

Office of U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal & Office of U.S. Senator Christopher Murphy

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING APPLICATION GUIDANCE

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BACKGROUND

All requests for Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) items must comply with the requirements of [Rule XLIV](#) of the Standing Rules of the Senate, which governs CDS. This includes requiring Senators who submit CDS request to certify that neither they nor their immediate family members have any financial interest in the CDS item(s) being requested.

Additionally, the Committee will continue using the following reforms for CDS requests that were instituted in the 117th Congress:

- Funding for CDS items shall not exceed one percent of discretionary spending.
- For-profit entities are ineligible for CDS items, and Senators must certify that none of the entities for which they have requested CDS is a for-profit entity.
- Senators who submit CDS requests must publish those requests on their websites along with a letter to the Committee certifying that neither they nor their immediate family members have any financial interest in the CDS item(s) being requested. The Committee will provide a link to each Senator's disclosure on the Committee's website.
- The Committee will require the Government Accountability Office to audit a sample of enacted CDS items and report its findings to Congress.

In addition to these broad reforms, any CDS requests must satisfy all the requirements stipulated by our offices, the Senate Appropriations Committee. Successful applicants will also have to meet the requirements of the relevant federal agency from which their funds are awarded. If your award is included in one of the FY 2025 Appropriation bills, you will be barred from expending funds before completing required agency paperwork. Federal funding cannot be used to reimburse previously incurred expenses.

Each organization must submit an application for funding to our office. That application will ask you to discuss your project in detail and provide opportunities to highlight community support. You will also need to lay out the project budget and, depending on the program, come up with matching funds.

Not all applications will be selected for funding.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If you have additional questions about your project's eligibility, please contact our offices for assistance at Appropriations@blumenthal.senate.gov and Appropriations@murphy.senate.gov

GENERAL QUESTIONS

What are Congressionally Directed Spending requests?

Congressionally Directed Spending is defined in [Senate Rule XLIV](#):

- Included primarily at the request of a Senator or Member of the House of Representatives. This means that if an item is included in the president's annual budget request, it is not a Congressionally Directed Spending request;
- Provides a specific funding amount to a specific entity or location other than through a formula-driven or competitive award; and,
- The purpose of the project must meet the objective of a federal program under existing law.

Generally speaking, this is a funding request for a specific project in a specific location.

Are Congressionally Directed Spending requests publicly disclosed?

Yes. All requests for CDS submitted by our office to the Appropriations Committee for consideration will be publicly listed on both Senator Murphy's and Senator Blumenthal's website. In addition, the final appropriation bills will include basic information on awarded project including the recipient's name, project purpose, project location (City, County, State), and the award amount.

Will all applications be submitted to the Senate Appropriations Committee for consideration?

There is no cap on the number of requests a Senate office can submit. However, the requests need to meet the requirements laid out by each Subcommittee. Senator Murphy and Senator Blumenthal will try to submit as many eligible projects as possible. If you submit multiple projects, please rank them by order of priority.

Are for-profits eligible?

No. For-profits are not eligible for any CDS awards.

HOW TO SUBMIT A CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING REQUEST

How do I submit a Congressionally Directed Spending Request?

You can submit a CDS request using the applications linked [on Senator Murphy's](#) or [Senator Blumenthal's](#) websites. The websites also include information on deadlines and other requirements. As a reminder, CDS requests are different than programmatic requests. Please ensure you are submitting the appropriate application.

How much money should I request?

It depends on your project, needs, and the account from which you are requesting funds. There is no limit to the amount of funding you can request, but larger projects are harder to fund. You should not request more funds than you need. Furthermore, you should only request the amount that can be expended in the upcoming fiscal year. You can view requests from previous years on [Senator Blumenthal's](#) and [Senator Murphy's](#) websites.

Is there a minimum or maximum funding amount an organization can request through Congressionally Directed Spending?

No, in the Senate there is no minimum or maximum funding amount you can request. However, our applications will ask for a minimum funding necessary to move the project forward just in case we cannot get you the entire amount requested.

What if I do not know the appropriate Account or Agency for my project request?

This guide is intended to help you understand what accounts are available and help you evaluate if your project fits within one of these programs. If you have any questions, please reach out to both of our offices for additional guidance.

Do I need to submit letters of support?

The application will ask you about supporting organizations and provide an opportunity to attach letters of support. While this information isn't required, it is helpful to know about community support for your effort.

HOW TO USE CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING FUNDS

Are there limitations on what Congressionally Directed Spending can be used for?

Yes. There are very specific restrictions on how federal funds can be used. Please read this guide, and the information from relevant agencies closely to understand the eligible uses and any

existing limitations. Generally, funding cannot be used for debt service, recurring or routine expenses, or reimbursement of costs.

Can I request funding for construction? What about funding for renovation?

The majority of accounts prohibit funding for construction and renovation, but there are some exceptions under the Economic Development Initiative within the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Health Resources and Services Administration Construction and Equipment program, as well as programs at USDA and the Small Business Administration.

HOW TO ACCESS A CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING AWARD

If my Congressionally Directed Spending award is signed into law, what happened next?

After you receive a CDS award, you will have to take additional steps in order to receive funding. Awarded project recipients will need to submit information to the relevant federal agency before the grant can be finalized. This process ensures the federal dollars are being used correctly. Federal agencies will start working with recipients shortly after a spending bill passes. The timeline for outreach varies between departments and agencies and could take several months. Please take this timeline into consideration when you submit your application.

