

CARES Act Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) Overview

What are CARES Act CDBG-CV funds? The federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) has allocated supplemental CDBG Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds to the state CDBG program at Commerce.

Who will receive CDBG-CV funds from Commerce? The initial \$7.7M CDBG-CV1 allocation is granted to [CDBG nonentitlement city and county governments](#) (cities with less than 50,000 population and not part of a CDBG entitlement urban county CDBG program; and counties with less than 200,000 in population excluding entitlement cities).

The second \$23M CDBG-CV2 allocation is granted to eligible, CDBG entitlement and nonentitlement city and county governments based on COVID-19 factors prioritized by HUD, the state and local governments.

What can CDBG-CV fund? CDBG-CV1 grants fund CDBG public services and local microenterprise assistance programs; and public health, emergency response, or temporary housing facilities that address COVID-19 impacts, and grant administration. All CDBG funded activities must benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons or meet the CDBG urgent need national objective criteria.

How do eligible cities and counties apply for CDBG-CV funds? They submit an application describing proposed uses of funds and how federal requirements are met. The CDBG-CV1 ZoomGrants online application and guidance materials will be available at www.commerce.wa.gov/CDBG after the state submits its CARES Act Action Plan Amendment for HUD approval. CDBG-CV2 planning is just beginning.

What is the maximum grant amount? Grant amounts are in the applicable CDBG-CV Fund Distribution list. In addition, CDBG-CV1 incentive funds are available for nonentitlement city/county consortiums in the following grant options table.

The state is to distribute CARES Act CDBG-CV funds to city and county governments for activities that prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.

-U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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CDBG-CV1 Grant Options Table

CDBG-CV1 Grant Option	Grantee Recipient	Consortium	Service Area	Entity providing assistance to service area residents, or managing project	Total CDBG-CV1 Award
A	City	No	Single city	City grantee or a subrecipient serving city area	Up to \$13 per city LMI population*
B	County	No	Single county	County grantee or a subrecipient serving county area	County population formula amount**
C	County or City	Yes	2 or more counties and cities	County or City grantee, or a subrecipient serving the combined areas	Combined county population formula amounts**, PLUS \$13 per city LMI population*, PLUS \$1,000 for each consortium city or county (not including grant recipient)

* City amount = \$13 per LMI population based on HUD LMI percentage or CDBG approved income survey

** County amount = \$3M distributed based on population (including nonentitlement cities), with a minimum of \$8,000 for counties under 5,000 population

How did Commerce determine how much CDBG-CV1 funds each city and county could apply for and the priority activities? The population-based approach distributes funds equitably across the state, supports local/regional services and assistance programs, builds on local grant administration capacity, allows flexibility to respond to state and local priorities, and targets funds towards activities that benefit persons with low- and moderate-incomes impacted by COVID-19.

How do people or businesses impacted by COVID-19 access the assistance? CDBG-funded services and programs may be offered directly by the local government CDBG recipient, or they may pass the funds to a subrecipient service provider. So contact your local government, [community action program](#), or [associate development organization](#) to learn if CDBG-funded assistance or other resources are available, and the eligibility criteria.

When do the funds begin and end? CDBG-CV funds may reimburse allowable costs incurred by the grantee recipient or subrecipient for approved activities related to COVID-19 beginning March 27, 2020 (CARES Act authorization date). The funds must be expended in a timely manner to address immediate needs. The grantee recipient's CDBG-CV contract will establish the end date, which could extend to June 30, 2022.

Federal Citizen Participation Requirements For Local Government Applicants to the State CDBG Program

Federal Regulations 24 CFR 570.486 (a)

- (a) *Citizen participation requirements of a unit of general local government.* Each unit of general local government shall meet the following requirements as required by the state at Sec. 91.115(e) of this title.
- (1) Provide for and encourage citizen participation, particularly by low and moderate income persons who reside in slum or blighted areas and areas in which CDBG funds are proposed to be used;
 - (2) Ensure that citizens will be given reasonable and timely access to local meetings, information, and records relating to the unit of local government's proposed and actual use of CDBG funds;
 - (3) Furnish citizens information, including but not limited to:
 - (i) The amount of CDBG funds expected to be made available for the current fiscal year (including the grant and anticipated program income);
 - (ii) The range of activities that may be undertaken with the CDBG funds;
 - (iii) The estimated amount of the CDBG funds proposed to be used for activities that will meet the national objective of benefit to low and moderate income persons; and
 - (iv) The proposed CDBG activities likely to result in displacement and the unit of general local government's anti-displacement and relocation plans required under Sec. 570.488.
 - (4) Provide technical assistance to groups representative of persons of low and moderate income that request assistance in developing proposals in accordance with the procedures developed by the state. Such assistance need not include providing funds to such groups;
 - (5) Provide for a minimum of two public hearings, each at a different stage of the program, for the purpose of obtaining citizens' views and responding to proposals and questions. Together the hearings must cover community development and housing needs, development of proposed activities and a review of program performance. The public hearings to cover community development and housing needs must be held before submission of an application to the state. There must be reasonable notice of the hearings and they must be held at times and locations convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries, with accommodations for the handicapped. Public hearings shall be conducted in a manner to meet the needs of non-English speaking residents where a significant number of non-English speaking residents can reasonably be expected to participate;
 - (6) Provide citizens with reasonable advance notice of, and opportunity to comment on, proposed activities in an application to the state and, for grants already made, activities which are proposed to be added, deleted or substantially changed from the unit of general local government's application to the state. *Substantially changed* means changes made in terms of purpose, scope, location or beneficiaries as defined by criteria established by the state.
 - (7) Provide citizens the address, phone number, and times for submitting complaints and grievances, and provide timely written answers to written complaints and grievances, within 15 working days where practicable.