equipment make sure to note that and include a justification for that use of funds.
- CDS funding within FIPSE cannot be used for endowments, or for the construction or renovation of facilities, except in the case of minor remodeling or minor alterations in a previously completed building, for example as part of technology upgrades

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### Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

**Military Construction, Army**

**Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps**

**Military Construction, Air Force**

**Military Construction, Defense-Wide**

**Military Construction, Army National Guard**

**Military Construction, Air National Guard**

**Military Construction, Army Reserve**

**Military Construction, Navy Reserve**

**Military Construction, Air Force Reserve**

Requests may include major construction, unspecified minor military construction, and planning and design, however, only certain major military construction projects within these accounts are eligible for CDS. Eligible projects can be found on the lists below. **Eligible Lists:**

- **Future Years Defense Program (FYDP)**—Each military department, to include the Guard and Reserve, as well as Defense-Wide agencies, plans its major military construction program five years into the future. FYDPs identify these future planned projects, which are candidates for CDS requests. Some of the lists can be found on the website of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller). Additional inquiries on the FYDP or whether a specific project is included should be directed to the Senate Liaison Offices of each military department.
- **Unfunded Requirements/Priorities Lists (UFR/UPL)**—In addition to the annual budget request and as required by law, each military department submits to the congressional defense committees a document identifying unfunded priorities that could be funded if additional appropriations were provided. Questions about the UFR list or whether a specific project is included should be directed to the Senate Liaison Offices of each military department.
- **Cost-to-Complete (CTC)**—Variables such as construction market conditions can affect cost estimating throughout the military construction programming process, and as such, DOD can experience cost increases that cannot be sufficiently covered by available appropriated funding. In these cases, the military departments may submit a list of projects separate from the budget request that have received an authorization and appropriation but require additional funding to be completed. Once the full budget request is released, questions about these lists and whether specific projects are included should be directed to the Senate Liaison Offices of each military department.

It is the practice of the Committee to only provide funding which can be executed in the year of appropriation, and therefore CDS eligibility is further limited by the executability of funding. Eligible major military construction projects must therefore be:

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- Authorized in the Fiscal Year 2027 or prior year National Defense Authorization Act;
- At 35% design or higher with a DD 1391\*; and
- Prepared to award a contract in Fiscal Year 2027.

\* A DD 1391 form is required by the Department of Defense for any military construction project. It contains scope and cost estimates, an assessment of the current requirements, justification for the project, and anticipated contracting and construction timelines. Any project that meets the CDS eligibility requirements should have a DD 1391.

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## Transportation, Housing and Urban Development

**Projects excluded from CDS:** The Subcommittee will not fund CDS requests for operational expenses or administrative salaries and benefits.

**Cost-Share requirements for DOT CDS.** All DOT CDS projects will have a non-Federal cost-share requirement, consistent with the authorized program. The cost share may vary by State and by type of project, and it is recommended that you consult with DOT for the cost-share requirements of any specific project.

### Transportation Planning, Research and Development (TPR&D)

- CDS may be requested within the TPR&D account for transportation research projects eligible under title 23 or title 49 of the United States Code. Planning for specific local highway, transit, rail, or port projects that are eligible under HIP, TIG, or CRISI should NOT be included in this account. Requests are encouraged for national or regional research and development projects.
- **Project website must be included in your request.**

### Airport Improvement Program (AIP)

- CDS may be requested within the AIP account for airport projects eligible under chapter 471 of title 49, United States Code (<https://www.faa.gov/airports/aip/overview>) or section 767 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (49 U.S.C. 44706 note).
- *Note:* As AIP CDS follows the existing AIP statute, the Federal cost-share requirements still apply to CDS. For large and medium primary hub airports, CDS can cover 75 percent of eligible costs (or 80 percent for noise program implementation). For small primary, reliever, and general aviation airports, CDS can cover a range of 90-95 percent of eligible costs, based on statutory requirements.
- **AIP applicants will be asked to provide:**
  - a link to the airport master plan that includes the requested project,
  - the status of the planning and environmental work to assess the readiness of the project,
  - a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project; and
  - the airport name (see [NPIAS](#) for airport names).