If my project is in the Senate bill, does that mean I will get all the funding for the project?

In general, projects that are included in Senate-passed bills are well positioned to ultimately receive funding and means that your project was selected as one of the awards that could eventually be signed into law. However, a Senate bill would need to be reconciled with a House bill before it can be signed into law and in theory, there could be changes to CDS awards during that process. Then, any confereed bill would need to pass both the House and Senate and be signed by the President.

As a reminder, even after a confereed appropriations bill that includes your award is signed into law, you will likely still need to work with relevant agencies to ensure your project meets all the program requirements.

How long do recipients have to spend funding awarded through Congressionally Directed Spending?

CDS should be available for the same period of availability as other federal funds within the same account. The timeline varies depending on the type of project.

If I get a Congressionally Directed Spending award this year does that mean I will get one in the future?

No. Receiving CDS funds in one fiscal year is not a guarantee for CDS funding in future fiscal years. Please remember that CDS should be viewed as a one-time infusion of dollars, not a way to sustain a project or initiative.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THE FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS

How long is the Fiscal Year?

Fiscal Year 2025 runs from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025.

What is a Continuing Resolution?

When Congress is not able to complete the Appropriations process for the upcoming fiscal year before it begins (i.e. before October 1), Congress will pass a Continuing Resolution (i.e. CR) in order to avoid a government shutdown, the duration of the resolution can vary. CRs provide funding over the relevant period at the previous Fiscal Year's levels (pro-rated to the length of time over which the CR extends), but they do not include CDS. This can delay the timeline for awards to become final.

When will I be notified about my award?

The CDS process is long and competitive. First, Senators submit CDS requests (based on your applications eligibility) to the Senate Appropriations Committee. Then, the Senate Appropriations Committee reviews requests and finalizes a list of awards. Then, those decisions must be included in legislation and advanced through the legislative process. Senators Murphy and Blumenthal will stay in touch with applicants to keep them apprised of the process.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG
ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES

Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities (ARS B&F): Applicants can request funding within ARS B&F for repairs and maintenance to existing ARS facilities. Funding for construction of a building will not be considered.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) (Salaries & Expenses): APHIS works with state and local agencies and other stakeholders to protect the animal and plant resources of the Nation from diseases and pests. While the entire S&E account is open for CDS requests, below are the line items within the account that are most compatible with CDS:

- Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests
- Pest Detection
- Plant Protection Methods Development
- Specialty Crop Pests
- Tree & Wood Pests
- Wildlife Damage Management
- Wildlife Services Methods Development
- Veterinary Diagnostics
- Equine, Cervid and Small Ruminant Health

Please note that projects must meet environmental review standards (NEPA, ESA, etc.) and that some line items within this account have matching requirements. The Field Crop and Rangeland Ecosystems Pests line item requires the Federal government to pay half of the costs on federal and state lands but 33% of the costs on private lands. Next, the cattle health line item requires a 40% state match. Finally, the Wildlife Services line item has a 50/50 cost sharing requirement.

Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO): This account funds projects that prevent erosion, floodwater, and sediment damages in certain watersheds or rivers. The program also works to further the conservation and proper utilization of water and land in authorized watersheds. There are a few requirements applicants must meet in order to apply through this account:

- WFPO applicants must have a local sponsor. Eligible local sponsors include any state, political subdivision, soil or water conservation district, flood prevention or control district, or combinations thereof; any irrigation or reservoir company or water users' association; or any Indian tribe or tribal organization.
- Each project may not exceed a watershed or sub-watershed size of 250,000 acres.
- At least 20% of the project's benefits must be directly related to agriculture.
- Projects are required to complete a four-step process including:
 - Preliminary feasibility study (PIFR)
 - Watershed Plan development

- Implementation of Watershed Plan
- Commencement of construction for authorized watershed conservation
- If a project is a “new start” it is eligible only for Preliminary Investigation Feasibility Report (PIFR) funding at a level of \$55,000.
- Applicants must illustrate that they have contacted Connecticut’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office and that their proposal meets the requirements of the program.

Rural Development, Community Facilities grants: This account funds grants for the purchase, construction, or improvement of rural community facilities (i.e. healthcare, public safety, community support services, etc.) or to purchase equipment, and pay other related project expenses. More information on eligible entities and uses can be found in [7 CFR 3570](#).

The following eligibility criteria must be met prior to a CDS request being approved:

- The Community Facilities (CF) Grant program has a match requirement on a sliding scale based on population size. CF Grants can cover up to 75% of the total project costs. The match requirements based on population are as follows:
 - Maximum of 75% when the proposed project is located in a rural community with a population of 5,000 or fewer
 - Maximum of 55% when the proposed project is located in a rural community with a population of 12,000 or fewer
 - Maximum of 35% when the proposed project is located in a rural community with a population of 20,000 or fewer
 - Towns with populations over 20,000 are not eligible for this program.
- The Connecticut Rural Development office must verify your area’s population size using the 2020 census. In order to determine whether a project is eligible, please contact your Connecticut Rural Development office. Contact information can be found [here](#).
- The match requirements are outlined in the CF regulation: [7 CFR 3570.63\(b\)](#).
- In general, CF matching funds must come from a non-federal source. However, there are two exceptions: (1) when a Federal source states that it can be used as a match for other Federal Grants and (2) when a Federal source loses its Federal identity -- such as Community Development Block Grant funds that are distributed through a Governor’s office (not the CDBG entitlement funding), a CF project using these funds as a part of the capital stack can be used for applicant required contribution.
- CDS requests will be considered outside of the CF state allocations. Therefore, the sole cap that will determine the maximum grant assistance is the match requirements described above. Note, the average CF CDS project size funded in FY23 was \$1,000,000.
- Funds may not be used for the following activities:
 - To reimburse funds for projects already constructed/acquired or projects that will be completed before the passage of the bill.
 - To pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring costs, including purchases or rentals that are generally considered to be operating and maintenance expenses
 - (unless a CF loan is part of the funding package)

