

Who should be contacted for additional information?

EDA regional offices are available to respond to questions and provide additional information.

EDA field staff, including the Economic Development Representative (EDR) for your area, are listed in the [Federal Register](#) Notice of Funding Availability and on EDA's [Web](#) site at www.doc.gov/eda. EDA's six Regional Offices are:

★ Philadelphia Regional Office

The Curtis Center
Independence Square West, Suite 140 South,
1st Floor, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106
Telephone: (215) 597-4603

Serves: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia,
Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire,
New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico,
Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, U.S. Virgin Islands,
and West Virginia.

★ Atlanta Regional Office

401 W. Peachtree Street, N.W., Suite 1820
Atlanta, Georgia 30308-3510
Telephone: (404) 730-3002

Serves: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi,
North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

★ Chicago Regional Office

111 North Canal, Suite 855
Chicago, Illinois 60606-7204
Telephone: (312) 353-7706

Serves: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and
Wisconsin.

★ Austin Regional Office

327 Congress Avenue, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78701-4037
Telephone: (512) 381-8144

Serves: Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico,
Oklahoma, and Texas.

★ Denver Regional Office

1244 Speer Boulevard, Room 670
Denver, Colorado 80204
Telephone: (303) 844-4715

Serves: Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana,
Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and
Wyoming.

★ Seattle Regional Office

Room 1856, Jackson Federal Building
915 Second Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98174
Telephone: (206) 220-7660

Serves: Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California,
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,
Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Hawaii,
Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Republic of Palau, Republic
of the Marshall Islands, and Washington.



Economic Development Administration



EDA Preapplication Process



Q&A Questions and Answers



U.S. Department of Commerce





What is EDA?

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) is a Federal agency that provides grant assistance to economically distressed areas as authorized by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended (PWEDA). EDA supports local, State and regional economic development efforts targeting areas of highest distress within the United States, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, the Republic of Palau, and Republic of the Marshall Islands.

What types of projects can EDA fund?

EDA provides direct grants, on a cost-share basis, for projects that will create and retain private-sector jobs and leverage public and private investment in distressed areas. EDA provides community and regional economic development assistance for the following program activities:

- 1) Planning and technical assistance to build local capacity for economic development programs and projects. This includes assistance for local, State and regional planning organizations that target distressed rural and urban communities, and for University Centers and other projects that provide technical support for economic development.
- 2) Public works and development facilities to support industrial, commercial, and technology-based employment in eligible areas experiencing significant economic distress. These projects will diversify the local economy and improve conditions for sustained economic growth. Examples include grants to improve or develop transportation facilities, water and sewer systems for industrial use, industrial parks and buildings, business incubators and technology training centers, telecommunications facilities and research parks.
- 3) Economic adjustment assistance to address severe economic dislocations, natural disasters, or other special needs. In addition, grants may be used to establish revolving loan funds for business retention, expansion or new enterprise development. Funds are expected to leverage other public and private capital for strategic investments in local capital markets.

Who can apply for EDA assistance?

Units of State and local government, Indian tribes, Economic Development Districts, public and private non-profits, universities and other institutions of higher education are among eligible applicants for EDA programs (see 13 CFR Section 301).

Non-profit organizations are required to act in cooperation with officials of general purpose units of local government with jurisdiction over the project area.

How does EDA determine area eligibility?

EDA determines area eligibility for Public Works and Economic Adjustment grants based on the level of unemployment, per capita income, or special need. EDA uses the most recent 24 month period for which Federal data is available to make this determination. If Federal data is not available for the proposed project area, data must be obtained through the government of the State in which the project is located. (See EDA Regulations at 13 CFR 301.2.)

Why does EDA require a preapplication?

The preapplication is used to make preliminary eligibility and grant rate determinations, and to evaluate the competitiveness of the proposed project. The preapplication allows communities to obtain a preliminary review by EDA before undertaking the development of a full application.

How is the preapplication developed?

The Economic Development Representative (EDR) for your area determines if the project is likely to meet basic eligibility requirements and will provide a preapplication with the appropriate forms and a copy of the current [Federal Register](#) Notice of Funding Availability. The EDR can also provide contacts at other Federal, State and local agencies that may be of assistance.

You are encouraged to coordinate your project with other local, State or regional planning organizations that have jurisdiction over the project area.

What is a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?

Public works and economic adjustment projects funded by EDA must be consistent with the CEDS approved by EDA,

or other strategy accepted by EDA, for the project area (see 13 CFR Part 301.3). This statutory requirement ensures sound planning and coordination of local, State and Federal funding in response to local needs and development objectives. For most grants, the preapplication is expected to show how the project will address economic development needs and objectives outlined in the CEDS.

What is the review process for the preapplication?

The preapplication is reviewed by the EDR and other economic development professionals in the Regional Office to evaluate the merits of the proposal based on relative distress and competitive selection criteria (see 13 CFR 304), general policies and priorities as published in the [Federal Register](#) Notice of Funding Availability. The Regional Office invites projects that will significantly benefit areas experiencing or threatened with substantial economic distress.

How long does it take to receive an invitation to submit a full application?

If EDA invites an application, you can generally expect to receive a letter within 30 days of submitting a successful preapplication to the Regional Office. The time may vary depending on the time of the year and the number of proposals submitted to the Regional Office for funding consideration.

Does EDA require a non-Federal share?

EDA generally requires a 50 percent match for grants. Examples of non-Federal sources include applicant contributions, State and local grants and loans, general obligation bonds, and other public and private contributions. In-kind contributions may include land, space, equipment, and other costs determined by EDA as eligible project costs.

Can EDA waive or reduce the non-Federal share?

An applicant can request a waiver or reduction of the non-Federal share, based on criteria established in EDA regulations at 13 CFR 301.4. Applicants eligible for a reduction or waiver are asked to provide a 50 percent match whenever possible.