

CDBG Office Hours

Team HCD CDBG

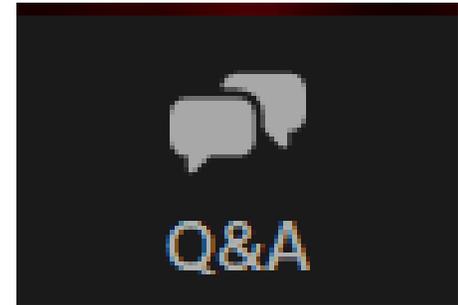
Wednesday, May 18, 2022





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 out loud throughout the presentation and will provide answers if possible
 - All questions will be saved and recorded as part of the public record





Now Available! 2022 NOFA Trainings and Workshops

The following recordings of trainings and workshops for the 2022 NOFA are now available on the CDBG Workshops and Training Playlist!

- Resolution Training
- 2022 NOFA Workshop Sessions 1 and 2
- State Objectives, What you need to know
- Racial Equity Workshop
- National Objectives & Matrix Codes
- NEPA level of review workshop
- How to write an effective narrative
- eCivis Budget Training

To access these trainings and stay updated on other CDBG trainings and workshops, please visit [HCD Youtube - CDBG Workshops and Trainings Playlist](#)



CDBG Team is hiring!

- Please check out the HCD Representative Jobs available right now!
- If you know good candidates, please refer them!
- All jobs can be remote – telework from anywhere in California!
- Great retirement and health benefits!

[Jobs at HCD Webpage - HCD website](#)



Upcoming Training

- TBD 2022 Application Technical Assistance Session

Look for notification of the new date. We are working on setting the date now that the 2022 NOFA has been published.

- To register for these trainings, please visit HCD's Eventbrite page at [California Dept. Housing & Community Development Events | Eventbrite](#)



CDBG Program Updates

2020 CDBG NOFA

- ❖ 1 Pending SA routing for final approval

2021 CDBG NOFA

- ❖ 64- applications submitted and reviewed for threshold
- ❖ 46 are recommended for approval.
- ❖ We are pending HCD internal process for DO approval

2022 CDBG NOFA

- ❖ Dropped to the website 4/19/2022
- ❖ Housing & Community Development (Competitive) Programs due June 20, 2022 @ 3:00PM Pacific Daylight Time
- ❖ Economic Development Projects and Programs due July 18, 2022 @ 3:00PM PDT
- ❖ Applications in partnership with Non-Federally Recognized Tribes due August 19, 2022 @ 3:00PM PDT
- ❖ Amended 2019 Program Guidelines Published to HCD Website
- ❖ Some of the Appendices to the NOFA are awaiting approval. Once approved we will add them to the Files Tab, do an eBlast and announce them ini OH.



CDBG-CV

- CDBG-CV1
 - ❖ 82 Approved and Executed
- CDBG-CV2 and 3
 - ❖ 145 Approved and Executed



CDBG-CV Set-Aside

- CDBG-CV Homekey Set-Aside*
 - 25 Submitted Applications:
 - 0 Awaiting Corrections
 - 25 Routing
 - 0 Pending Signatures
 - **0** Approved

- CDBG-CV Tribal Set Aside*
 - 19 Submitted Applications:
 - 6 Awaiting Corrections
 - 12 Routing
 - 6 Pending Signatures
 - **1** Approved

*As of 5/17/2022

Questions and Answers: Recap from Prior Office Hours





Family Resource Center

Question:

Would a Family Resource Center be considered a housing or non-housing activity?

Answer:

From an eligible activity perspective, it really depends on what it is you are funding. This project doesn't sound like it is housing, but if you are funding the construction then this would be considered a Public Facility project, or if you are funding the resources used to provide services to the LMI families then this would be considered a Public Service project. Please note that we are currently not allowing applications for Public Facility or OTC projects under the 2022 NOFA, but we will be funding them under the 2023 NOFA.



Construction Projects Pt. 1

Question:

For construction projects, does the bidding process have to be completed in order to have a shovel ready project for an application or can that be conducted upon award?

Answer:

No, the bidding process does not need to be completed in order to have a shovel ready project.



Construction Projects Pt. 2

Question:

Are construction projects for water/sewer still eligible under a Colonias Allocation application?

Answer:

Yes, this would be eligible under the 2022 NOFA.



Construction Projects Pt. 3

Question:

In regard to the bidding process for construction projects, we are explaining to our special districts how much needs to be completed for a shovel ready project to apply for CDBG funds (be it for Colonias Allocation or for next year). Will the bidding process need to be completed for an application?