- To fund facilities to be used primarily for recreational purposes
- To fund facilities to be used primarily for business entrepreneur purposes
- Applicants must meet environmental review requirements (i.e. NEPA).
- Applicants must complete a separate CF grant application if your proposal is chosen for a CDS award/included in the final bill. Note: there are several set-asides within the CF grant program, but Congressionally Directed Spending requests will only be eligible for the general CF Grant program.

Rural Development, Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program (DLT) grants: This account helps rural communities acquire the technology and training to connect educational and medical professionals with students, teachers, and patients in rural areas. More information on the program and eligible entities can be found in [7 CFR Part 1734 Subpart A and B](#).

The following project and applicant eligibility criteria must be met prior to a CDS request being approved:

- There is a flat 15% match (matching funds cannot come from another Federal source).
- The maximum grant size is \$1,000,000.
- Normally for-profit entities are eligible for this program, but they are not eligible for CDS requests.
- Broadband deployment is not an eligible use of funds for DLT.
- Applicants must complete a separate DLT grant application if your proposal is chosen and included in the final Appropriations bill.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY:

- *National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Scientific and Technical Research Services (STRS)—External Projects:* This program is an intramural research program made up of laboratories and technical programs and national research facilities. The laboratories and technical programs develop and disseminate measurement techniques, reference data and materials, test methods, standards, and other infrastructural technologies and services required by U.S. industry. The Committee considers projects through this account that address standards-related research and technology development. This account cannot be used to fund construction projects.
- *NIST Construction of Research Facilities; Extramural Construction:* This account funds the construction of non-Federal research facilities at research institutions and colleges and universities. However, given the significant investments necessary for construction projects, only a very limited number of projects can to be supported on an annual basis.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION:

- *NOAA Operations, Research, and Facilities– Special Projects:* This account funds projects related to fisheries, marine mammals, ocean, climate, weather, and atmospheric research and programs. This account cannot be used to fund construction projects.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE:

- *Byrne Discretionary:* This account helps states, localities, and tribal law enforcement efforts prevent crime, improve the criminal justice system, and provide victims' services. Applicants can submit requests to provide additional personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems for criminal justice systems.

Awarded grants will be subject to the requirements of [2 CFR Part 200](#) and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#). Allowable costs are those costs consistent with the principles set out in the [2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E](#), and those permitted by the grant program's authorizing legislation. To qualify for Federal awards, costs must be reasonable, allocable, and necessary to the project, and they must also comply with the funding statute and agency requirements. This funding cannot be used for land acquisition or construction.

- *COPS Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment:* This account provides funding the development of technologies and automated systems to assist law enforcement agencies in investigating, responding to, and preventing crime. Eligible recipients are states, localities, tribes, and territorial governments and their public agencies (for example, police and/or sheriff's departments). Allowable activities are limited to the statutorily allowable purpose areas under the [COPS Office statute](#), including the procurement of equipment, technology, or support systems, and the development of new technologies to assist recipient entities in reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime. Even though this line funds equipment, please do not specify brand names of equipment you are considering purchasing to ensure fair and open competition.

Awarded grants will be subject to the requirements of [2 CFR Part 200](#) and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), and the applicable Award Owner's Manual. Applicants are cautioned against requests for vehicles and vessels that carry with them a high maintenance cost at the conclusion of the CDS request.

Applicants should consider the full range of potential implications of their request for legal, constitutional, and civil liberties and privacy. In addition, if applicants are looking to purchase unmanned aircraft systems, please review the [federal](#) guidance around safe

and legal operation of these devices. Other technologies often carry similar privacy concerns to unmanned aircraft systems.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

- *Safety, Security and Mission Support:* This account will support science education, research, and technology development projects related to NASA’s mission. Projects should focus on science education, research, and technology development related to NASA’s mission. Medical research projects and projects at NASA owned Visitor Centers or a State’s designated Space Grant Consortium will not be funded. This account cannot fund construction but may be used for equipment, research funding, or education programs.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Senate is accepting CDS requests for a number of accounts within USACE. The Appropriations Committee will only consider requests for authorized projects and programs. However, please note that many authorized projects or programs have not received funding in previous years. Very few “new starts”, if any, will be funded. If a program or project is in the President’s budget request, that project is not considered CDS.

Projects must execute their funding within a year of appropriations, therefore CDS eligibility is further limited by the capability of the agency to obligate the funding. This means that award amounts can change and be reduced throughout the process based on agency capability, as determined by the agencies.

