



## 2026 Spring GA Update Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: What trainings/courses/conferences are eligible for CEUs?**

**A:** Please refer to the [Grant Administrator Continuing Education Guidelines](#) for determining eligibility. OCRA will also release more information with the roll out of the new GA manual. Email [cdbg@ocra.in.gov](mailto:cdbg@ocra.in.gov) for any specific questions, concerns, or suggestions.

**Q: Can award announcement dates be added to the OCRA calendar?**

**A:** Award announcements for Construction, OOR, Planning, RHP, or any other program occur 9-10 weeks after application deadline. Specific dates will not be added to the OCRA calendar as they are subject to change due to timing of other announcements, holidays, etc.

**Q: When is the Fall GA Update?**

**A:** The fall GA Update is scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-11:30am ET. An email will be sent to all active GAs with more information as we get closer to the event date. Please hold that date and time on your calendar.

**Q: Will there be a Grant Administrator training this year?**

**A:** Unfortunately, a Grant Administrator training will not be offered in 2026. If you or someone you know are interested in attending a future training, please join our waitlist by completing the [GA Communication form](#) and selecting "I want to join the waitlist".

**Q: Will we get advanced notice on available trainings?**

**A:** Per MSR 2025-005 Grant Administrator Continuing Education Guidelines, a GA is personally responsible for

- i. Identifying and attending eligible CEU events using the information provided in the guidelines
- ii. Registering for events independently.

At its discretion OCRA may issue a list of pre-approved events with designated CEU values. If available, this list is posted on the [GA Continuing Education webpage](#). See the previous question if you are seeking information about future GA certification trainings.

Also, in the Fall of 2026, Grant Services will be offering trainings that are CEU eligible. When available, these will be posted on the OCRA website as pre-approved trainings.

**Q: Can you decrease the minimum scoring threshold for planning grants?**

**A:** The minimum scoring threshold of 450 points will not be adjusted for any program at this time.

**Q: Will the proposed new system of calculating some program specific points go into effect for 2026 Round 1 scoring?**

**A:** We cannot implement this new system until the Action Plan is approved by HUD. As such, it will not be used for 2026 Round 1 scoring

**Q: In their effort to procure a Grant Administrator, how does a community get a Grant Administrator's mailing address?**

**A.** A Grant Administrator's mailing address can be found on their organization's website or by emailing the grant administrator. Websites for active GAs will be available on the active GA list.

**Q: Is it possible to add MBE/WBE certification to the active GA list?**

**A:** IDOA updates the certified MBE/WBE/IVOSB list weekly. OCRA does not have the capacity to update the CGA roster that regularly. MBE/WBE/IVOSB solicitations are also a responsibility of the LUG as part of procurement. For that reason, OCRA does include MBE/WBE/IVOSB status in the CGA roster.

**Q: How do I reference uploads without taking too many characters away from my application narrative?**

**A:** The guidance given in the instructions is on the file naming convention, not on a convention for referencing files. Referencing files in the narrative can be done in a variety of different ways as long as it clearly indicates the related file.

**Example:** File Name: *Project Need-5.3.1-Community Survey*

In text Reference: *Community Survey OR Project Need-Survey*

**Q: Can the character limit in the Project Need narrative section be increased?**

**A:** We are continuing to work with the system provider to explore ways to increase space for the narrative; however, there are limitations within the current system beyond our control. At this time, more characters nor more space can be added.

**Q: Do we need to log the one credit hour for the spring GA Update in the CEU portal on GMS within the next 15 days? Is any documentation needed?**

**A:** Yes, best practice is to log the spring GA Update within 15 calendar days of the event. No, documentation is not needed for this CEU as attendance is collected during the event.

**Q: Regarding Project Closeout - previously we've initiated closeout upon substantial completion— is that okay?**

**A:** Substantial completion can be interpreted differently by different people. The most important aspect to consider is that there should be NO open invoices at monitoring. So, if you absolutely know the last element will be done by the time you monitor, you may choose to request closeout. Though it is advised to simply wait and confirm all elements are complete before requesting closeout. If you are unsure, it is always best to contact the Director of Grant Services, Adam Moschell, [amoschell@lg.in.gov](mailto:amoschell@lg.in.gov)

**Q: What are the updates in the 2026 Action Plan?**

**A:** We encourage you to read the draft posted on the OCRA website and submit any comments. We will also be holding 2 public hearings where proposed updates will be reviewed.

Once finalized, OCRA will provide a webinar on 2026 AP updates and how it affects your work with CDBG grant administration.