



## ***Frequently Asked Questions About Community Development Block Grant Funds***

**Q** What is the overall mission of the Community Development Block Grant Program?

**A** The CDBG program, authorized by Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, provides annual grants to eligible communities and seeks to provide decent housing, suitable living environments, and to expand economic opportunities, principally for low-and-moderate income persons.

**Q** What are the requirements for the use of CDBG funds?

**A** Each grantee receiving CDBG funds is free to determine what activities it will fund as long as certain requirements are met, including that each activity is eligible and meets one of the following national objectives: 1) benefits persons of low and moderate income; 2) aids in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; 3) meets an urgent development need. An urgent development need is defined as one posing a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community in the past 18 months and that the grantee is unable to finance on its own nor with other funding sources. Other federal requirements such as environmental, labor standards, fair housing, and nondiscrimination also apply to the use of CDBG funds.

**Q** What types of activities does the CDBG program fund?

**A** CDBG funds 26 eligible activities including, but not limited to: infrastructure, economic development projects, public facilities, community centers, housing rehabilitation, public services, clearance/acquisition, microenterprise assistance, code enforcement, and homeowner assistance. For more information on eligible activities go to: [https://www.hud.gov/sites/documents/DOC\\_17133.PDF](https://www.hud.gov/sites/documents/DOC_17133.PDF)

**Q** Can citizens participate in the planning/decision-making process around the use of CDBG funds?

**A** CDBG law requires that a grantee must develop and follow a detailed plan which provides for and encourages citizen participation. This plan should emphasize participation by persons of low-or-moderate income, particularly residents of predominantly low-or-moderate income neighborhoods, slum or blighted areas, and areas in which the grantee proposes to use CDBG funds. The plan must provide citizens with reasonable and timely access to local meetings, information, and records related to the proposed and actual use of funds.

**To learn more about the CDBG program go to: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-entitlement/>**