- *Investigations:* Funding to develop feasibility studies and conduct preconstruction engineering and design to address the Nation’s water infrastructure needs.
- *Construction:* Funding for construction, major rehabilitation, and related activities for water resources development projects having navigation, flood and storm damage reduction, water supply, hydroelectric, environmental restoration, etc. This account also uses funding from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund to cover the Federal share of the Dredged Material Disposal Facilities Program.
- *Operation & Maintenance:* Funding for operations, maintenance, and related activities at water resource projects that the Corps operates and maintains. These activities include dredging, repair, and operation of structures and other facilities, as authorized in the various river and harbor, flood control, and water resources development acts. Related activities include aquatic plant control, monitoring completed projects, removal of sunken vessels, and the collection of domestic waterborne commerce statistics.

- *Mississippi Rivers & Tributaries*: Funds for planning, construction, and operation and maintenance activities associated with water resource projects located in the lower Mississippi River Valley from Cape Girardeau, Missouri to the Gulf of Mexico.

Bureau of Reclamation: Similar to USACE, the Committee will only consider authorized projects and few, if any, new starts will be funded. This program does not provide funding to Connecticut, but a brief description is included below for your reference.

- *Water and Related Resources*: This account supports water and related natural resources needs in the 17 western States. The account includes funds for operating and maintaining existing facilities to obtain the greatest overall level of benefits, to protect public safety, and to conduct studies on ways to improve the use of water and related natural resources.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

While the Subcommittee will consider requests in the five areas within the Department of Energy, very few requests are granted. Projects should be in line with current Department of Energy missions that focus on transformative science and technology research, development, and demonstration under the five topic areas listed below:

- Renewable and Clean Energy projects
- Electricity and Energy Resiliency projects
- Cybersecurity and Energy Security projects
- Nuclear Energy Projects
- Fossil Energy or Carbon Management Projects

The Committee will not fund projects for multiple years so the funding requested should reflect a funding amount that can complete the entire project.

The Committee is more likely to grant requests that are not eligible for funding through tax credits or other federal incentives, such as the energy efficiency and clean energy tax credits included in the Inflation Reduction Act. Even if you successfully funded a similar project in this account in prior fiscal years, new criteria changes may make that project not eligible this year.

The Committee will not fund the following projects:

- Projects that do not follow statutory cost sharing requirements. Statutory cost sharing requirements may apply to these projects, as required by section 988 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. In short, the amount of required cost sharing will depend on the scope and technological maturity of the project:
 - Research or development activities of a basic or fundamental nature: no minimum cost share.
 - Research or development activities of an applied nature: minimum 20% cost share.
 - Demonstration or commercial application: minimum 50% cost share.

- Some projects may contain elements of more than one of the categories listed above. Therefore, some projects may have a blended cost share.
- Projects that require multiple years of funding.
- Construction of buildings or new facilities (no brick and mortar), even if it will have clean energy associated with it.
- Vehicle charging projects, unless the project is connected to larger clean energy sources (like a battery) or has clean energy applications beyond the charging station.
- Electrical substation replacement or routine grid upgrades that could otherwise be funded under ratepayer contracts or through existing federal incentives.
- Planning studies for a forthcoming project.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA)

- *Administrative Provision:* This account will fund for initiatives related to small business development and entrepreneurship. Funding can be provided for projects in support of small businesses, including but not limited to entrepreneur training, counseling, research, and construction or acquisition of facilities. SBA CDS funding cannot be used to provide seed capital for small businesses nor can it be used by the CDS recipient to make grants/loans.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORD ADMINISTRATION (NARA)

- *National Historical Publications and Records Commission:* This account will fund projects that help ensure online public discovery and use of historical records collections, encourage public engagement with historical records, strengthen the nation's archival network, or publish documentary editions of historical records. This includes initiatives like record digitization, programming, and online availability of records.
- *Repair and Restoration:* This account funds the repair, alteration, and improvement of archives facilities and presidential libraries nationwide, and provides adequate storage for holdings. Funding enables NARA to maintain its facilities in proper condition for public visitors, researchers, and NARA employees, and also maintain the structural integrity of the buildings.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

- *Federal Buildings Fund, Construction and Acquisition:* The Federal Buildings Fund (FBF) finances the activities of the Public Buildings Service, which provides space and services for Federal agencies in a relationship similar to that of landlord and tenant. Congress makes funds available through a process of placing limitations on obligations from the FBF as a

way of allocating funds for various FBF activities. The Construction and Acquisition program funds finances the site, design, construction, management, and inspection costs of new Federal facilities. Construction projects typically include federal courthouses, federal buildings, or land ports-of-entry. Eligible projects do not include state or county facilities, DOD facilities, VA facilities, or transportation infrastructure facilities.

- *Federal Buildings Fund, Repairs and Alterations:* This program funds repairs and alterations to federal facilities. Repairs projects must be federally-owned properties in need of repair or alteration and are typically federal buildings or federal courthouses. Eligible projects do not include state or county facilities, DOD facilities, VA facilities, or transportation infrastructure facilities.

OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

- *Prevention Grants:* This program funds drug prevention programs. This would include community-based coalitions which, as part of their application, propose data-driven, evidence-based prevention interventions; have established measurable objectives; and proposed implementing a comprehensive mix of strategies. Also, DFC-funded coalitions recently trained by CDC to implement Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) as part of their substance use prevention efforts are encouraged. Projects should not be substance specific and treatment programs are not eligible.