Answer:

With any construction project we would like for you to be able to have as much done as possible in terms of being ready. Please email cdbg@hcd.ca.gov so that we can offer specific guidance on this question



Economic Development Project

Question:

We have a question about whether a proposed activity is allowable as ED – infrastructure in support of business. Our County owns a former military base which closed in 1995 and is now a business park. The base was originally constructed in 1941, and much of the infrastructure is failing as it was not constructed according to local standards and codes. A road entrance into the business park occasionally collapses because of insufficient foundation for the drainage pipe underneath the road. The County is in negotiations with a business which will bring more than 50 jobs benefiting low-income persons but involves semi-trucks. The road entrance must be re-constructed for this firm to do business. Could the County use ED CDBG funds to reconstruct this roadway and assist this firm in providing jobs in our area?

Answer:

This is an eligible project. From a National Objective eligibility perspective, when creating new permanent jobs, at least 51% of the jobs need to be available to or held by LMI individuals. Under the current NOFA, this would most likely be a Capital Improvement project. Please note that we are only accepting Capital Improvement projects for Economic Development Activities, and this project sounds like it would be a great fit for that objective.



OTC Funding Status

Question:

What is the OTC funding status for 2020, 2021, 2022?

Answer:

We have been able to fund down some of the housing OTC grantees. They have been notified and are part of the 2021 awards. We are still funding down the waitlist for the 2021 awards but have not completed this yet.



BA Program Load Cap

Question:

What is the cap for a loan in the BA program, is it still \$350,000? Clarification from grantee: The loan I can provide?

Answer:

For CDBG-CV, the limit for individual business or micro-enterprise assistance is \$100,000 per entity.

Staff needs to check what the federal regulations permit/limit for assistance under annual CDBG funding. We will respond as soon as possible. It may be lower than what was allowed under the CDBG-CV federal register.



Income Verification Feedback

Question:

We are confused as to why HCD believes that an owner of house would be more embarrassed or would have a greater difficulty in applying because they do not file taxes. We believe collecting all of household's income information including their investment information which they may not have or have very little of, their bank statements which often are minimal and/or have over-draft fees, NSF fees, etc. and performing a verify arduous and lengthy Part 5 income verification is way more of a burden on a low income HH especially for elderly and disabled individuals. We believe it is way more embarrassing showing how much you don't have then proving that you don't file income taxes. We are going to find out either way that they have limited income and that is why they are applying for the program.

Answer:

The reason for requiring use of Part 5 income verification is not about embarrassment, but rather about the protection of households who may not file taxes AND consistency with requirements across programs. Based on this, and prior feedback about the challenges of requiring Part 5 income verification, we will take the points made by grantees into consideration and discuss internally. Thank you for the feedback.



2022 NOFA

Question:

2022 NOFA Application: In Appendix A for the scoring for Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab the “Overcrowded Owners” section refers us to Tabulations of ACS data are from the HUD Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) database and can be downloaded at the HUD CHAS website: <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/cp.html>. However, there is no complication of overcrowding statistics alone. The only statistic for Montague that has persons per room is the Table titled Severe Housing Problems Overview 2 (2. The four severe housing problems are: incomplete kitchen facilities; incomplete plumbing facilities; more than 1 person per room; and cost burden greater than 50%.) Please let us know how to proceed.

Answer:

Please send an email to Mamie, Sandra, or cdbg@hcd.ca.gov so that we can assist you.



ECivis Profiles

Question:

Are subrecipients/contractors who are writing the grants for a jurisdiction to apply under the jurisdiction's login as in the past application submitted through eCivis?

Answer:

The only person that can apply for grants are non-entitlements. You can have your own login for eCivis but the profile needs to belong to the applying jurisdiction. This is because if there are notifications that go out, they need to go out to the grantee as opposed to the consultant.



Planning Grant Application

Question:

Does a planning grant application that is for a jurisdiction's income survey meet the National Objective of LMA?

Answer:

Pending response....



GMM Update

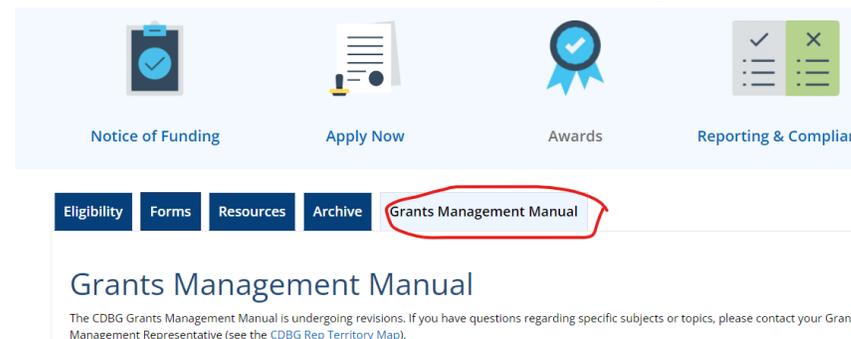
Question:

Any progress on the grant management manual?

