



Florida Community Development Block Grant Summary 2014-2015

CDBG Funds are funded by the US Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO). FDEO develops a state rule and application process and awards funding to Counties and Cities through competitive applications. The Citizen's Advisory Task Force (CATF) main function is to provide public input into the CDBG options and potential projects and make recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) on a CDBG category for application. The CATF must meet at least once before a new application and before the BOCC hearings.

CDBG Program Objectives

- Benefit low and moderate income persons (LMI) (a minimum of 70% of all State CDBG\$)
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight
- Other community development needs (such as Federally declared disasters)

Regular Categories and Activities \$750,000 max grant

A local government *may have only one of these grants open* at any given time. There is a set deadline each year. The 2014 funding year's cycle is planned for April-May 2015. A cycle is expected again later this year for 2015 funds as well.

- **Housing Rehabilitation** – Assists low and moderate income residents with physical improvements that address code, safety and other rehabilitation items. In some cases, severely damaged structures may be demolished and replaced. *All housing rehabilitation beneficiaries must be low-to-moderate income as defined by HUD.*
- **Neighborhood Revitalization** – Assists communities with infrastructure improvements, such as paving, fire protection, drinking water, sewer, flood and drainage, handicap accessibility in public facilities, and other similar activities. *It is required that no less than 51% of the beneficiaries of these activities be low-to-moderate income.*
- **Commercial Revitalization** – Provides funds to address improvements to downtown or commercial districts, including water, sewer, sidewalks, parking, building facades, etc. *It is required that no less than 51% of the beneficiaries of these activities be low-to-moderate income.*

Economic Development Category \$1,500,000 max grant

A local government can open one new economic development grant every year and there is *no limit to the number of these grants which can be open* at any given time, provided all grants are on schedule. A local government may apply for an economic development grant even if it has an open regular category grant, provided that grant is on schedule. There is no deadline – funds are awarded as applications are approved until funding expended each year. These funds are used to build infrastructure necessary to attract new businesses or retain expanding businesses. *Job creation is required*, and at least 51% of the jobs created must be available to persons of low-to-moderate (LMI) income households.

Process

1. BOCC selects members of a Citizen's Advisory Task Force (CATF), minimum 5 citizens of the County and 51% (3) LMI members. CATF meets first meet thereafter to discuss CDBG options. A fair housing activity is completed at the same time.
2. First Public Hearing before BOCC to discuss CATF recommendations and categories.
3. Income surveys and design plans and specifications completed for application.
4. Second Public Hearing for BOCC to approve the application(s) and resolution for signatures and the \$50,000 cash leverage needed.