HOMELAND SECURITY

- *Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Projects:* This [program](#) funds states, local communities, tribes and territories to complete hazard mitigation projects, reducing the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards. Requested projects must meet the eligibility requirements of the PDM program, including nonfederal cost-share requirement, benefit-cost ratio, and environmental and historic preservation requirements. Requirements can be found in the Fiscal Year 2023 PDM [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

For any projects that receive CDS funding, the state agency responsible for administering mitigation grants in the applicant's state must submit an application to FEMA, and that entity will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency affirming that it believes the project is eligible.

- *FEMA Emergency Operations Center Grant Program:* This program provides funding for construction or renovation of an Emergency Operations Center. Requested projects must meet the eligibility requirements of the EOC grant program, including the non-federal cost share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements. Requirements can be found in the Fiscal Year 2023 [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#). For any projects that receive CDS funding, the state administrative agency (SAA) must submit

an application to FEMA, and that agency will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate SAA affirming that it believes the project is eligible.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

- *State and Tribal Assistance Grants, Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds:* This program funds water infrastructure grants to support local wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects. This includes construction of, and modifications to, municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. Privately-owned projects are not eligible. Projects included in Connecticut’s most recently finalized Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan (IUP) are most likely to be receive funding, but the Committee may consider projects that are eligible for funding under State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) guidelines, but are not on the state IUP list.

This program has a 20% cost share requirement and a project cannot use other federal funds to satisfy the match. For example, a \$1 million dollar project could receive a maximum of \$800,000 CDS award, and the grantee is responsible for allocating the remaining \$200,000. In almost all cases, other federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share requirement. Please note that only the non-federal portion of assistance provided by a State Revolving Loan Fund can be applied towards a project’s matching requirement.

| Projects generally NOT eligible for SRF funding | |
|---|---|
| Clean Water / Wastewater | Drinking Water |
| Land, except for projects described in the subsequent table | Dams or rehabilitation of dams |
| Operations and maintenance costs | Operations and maintenance costs |
| Non-municipal point source control | Water rights, except if the water rights are owned by a system that is being purchased through consolidation as part of a capacity development strategy or if the water rights purchase is covered by EPA’s DWSRF Class Deviation for Water Rights 2019 |

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| Flood Control Projects, unless the project is otherwise managing, reducing, treating, or recapturing storm water | Reservoirs, except for finished water reservoirs and those reservoirs that are part of the treatment process and are located on the property where the treatment facility is located |
| Ambient water quality monitoring | Laboratory fees for monitoring |
| Acid drainage correction | Projects needed mainly for fire protection |
| Privately owned sewer pipes | Projects for systems that lack adequate technical, managerial, and financial capability, unless assistance will ensure compliance |
| | Projects for systems in significant noncompliance, unless funding will ensure compliance |
| | Projects primarily intended to serve future growth |

| Generally eligible projects for SRF funding <i>Please note: this is not an exhaustive list</i> | |
|---|--|
| Clean Water / Wastewater | Drinking Water |
| Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities. | Facilitate compliance with national drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e. PFAS). |
| Collector Sewers - Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites. | Rehabilitate or develop water sources (excluding reservoirs, dams, dam rehabilitation and water rights) to replace contaminated sources. |
| Interceptor Sewers - Large sewers that convey wastewater from collector sewers directly to a wastewater treatment facility. | Install or upgrade treatment facilities. |

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| <p>Sewer Pipes – Rehabilitation is only eligible if the pipes are publicly owned.</p> | <p>Install or upgrade storage facilities, including finished water reservoirs, to prevent microbiological contaminants from entering the water system.</p> |
| <p>Outfall Sewer - A sewer that conveys treated wastewater from a wastewater treatment facility to the receiving waters.</p> | <p>Install or replace transmission and distribution pipes to prevent contamination caused by leaks or breaks in the pipe, or improve water pressure to safe levels.</p> |
| <p>Storm Water Management – Measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture storm water</p> | <p>Projects to consolidate water supplies – for example,</p> |
| <p>or subsurface drainage water (storm sewers, green infrastructure, etc).</p> | <p>when individual homes or other public water supplies have a water supply that is contaminated, or the system is unable to maintain compliance for financial or managerial reasons – are eligible for DWSRF assistance.</p> |
| <p>Combined sewer overflow (CSO) control and sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) control.</p> | <p>Land is eligible only if it is integral to a project that is needed to meet or maintain compliance and further public health protection.</p> |
| <p>Infiltration/Inflow Correction - Construction activities that prevent surface water or groundwater from entering the sewer system.</p> | <p>Project planning, design and other related costs.</p> |
| <p>Water Security - Installation or upgrade of physical security infrastructure such as lighting, fencing, monitoring and access control. Also, cybersecurity measures, installation of safer treatment technologies, and more secure storage of on-site treatment.</p> | |
| <p>Septic Tanks - Remediation, rehabilitation, removal and replacement of failing tanks are eligible, as well as installation of new tanks.</p> | |
| <p>Land - The leasing and fee-simple purchase of land, including surface and subsurface easements, needed to locate eligible municipal or Tribal projects, and land integral to the treatment process. Municipal purchase of land and/or conservation easements for source water protection are also eligible.</p> | |

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| <p>Water Reuse - Projects involving the municipal reuse or recycling of wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water.</p> | |
| <p>Capital Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Projects – e.g., river or streambank restoration, agricultural best management practices (i.e., buffer strips, manure containment structures), wetlands restoration, etc.</p> | |

