



2022 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)-Public Services/Planning And Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Application Workshop

Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 9:30am

Presented by the Department of Planning and Development



2022 FUNDING CYCLE UPDATES & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Applications must be submitted via the online application submission forms. *No paper copies or emailed applications will be accepted.*
- Non-profits may apply for one CDBG Capital Improvement project and one CDBG Public Service / Planning project plus one ESG. ***Otherwise, there is a limit of one funding application per grant per agency .***
- All 2022 CDBG proposed projects must be consistent with ***Moving to Implementation*** (https://www.cookcountyil.gov/sites/g/files/ywwepo161/files/cnt_cookcountyplan_6-30-20_1.pdf) Cook County's current Consolidated Plan
- Consistency with the Cook County Policy Roadmap (<https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/policy-roadmap>), including a focus on racial equity
- ***Applicants will lose 15 points for each required document not submitted out of 100pts total.***

CDBG PROGRAM HISTORY AND OVERVIEW



- The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is authorized under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act (HCDA) of 1974, as amended. CDBG grew out of the consolidation of several categorical programs under which communities competed nationally for funds. The primary objective of Title I of the HCDA, as amended, is the ***development of viable urban communities***. These viable communities are achieved by providing the following, principally for persons of low- and moderate-income:
 - Decent housing;
 - A suitable living environment; and
 - Expanded economic opportunities

****At least seventy-percent (70%) of CDBG funds must be utilized to support activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons.****

ESG PROGRAM HISTORY AND OVERVIEW



- The Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) has now been amended by the “Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing” (HEARTH) Act of 2009 to become the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). The HEARTH Act amends and reauthorizes the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987. The primary changes include a greater emphasis on homelessness prevention, the addition of rapid re-housing, the regulatory requirements for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) use, increased emphasis on performance, and a requirement for greater coordination and collaboration between the recipient and the Continuum of Care .

The regulations implementing the ESG Program are found at 24 CFR Part 576.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES-CDBG



Planning & Public Service Projects:

- **Plans and Studies:** Activities including but not limited to comprehensive community or economic development plans and project feasibility studies.
 - ** Note: CDBG funds under this category are limited due to a regulatory cap on planning and administration. Specifically, Cook County may only utilize 20 percent of its annual entitlement allocation for these purposes including internal administrative operations.
- **Public Services:** Activities including but not limited to employment services (e.g., job training), substance abuse services (e.g., counseling and treatment), fair housing counseling, services for senior citizens, services for homeless persons, etc. CDBG funds may be used to pay for labor, supplies, and material as well as to operate and/or maintain the portion of a facility in which the public service is located (e.g., lease costs).

** Note: CDBG funds under this category are limited due to a regulatory cap on public services. Specifically, Cook County may only utilize 15 percent of its annual entitlement allocation for this purpose. In addition, public service eligibility is contingent upon the proposed project providing either a new service, or a quantifiable increase in the level of an existing service from those services offered in the preceding 12 months.**

ELIGIBLE COMPONENTS AND ACTIVITIES-ESG



- A broad range of programs and activities are eligible for funding in five components as listed below. Each component includes several eligible activities. Applicants may apply for funding under one or multiple components. While applicants may inquire about the eligibility of any activities not listed, applicants may generally presume that any activity not listed is ineligible. Proposed funding applications must serve suburban Cook County—either in its entirety or within a specified location.
 - Homeless Prevention: Assistance and services to prevent households from becoming homeless. To qualify as being at risk, households must be under 30% area median income and must also meet the criteria in the “at risk of homelessness” definition in 24 CFR § 576.2.
 - Rapid Re-housing: Rapid Rehousing assistance can be used to help a homeless household move into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.
 - HMIS: Cook County has required subrecipients to use HMIS (and for Domestic Violence services agencies to use a comparable data tracking program), and it is now required by HUD and also the first year it is an eligible component of ESG.
 - Emergency Shelter- which includes- **Essential Services**: Includes staff salaries and related costs as indicated below; o Case management, includes costs of coordinated intake and assessment system, Counseling services, Connecting clients with mainstream services, Developing plan and monitoring progress of participants, and **Shelter Operations**, including maintenance, rent, repair, security, fuel, equipment, insurance, utilities, food, furnishings, and supplies necessary for the operation of the emergency shelter. Where no appropriate emergency shelter is available for a homeless family or individual, eligible costs may also include a hotel or motel voucher for that family or individual.
 - Street Outreach, Engagement: Eligible costs include staff salaries and cell phone expenses, for workers who locate, identify, and build relationships with unsheltered persons, to provide immediate support and connect them to emergency, community, and mainstream services.
- All jurisdictions in Cook County may be served by Cook County’s ESG program in this funding year except for:
 - Chicago
 - Cicero
 - Evanston
 - Oak Park

