

What Is the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)?



The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The CDBG Program provides annual grants on a formula basis to cities and counties to develop viable urban communities. The **Primary Objective** calls for the development of viable communities by the provision of decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income. It does this via the goals of providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate income persons.

Over a 1, 3, or 3-year period, not less than 70% of CDBG funds must be used for activities that must meet [one of the three national objectives](#), including:

- Benefit to low and moderate income (LMI) persons;
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blights;
 - Q:** *What is a slum or blight and why would we use that term?*
 - A:** *It is a specific term derived from criteria set by HUD. [Click here](#) for more information.*
- Meet a need having particular urgency (referred to as urgent need).

Who Can Apply?

State or local governments (cities and/or counties based on population) apply and are the primary recipients. The primary recipients then have the ability to partner with subrecipients (nonprofit organizations such as a Family Violence Center).



What Types of Grants Are Available?

Entitlement or CDBG Entitlement Program

- **Who is eligible to apply?** Cities in metropolitan areas over 50,000 in population, designated principal cities of metropolitan statistical areas, or urban counties with more than 200,000 people (excluding the population of metropolitan cities located therein). [Click here](#) to find out the county/city populations in your service area.
- **How is funding received?** Local governments receive funding directly from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Non-Entitlement or State CDBG Program

- **Who is eligible to apply?** Small cities or counties, also referred to as units of general local government (cities under 50,000 and counties with less than 200,000). [Click here](#) to find out the county/city populations in your service area.
- **How is funding received?** State governments receive funding directly from HUD and then provide CDBG assistance to non-entitlement communities within their jurisdictions. The [non-entitlement program](#) is administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Funding

- [Click here](#) to find out who receives CDBG Funding and the amount of CDBG funds received in your area.
- [Funding formulas](#) are based on population data, metropolitan area delineations, and several objective measures of community needs. There is an annual allocation where Entitlement receives 70% of approved funding appropriations and Non-Entitlement receives the remaining 30%.

[Eligible Activities](#) may include acquisition of real property, relocation and demolition, rehabilitation of residential and non-residential structures, construction of public facilities and improvements, and the conversion of school buildings for eligible purposes, public services, within certain limits, activities relating to energy conservation and renewable energy resources, and provision of assistance to profit-motivated businesses to carry out economic development and job creation/retention activities.

Housing-Related Eligible Expenses: CDBG funds may not be used to provide ongoing income payments such as paying for a tenant's rent or a household's mortgage. The only exceptions to this are income payments that are provided as a loan or income payments that are emergency in nature and do not exceed three consecutive months.

Where Do Family Violence Centers (FVC) Fit in with CDBG?

The local and state governments who directly receive CDBG funding typically partner with subrecipients, often nonprofit organizations, to meet one of the CDBG national objectives. FVCs may partner with CDBG recipients and receive funding as a subrecipient. The subrecipient assists the recipient to implement and administer its program activities.

How Can FVCs Access CDBG Funding as a Subrecipient?

We highly encourage your program to review the [eligible activities](#) to determine whether your program could benefit from CDBG funding. Some examples of CDBG funding that FVCs have received include rehabilitation of residential shelter bathroom facilities and funding for prevention efforts. There is a wide array of opportunities to support the work of FVCs. We encourage you to begin identifying contacts and developing relationships within your local governments as soon as possible, so those projects can be planned for and written into the next CDBG grant application.



Steps to Build Relationships and Identify Potential Partnerships for CDBG Funding Opportunities

- 1. Determine if you fall within an Entitlement and/or Non-Entitlement local government** ([Click here](#) to determine if your service area falls within Entitlement and/or Non-Entitlement)
- 2. Review the CDBG National Objectives & Eligible Activities**
 - Entitlement: [CDBG Guide to National Objectives and Eligible Activities for Entitlement Communities](#)
 - Non-Entitlement: [Guide to National Objectives and Eligible Activities for State CDBG Program](#)
- 3. Identify Eligible Activities that your program would benefit from and develop talking points and/or a proposal** For more detailed information about each eligible activity and how it might mutually benefit the CDBG grant recipient's and your program's needs, please visit [HUD's website](#) or contact your local CDBG contact to discuss further.
- 4. Identify & reach out to your specific CDBG contact**
 - [CDBG Entitlement contact](#) (City and/or County) or
 - [CDBG Non-Entitlement contact](#) (Council of Government)
- 5. Set up a meeting with the CDBG contact to discuss potential CDBG funding opportunities**
 - Remember, CDBG is about community so reminding recipients of the critical work you do to support survivors in this meeting is important.
- 6. Propose subrecipient ideas for partnership** (How to utilize CDBG funding to help the direct grant recipients meet one or more of the required national objectives!).
CDBG Funding examples include
 - Improvement to residential shelter bathroom facilities
 - Prevention efforts in the community