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

- *Sanitation Facilities Construction, Sanitation Facilities Construction*: Projects must be included on the Indian Health Services’ (IHS) Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS) list to qualify for funding. In exceptional circumstances, the Committee may consider projects that are eligible for funding under the criteria for the Sanitation Facilities Construction Program but are not on the SDS list.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

- *Historic Preservation Fund (HPF)*: The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), established to help fund the programs engendered by the National Historic Preservation Act (Public Law 89665; 54 USC 300301 et seq.), was designed to preserve historical and archaeological sites in the United States of America. All HPF applicants must meet standards set by the Secretary of the Interior and comply with the [audit requirements](#), and each successful CDS recipient must complete an application through grants.gov. The Committee will accept CDS requests for non-formula funded activities within HPF that meet the qualifications of HPF programs. Please note that acquisitions of collections or historic properties are not eligible under the HPF. The maximum project amount is \$500,000. Please note, all projects are required to be listed as an historic place on the National Register of Historic Places or as a National Historic Landmark.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

- *State and Private Forestry, Forest Resource Information and Analysis*: This program provides technical and financial assistance grants to non-federal forest landowners, including state, tribal and local governments. Activities within this account include forest health management, cooperative fire protection, wood innovation, and urban and community forestry. Requests must meet USFS eligibility requirements for the appropriate grant program. Project requests should be part of the state’s Forest Action Plan, or contribute to meeting the goals of the Forest Action Plan.

- *Projects on Agency Lists*: This includes funding for various public lands projects that are not in the President’s Fiscal Year 2025 budget. Only requests for projects that are not included in the President’s Budget or for funding levels that are above the amounts provided in the President’s Budget will be eligible. The Committee will have a strong preference for projects included on agency submitted priority lists.
- *LWCF*: Great American Outdoors Act, Land and Water Conservation Fund: Pursuant to the Great American Outdoors Act of 2020 and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022, prioritized project lists will accompany the President’s budget request in five LWCF accounts. This requirement is delivered in two separate lists:
 1. a list of projects proposed for funding in the President’s Budget; and
 2. a supplemental list of projects that are ready but unfunded. There will be a high bar for considering any projects not present on the current year’s lists. The grantee for federal acquisition is the federal agency that will eventually manage the land (BLM, FWS, NPS, or USFS), or in the case of the Forest Legacy Program, it is the state.
- *LRF*: Great American Outdoors Act, Legacy Restoration Fund: Pursuant to the Great American Outdoors Act of 2020 and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022, prioritized project lists for deferred maintenance projects to be funded by the National Parks and Public Lands Legacy Restoration Fund will accompany the President’s budget request for BLM, FWS, NPS, USFS, and BIE schools. There will be a high bar for considering any projects not present on the current year’s lists. Note that the Grantee is the federal agency.
- *LMCON*: Land Management Agency Construction: The four land management agencies (BLM, FWS, NPS, and USFS) receive annual appropriations for new construction and other capital improvement projects and typically include a short list of specific projects in the President’s budget request. There will be a high bar for considering any projects not present on the current year’s lists. Note that the Grantee is the federal agency.

OTHER PROJECTS

The Committee may also consider CDS request within these accounts, but only on a case-by-case basis.

- *Land Management Agencies, Local Projects and Research*: In order for requests to be considered within this category, they must be relevant to the specified mission area within the bureaus listed below and contribute to responsible stewardship of land, wildlife, and recreation resources or contribute to priority research areas that inform stewardship of those resources. Proposed projects should contribute to local, state, and federal efforts to benefit species, habitat, and/or enhanced stewardship of land and water resources. Project funding is not intended to primarily fund annual operations and maintenance of existing programs at the state, federal, or local level.

- BLM, Management of Land and Resources, Habitat Management Priorities – project requests may be considered for activities related to wildlife and aquatic habitat management.
 - NPS, National Recreation and Preservation, Statutory and Contractual Aid – project requests may be considered for activities relating to operating, managing, and preserving resources, including as authorized by law.
 - FWS, Resource Management, Stewardship Priorities – project requests may be considered for fish and aquatic conservation, habitat conservation, recovery, and restoration activities.
 - USGS, Surveys Investigations and Research, Special Initiatives – project requests may be considered for high priority and core science research, and ecosystem and water resources related activities.
- *BIA, Operation of Indian Programs, Special Initiatives:* BIA provides direct services and funding for compacts and contracts for Tribes to provide programs for a wide range of activities. Requests for CDS projects for individual tribes will not be considered but requests from other eligible entities that honor the commitment to invest in Tribal communities, create economic opportunities, foster cultural heritage, promote efficient and effective Tribal governance, and conserve natural resources are allowed.
 - *EPA, Science and Technology, Research:* National Priorities: Project requests may be considered for high priority lines of research related to environmental quality and human health.
 - *EPA, State and Tribal Assistance Grants, STAG Infrastructure Grants:* Requests will only be considered for projects related to existing funding categories and activities within the STAG account that will result in improvements in environmental quality and/or human health.

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- *Employment and Training Administration—Training and Employment Services:* This account supports projects funded through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) demonstration authority. Projects must be focused on meeting the employment and training needs of workers. Generally, these projects should include direct services which include career services, training services (including work-based training), supportive services, and other permissible services, as defined in WIOA. Please note projects will be required to report performance outcomes for participants and applications should include a meaningful connection to the local workforce development system.