### FAA Facilities and Equipment (F&E)

- CDS may be requested within the FAA F&E account but **only** for terminal air traffic control tower facility replacement projects eligible under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code.
- **F&E applicants will be asked to provide:**
  - A link to the airport master plan.

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- Applicants must also provide a statement of why the tower needs to be replaced. The statement must provide the age of the tower, number of enplanements, operational line of sight issues, other related infrastructure work not covered by the cost of replacing the air traffic control tower (roads, utilities, etc.), and any other information to justify the project. In addition, the project detail is required to provide the status of the planning and environmental work so the Subcommittee can assess the readiness of the project.
- Requests should also provide information on how the CDS funding will ensure completion of a project or segments of a project, including the total cost of the project, the CDS funding amount, and any other identified sources of funding.
- Applicants must also provide the airport name (see [NPIAS](#) for airport names).

### Highways (HIP)

- CDS may be requested within the HIP account for highway projects eligible under title 23, United States Code, including, but not limited to, highway and bridge construction projects, planning, environmental review, design, and right-of-way acquisition. Operational expenses are not eligible.
- All highway CDS funds will be provided directly to the State Department of Transportation. If the local or county level government is requesting the CDS, they will be required to coordinate with the State DOT to receive the funding and ensure a non-Federal match is available. The only exception to this is if the project is intended to be for a Tribal government.
- **HIP applicants will be asked to provide a link to the STIP or TIP that includes the requested project. In addition, must provide the STIP or TIP ID number for the project as it appears in the STIP or TIP.**
  - CDS may be requested funding for highway projects that are not currently on the STIP or TIP but for which a State DOT has provided a letter confirming that: (1) the project is eligible for Federal-aid highway funding under title 23, United States Code; (2) the State DOT is willing to carry out the project if funding is enacted; and (3) the State DOT will include the project on the STIP or TIP once funding for the project is enacted. The letter from the State DOT should be included in the application as an attachment.
- **HIP applicants will also be asked to provide:**
  - Required to include the status of the planning and environmental work to assess the readiness of the project.
  - Required to provide a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.

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### Transit (TIG)

- CDS may be requested within the TIG account for transit projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code.
- **TIG Applicants will be asked to provide a link to the STIP or TIP that includes the requested project. In addition, must provide the STIP or TIP ID number for the project as it appears in the STIP or TIP.**
  - CDS may be requested for transit projects that are not currently on the STIP or TIP but for which a transit agency has provided a letter confirming that: (1) the project is eligible for transit funding under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code; (2) the transit agency is willing to carry out the project if funding is enacted; and (3) the transit agency will include the project on the STIP or TIP once funding for the project is enacted. The letter and the most recent STIP or TIP on which the project will be added later should be attached to the application.
- **TIG applicants will also be asked to provide:**
  - Required to provide the status of the planning and environmental work to assess the readiness of the project.
  - Required to provide a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.
  - Required to provide the name of the recipient or subrecipient transit agency.

### Rail (CRISI)

- CDS may be requested within the CRISI account for rail capital projects eligible under section 22907 of title 49, United States Code.
- **The project Website field should include the most recent STIP or TIP on which the project will be added later.**
  - CDS may be requested for rail projects that are not currently on the State Rail Plan but for which a State rail agency or State DOT has provided a letter confirming that: (1) the project is eligible for rail funding under section 22907 of title 49, United States Code; (2) the State rail agency, State DOT, or other relevant State agency is willing to carry out the project if funding is enacted; and (3) the State rail agency or State DOT will include the project on the State Rail Plan once funding for the project is enacted. The letter and the most recent State Rail Plan on which the project will be added later should be included in the application as an attachment.
- **CRISI applicants will be asked to provide:**
  - Required to provide a link to the State Rail Plan that includes the requested project.
  - Required to provide the status of the planning and environmental work to assess the readiness of the project.
  - Required to provide a description of all other sources of funding contributing to

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the total cost of the project.