Answer:

Yes, we have a couple of chapters that are very close to being published and are finalizing ADA remediation. This was pushed back due to the website redesign. We are hoping this will be resolved shortly and new chapters will be published hopefully by the end of next week.

Please check the HCD website for the currently available resources:





Section 3

Question:

Please describe resources to assist jurisdictions in complying with Section 3 requirements. I need updated language for requests for bids and construction contracts.

Answer:

On our website we have a chapter and appendices resources available that provides what is needed for bids and construction contracts. Please visit this link to access the information: <https://hcd.ca.gov/community-development-block-grant-program>

Chapters

- [Chapter 1 Program Overview \(PDF\)](#)
- [Chapter 2 National Objectives and Eligible Activities \(PDF\)](#)
- [Chapter 4 Grantee Requirements \(PDF\)](#)
- [Chapter 5 Procurement \(PDF\)](#)
- [Chapter 7 Labor Standards \(PDF\)](#)
- [Chapter 8 Acquisition \(PDF\)](#)
- [Chapter 9 Relocation \(PDF\)](#)

Tools

- [Tool 4-1: HUD Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan - Multifamily Housing \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tool 4-2: Affirmative Fair Housing Market Plan Guidance \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tool 5-1: Section 3 of the HCD Act \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tool 5-2: Procurement Types \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tool 5-3: Informal Procurement \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tool 5-4: Formal Procurement \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tool 5-5: Subrecipient Selection \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tool 5-6: Procurement and Crosscutting Requirements \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tool 6-1: Cost Principles - Cost Types \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tool 7-1: Davis Bacon and Related Acts \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tool E-1: Lead Based Paint - Subsistence Payments \(PDF\)](#)



ECivis IT Issues

Question:

We are writing applications for several jurisdictions and are logging in under each of the jurisdictions. I wanted to bring it to HCD's attention that when this happens the application that is created for jurisdiction A will show up in Jurisdiction B's applications and vice versa. I have submitted a ticket for this. We are highly concerned about this bug as it creates a significant burden on the subrecipient/contractor who continually has to try to rectify the issue and the very real issue that a wrong application will be submitted under a wrong jurisdiction.

Answer:

Unfortunately, this happens due to your cookies and/or cache. We do have a support ticket open for a future enhancement which will allow consultants to be granted access to someone else's application through your own login, but this has not been built out yet. For now, we encourage you to use Google Chrome, as this generally helps with the issue. Should you need additional assistance, please reach out to Sandra Veirs for additional technical assistance.



Other Jurisdictions

Question:

In addition to the "other jurisdictions" question, I noticed there is a question in the applications to identify another jurisdiction that we would be applying for. Would our county be able to apply for another county this way without having them give us their eCivis account information and do it under our own (of course we would stipulate this in the MOU).

Answer:

When you are applying on behalf of another jurisdiction, you are the jurisdiction that is held accountable, so it should live in your jurisdiction's profile.



Income Survey

Question:

What National Objective does an income survey meet when submitting an application to conduct an income survey for a jurisdiction?

Answer:

Pending response....



Upcoming Trainings

Question:

Are there an income certification trainings pending for the upcoming year?

Answer:

We are working on additional resources for income certification that will be available soon. Thank you for this feedback and we will consider putting a training together.



PI Applications Pt. 1

Question:

Can we submit a PI application for a multi-family housing project in this grant cycle?

Answer:

The answer is likely yes, the only things that are not allowed with PI only applications are public service activities and a limited amount of planning activities. However, we would need more information to answer this question fully, please reach out to your HCD representative for a specific answer. Remember that new construction of housing is not an eligible use of CDBG funds. Only acquisition or rehab are eligible.



PI Applications Pt. 2

Question:

Can a jurisdiction apply for a multi-unit housing project use of CDBG PI funds during this NOFA?

Answer:

Yes, it is acquisition using PI and you would use the Program Income solicitation for 2022. Remember that new construction of housing is not an eligible use of CDBG funds. Only acquisition or rehab are eligible.



Income Survey Pt. 2

Question:

Can we conduct an income survey under CDBG grant?

Answer:

Pending response...



SAMS Requirement

Question:

The SAMS requirement is a significant barrier to getting funds out to small businesses, what can HCD do to help with this problem?

Answer:

We realize that this is a burdensome requirement, however it is a federal requirement. Unfortunately, there is little that HCD can do, but we will submit this feedback to HUD.