CDS funding may be used for the purchase of equipment, but generally only if it is an incidental part of the larger project. A similar standard applies to curriculum development, which should be incidental to the project's emphasis on direct services to individuals. If a large portion of the CDS funding will be used for equipment or curriculum development, please provide a detailed justification for how such costs relate to meeting the employment and training needs of workers. CDS cannot be used for construction, renovation, the purchase of land or buildings, or for Sub-granting.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- *Health Resources and Services Administration—Construction and Equipment:* supports the cost of construction, renovation, or capital equipment purchase for facilities for health, mental health, or substance abuse services, training of health professionals, or medical research. Examples of eligible facilities include hospitals; health centers and clinics; skilled nursing facilities; mental health centers; facilities for schools of medicine, nursing, or other health professions; and medical research laboratories. In addition to construction and renovation, funding can be used to acquire capital equipment, such as lab equipment, x-ray machines, or telehealth and information technology.

Equipment-only grants—that is, grants not involving construction—are permissible. Generally, any equipment having a useful life of more than one year and a unit cost of at least \$5,000 will be eligible as capital equipment. Equipment with lower costs may also be eligible, provided that it is treated as an item of capital expense under the recipient institution's pre-existing, written accounting policies. Equipment expenses for health information systems and electronic medical records systems are permitted expenditures.

Funding cannot be used to acquire land or purchase existing buildings, or to pay salaries or other operating costs. Funding cannot be used to pay for previously incurred costs. The costs of expendable supplies such as pharmaceuticals, lab chemicals, or office paper are not eligible. Sub-granting to other organizations or agencies is not permitted.

Funding can be used for architectural and engineering costs associated with an eligible construction project, but cannot be used for general feasibility studies or planning and design.

- *Health Resources and Services Administration—Rural Health:* supports projects to improve health care in rural areas. Examples of eligible activities include medical, dental, or mental health care services; health promotion and education; chronic disease management; telehealth services; and improvements to emergency medical services. Grant funds can be used for services only in areas that meet HRSA's definition of rural. For lists of eligible areas and further information regarding that definition see [here](#). If the project address is different than the legal entity's address, please make sure to specify that in your application. Sub-granting to other organizations or agencies is not permitted.

- *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration—Health Surveillance and Program Support*: applications within this program must fall under one of the following categories. Funding cannot be used for construction, but funds can be used to do limited renovation that is necessary to complete a project. Please note, funding cannot go towards needle exchange programs or promoting legalization of illegal drugs or substances. Sub-granting to other organizations or agencies is not permitted
 - *Mental Health*: supports programs that promote the prevention or treatment of mental health disorders, including rehabilitation, outreach, and other support services.
 - *Substance Abuse Treatment*: supports programs that improve access, reduce barriers, and promote high quality, effective treatment and recovery services.
 - *Substance Abuse Prevention*: supports programs that prevent the onset of illegal drug use, prescription drug misuse and abuse, alcohol misuse and abuse, and underage alcohol and tobacco use.

- *Administration for Children and Families— Child Abuse Prevention*: supports programs that improve the prevention, assessment, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect through research, model service improvement, information dissemination, and technical assistance. This funding must be targeted towards abused and/or neglected children and families. Cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities. Sub-granting to other organizations or agencies is not permitted.

- *Administration for Children and Families— Social Services Research and Demonstration*: supports programs that help families gain financial self-sufficiency in order to reduce poverty and promote the healthy development and greater well-being of children and families. Projects can serve a diverse population including: low-income individuals, children, youth, families, individuals with developmental disabilities, and Native Americans. Cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities. Sub-granting to other organizations or agencies is not permitted.

- *Administration for Community Living—Aging and Disability Services Programs*: supports programs that improve the ability of older adults and individuals of all ages with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in their communities through improving access to or the quality of, education, training, support services, and independent living services. This account cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities. Sub-granting to other organizations or agencies is not permitted.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- *Innovation and Improvement—Fund for the Improvement of Education*: supports programs that fund a wide variety of early, elementary and secondary education projects, including instructional services, afterschool centers, curricula development, teacher training, acquisition of books and computers, arts education, social and emotional learning

activities, full-service community schools, and early childhood education. In general, the focus of elementary and secondary education requests should be providing early childhood or K-12 educational services. In addition, requests to provide and improve special education services at the elementary and secondary levels are also eligible under this heading. These CDS may include early intervention services for infants and toddlers, transition services, and postsecondary education services.

Eligible grantees are state education agencies, school districts, colleges and universities, and other public and private nonprofit entities. Generally, awards are provided to the applicable school district and not directly to the individual school. Daycare and childcare projects that do not include educational services are also not eligible under this account.

CDS cannot be used for construction or renovation of school buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling required as part of technology upgrades.

- *Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)*: supports programs that fund projects primarily focused on improving access to, or the quality of, postsecondary education. This can include a range of activities as authorized and specified in section 741(a) of the Higher Education Act (i.e. the FIPSE authorization). Grantees are usually colleges and universities, but may include other public and private nonprofit organizations. This includes Projects used to hire and train faculty, establish and improve degree programs, improve teacher preparation programs, develop and improve curricula, upgrade technology, equipment, and telecommunications, provide student support, and implement university partnerships with school districts.