### Ports (PIDP).

- CDS may be requested within the PIDP account for port projects eligible under section 54301 of title 46, United States Code.
- The Project Website field should include a link to the relevant planning document for the project
- The Project Detail field, request should specify if:
  - The project is eligible under 46 USC 54301, specifically which eligible use;
  - The recipient is eligible under 46 USC 54301, specifically (A) through (F);
  - The project is at a small port as described under 46 USC 54301(b); and
  - The project is in a rural area as described under 46 USC 54301(a)(12).
- **PIDP applicants will be asked to provide:**
  - Required to provide the status of the planning and environmental work to assess the readiness of the project.
  - Required to provide a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.
- Note: If fully automated equipment is proposed to be acquired or terminal infrastructure for such equipment is proposed to be created, the request must describe any job changes that will result from the project, including supporting evidence demonstrating and certifying that the project will NOT directly result in a net loss of jobs or degradation of job quality.
  - Definition of fully automated equipment: equipment to be remotely operated or monitored, with or without the exercise of human intervention or control

### Economic Development Initiatives (EDIs)

- Funds activities eligible under section 5305 of chapter 69 of title 42, United States Code, as well as for affordable housing construction.
- The Committee encourages projects that address affordable housing, community services, and economic development. Examples of eligible EDI projects include, but are not limited to:
  - Acquisition of real property (land, water rights, buildings);
  - Construction, rehabilitation, and improvements to affordable housing;
  - Blight removal or remediation;
  - Public housing modernization; and,
  - Construction, rehabilitation, and improvements of public facilities (except buildings for general conduct of government), such as neighborhood centers, parks, and shelter for persons having special needs such as survivors of domestic violence and the homeless, *except for* buildings for the general conduct of government such as city halls.
- Reimbursement of expenses incurred prior to the enactment of a final FY24 appropriations bill is not permitted.
- Applicants are required to provide to provide a link to the project website, if available,

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or if the project is included in an existing CDBG grantee's Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan, a link to such plan.

- Required to provide at a minimum:
  - description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project; and
- **Applicants for the HUD EDI account will be asked to respond to the following questions with as brief a response as possible, preferably in 1-2 sentences or less:**
  - Provide a link to the project website (if there is one) or if the project is included in an existing CDBG grantee's Consolidated Plan or Annual Action Plan, a link to such a plan.
  - A one sentence description of project
  - The status of the project (planning, design, under construction, etc.) and timeline of its expected completion.
  - Breakdown of how EDI funds would be used.
  - Description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.
  - Status of the environmental review work.
  - Describe which of the three National Objectives of the broader CDBG program the EDI project and its activities meets and include relevant data or a description indicating how it meets such National Objective(s). The three CDBG program National Objectives are:
    - (1) benefit low- and moderate-income persons or communities,
    - (2) prevent or eliminate slums or blight; or
    - (3) address community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community for which other funding is not available.
  - *Note:* The most common CDBG National Objective that EDI projects will meet is the benefit to low- and moderate- income (LMI) persons. If using the LMI National Objective, please review this HUD resource. Use the "Map Application" tool to provide the necessary data points demonstrating the LMI benefit.
  - If using the LMI National Objective, please review this HUD resource: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg/cdbg-low-moderate-income-data/>
  - Use the "Map Application" tool to provide the necessary data points demonstrating the LMI benefit: <https://hud.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=279eca0222754f8a954bbf8cf995a1a3>
- EDIs are subject to other Federal requirements including the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards at 2 CFR Part 200, Build America Buy America (BABA) Preferences, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), HUD's NEPA-implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 50 or 24 CFR Part 58,

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and all appropriate Federal environmental and historic preservation laws, regulations, and Executive Orders. To review HUD's current implementation of the EDI program and the applicable Federal requirements, please see HUD's EDI landing page:

[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/edi-grants](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/edi-grants)