

COVID-19 RESPONSE PROGRAM PHASE 3 SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

PURPOSE

The Community Development Block Grant Program-Cares Act, also referred to as CDBG-CV, is a federally funded, competitive grant program. CDBG-CV helps rural communities with eligible populations to improve their quality of life with projects that focus on the overall health and safety of their residents. The goal is to encourage communities with eligible populations to focus on preparing, preventing and responding to the coronavirus public health crisis.

ELIGIBLE COMMUNITIES

- The lead applicant must be a non-entitlement city, county or incorporated town that possesses the legal capacity to carry out the proposed program. Additionally, they must have been previously awarded CDBG-CV funding in Phase 3 of the COVID-19 Response Program for grants to small businesses.
- The lead applicant may have contracted with any 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization to carry out the activities of an eligible project.

ELIGIBLE USES

For-profit enterprises with:

- Small businesses (100 employees or less)
- Microenterprises (five employees or less, one must be the owner)

Additional funds can be used as supplementary aid for economic development activities to retain LMI jobs. Local grants can be awarded to businesses for:

- Working capital
- Continued operations
- Support remote work

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PROGRAM CRITERIA

- Competitive process
- Submit a Letter of Need
- Open to Communities that received awards from OCRA's COVID-19 Response Program Phase 3 for grants to small businesses
- Cannot have any unresolved findings or overdue reports.
- Must meet the National Objective of 51% LMI Job Retention by using:
 - Inome Verifications
 - OCRA's full-time equivalency worksheet
 - Document that the jobs retained would be lost if not for the grant
- Must show ongoing need related to COVID-19.
- Applicants with a certified GA will be prioritized.
- Administration costs from CDBG-CV funds are limited to 2.5% of the request.
- Two years of annual Job Retention Reporting after closeout

FUNDING DETAILS

- The maximum supplemental grant amount is \$250,000.
- No additional match required.
- **Letters of Need are due to OCRA by April 20, 2023** and should include a description a ongoing needs related to COVID-19 and a strategic plan to ensure the timely expenditure of any additional funds awarded.