ELIGIBLE AREAS-CDBG



- Cook County currently receives CDBG funds as an annual entitlement allocation based on its qualification as an urban county. Cook County CDBG funds may only be utilized within the limits of the current effective Cook County Urban County area excluding other entitlement communities also receiving CDBG funding .
- Proposed funding applications must serve suburban Cook County—either in its entirety or within a specified location. Please note that organizations solely serving other jurisdictions that receive direct CDBG funding (see list below), or solely serving clients from these jurisdictions cannot be funded.
 - Chicago
 - Skokie
 - Elgin
 - Hoffman Estates
 - Mount Prospect
 - Berwyn
 - Oak Park
 - Evanston
 - Arlington Heights
 - Des Plaines
 - Palatine
 - Schaumburg
 - Cicero
 - Oak Lawn

ELIGIBLE AREAS-ESG



- Cook County currently receives ESG funds as an annual entitlement allocation on the basis of its qualification as an urban county. Cook County ESG funds may only be utilized within the limits of the current effective Cook County Urban County area excluding other entitlement communities also receiving ESG funding.
- Proposed funding applications must serve suburban Cook County—either in its entirety or within a specified location. Please note that organizations solely serving other jurisdictions that receive direct ESG funding (see list below), or solely serving clients from these jurisdictions cannot be funded. Additionally, clients funded through Homelessness Prevention or Rapid Re-housing to move into or stay in apartments in these locations cannot be funded.
- All jurisdictions in Cook County may be served by Cook County’s ESG program in this funding year except for:
 - Chicago
 - Cicero
 - Evanston
 - Oak Park

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS- CDBG



Public Service Projects

Minimum – Funding Request: \$25,000

Maximum-Funding Request Cap: \$125,000

** Note: Based on the nature and anticipated impacts of the proposed project, economic development projects may not be subject to the funding request maximums noted above at the discretion of Cook County. Prospective applicants interested in submitting economic development proposals are strongly encouraged to contact Cook County for guidance regarding project eligibility prior to submission.**

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS- ESG



Minimums

- Minimum application funded: \$25,000, can be spread across multiple activities and components.
- At minimum, the applicant must certify at least a dollar-for-dollar match for ESG. These matching funds must be available during the grant year itself

Maximums

- No more than 20% of the applicant's total budget (taken from the latest audit submitted) may be funded as an ESG grant. (For example, if an organization's operating budget was \$100,000, the highest ESG allocation they could get would be \$20,000.)
- No more than 50% of total award will be for staff salaries.
- Combined, the components of Street Outreach and Emergency Shelter will be capped at the greater of 60% of the total grant for the Program Year or the total amount obligated to Homeless Assistance from Program Year
- No more than 6 (six) total positions will be funded through staff salaries for ESG.

APPLICATION EVALUATION CRITERIA



- Applications are reviewed by Cook County staff to determine completeness, eligibility and consistency with Cook County's current Consolidated Plan. Applications are reviewed and recommended by means of a **competitive application evaluation process**.
- A well-written application is no guarantee of funding, you should also make every effort to make sure that the application is complete and concise.

*****Note: The individual application score is the primary factor in determining the recommended awards, but it is not the only factor that will be considered during the County's application review process. *****

Applications Online



- Both the CDBG and ESG Applications are online at www.CookCountyil.gov

Questions