If a significant portion of grant funds are expected to be used for the purchase of equipment make sure to note that and include a justification for that use of funds. CDS funding cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities, except in the case of minor remodeling required as part of technology upgrades

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

- *Transportation Planning, Research, and Development (TPR&D)*: supports transportation research projects eligible under [title 23](#) or [title 49](#), of the U.S. Code. This includes research activities and studies that assist the Secretary of Transportation in the formulation of national transportation policies. Planning for specific local highway, transit, or rail projects that are eligible under the Highway Improvement Program, Transit Infrastructure Grants, or Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement should not be submitted under this account.

- *Grants-in-Aid for Airports (Airport Improvement Program)*: supports airport capital projects eligible under [chapter 471 of title 49](#) of the U.S. Code. The Airport Improvement Program (AIP) provides grants for the planning and development of public-use airports that are included in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS). As a reminder, Congressionally Directed Spending cannot go towards for-profit entities. For large and medium primary hub airports, CDS can cover 75% of eligible costs (or 80% for noise program implementation). For small primary, reliever, and general aviation airports, CDS can cover a range of 90-95% of eligible costs, based on statutory requirements. Please provide the status of the planning and environmental work and a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.
- *Facilities and Equipment (F&E)*: supports terminal air traffic control facility replacement projects eligible under [part A of subtitle VII of title 49](#), but only for terminal air traffic control tower facility replacement projects.
- *Highway Infrastructure Program*: supports for highway capital projects eligible [under title 23, US Code](#). This includes funding to improve highway safety and efficiency by completing projects like highway and bridge construction projects, planning, environmental review, design, and right-of-way acquisition. Operational expenses are not eligible. Projects on the [Connecticut Statewide Transportation Improvement Program \(STIP\)](#) will be the most competitive. Please provide the STIP ID number for the project as it appears in the STIP. If a project is not on the Connecticut STIP, the State DOT must provide a letter confirming that:
 1. the project is eligible for Federal-aid highway funding under title 23, United States Code;
 2. the State DOT is willing to carry out the project if funding is enacted; and
 3. the State DOT will include the project on the STIP once funding for the project is enacted. The project recipient for this program can only be the State Department of Transportation, individual towns cannot directly receive grants. Applicants must provide the status of any planning and environmental work and provide a description of other sources of funding that will contribute to the overall project cost.
- *Transit Infrastructure Grants*: Funding for transit capital projects eligible under [chapter 53 of title 49](#). This includes funding projects addressing targeted capital, operating, and state of good repair needs for public transportation providers and services across America. Projects on the [Connecticut Statewide Transportation Improvement Program \(STIP\)](#) will be the most competitive. Please provide the STIP ID number for the project as it appears in the STIP. If a project is not on the Connecticut STIP, but for which the State DOT must provide a letter confirming that:
 1. the project is eligible for Federal-aid highway funding under title 23, United States Code;

2. the State DOT is willing to carry out the project if funding is enacted; and
 3. the State DOT will include the project on the STIP or TIP once funding for the project is enacted. Applicants must provide the status of any planning and environmental work and provide a description of other sources of funding that will contribute to the overall project cost.
- *Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement Grants*: Supports rail capital projects eligible under [section 22907 of title 49](#). This includes funding projects that improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of intercity passenger and freight rail. Projects on the [state rail plan](#) will be the most competitive. You can receive funding for rail projects that are not currently on State rail plan, but for which a State rail agency or State DOT has provided a letter confirming that:
 1. the project is eligible for rail funding under section 22907 of title 49, United States Code;
 2. the State rail agency, State DOT, or other relevant State agency is willing to carry out the project if funding is enacted; and
 3. the State rail agency or State DOT will include the project on the State Rail Plan once funding for the project is enacted. Applicants must provide the status of any planning and environmental work and provide a description of other sources of funding that will contribute to the overall project cost.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Community Development Fund within the “Economic Development Initiatives (EDI): supports projects eligible under section [5305 of chapter 69 of title 42 of U.S. Code](#), as well as for affordable housing construction. For more information on types of eligible activities, applicants should review HUD’s resources on the Community Development Block Grants program [here](#). While there is a range of eligible activities, projects that address affordable housing, community services, and economic development are more likely to be successful. Please note, reimbursements of previously incurred expenses are not allowed.

Examples of eligible EDI projects include, but are not limited to:

- Acquisition of real property (land, water rights, buildings);
- Construction of new affordable housing;
- Blight removal or remediation; and
- Construction, rehabilitation, and improvements of public facilities (except buildings for general conduct of government), such as neighborhood centers, parks, and shelter for persons having special needs such as survivors of domestic violence and the homeless.

EDIs are subject to other Federal requirements including the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards at 2 CFR Part 200, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), HUD’s NEPA-implementing regulations at 24

CFR Part 50 or 24 CFR Part 58, and all appropriate Federal environmental and historic preservation laws, regulations, and Executive Orders. Your organization must be able to comply with these requirements. To review HUD’s current implementation of the EDI program and the applicable Federal requirements, [click here](#).

Applicants should identify which of the three National Objectives of the broader CDBG program the EDI project and its activities meets and include relevant data or a description indicating how it meets such National Objective(s). The three CDBG program National Objectives are:

1. benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons or communities;
2. prevent or eliminate slums or blight; or
3. address community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community for which other funding is not available.

If your projects meet the LMI National Objective, please review this [HUD resource](#) and use the “[Map Application](#)” tool to provide the necessary data points demonstrating the LMI benefit.