



Wisconsin Department of Administration

2025

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

Planning (PLNG) Program

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Planning (PLNG) program is a federally-funded grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funds are passed from HUD to the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA), which is responsible for administering the program at the state level. Planning grants are available for community-wide planning and strategic development activities that:

- emphasize collaboration among community stakeholders;
- address economic conditions such as assisting small business and responding to plant closings;
- identify strategies to increase access to affordable housing;
- improve community vitality by addressing slum and physical blight; or,
- address other issues that will improve the well-being of Low-and-Moderate Income individuals.

Planning grants can also be used to undertake the above listed planning and strategic development activities for a specific neighborhood or district within a community or to help plan for the use or reuse of a specific site.

Eligible Activities

Examples of eligible plans:

- comprehensive plans;
- community development plans;
- functional plans in areas such as housing, land use, energy conservation, or economic development;
- Other plans/studies such as individual project plans, capital improvement plans, small area and neighborhood plans, local analyses of impediments to fair housing, downtown revitalization plans, or environmental and historic preservation studies.

The plan must meet one of the following National Objectives:

- Benefiting Low and Moderate Income (LMI) persons - serving a community or an area in which at least 51% of the residents are LMI persons (area benefit) or providing services to a group of persons principally made up of LMI individuals (limited clientele); **note:** 90% of program funds awarded must meet this objective;
- Preventing or eliminating slum and blight.

Available Funding

Planning grants will be awarded at up to a 2:1 ratio (i.e., maximum \$2 CDBG for every \$1 of grantee funds) in amounts up to \$50,000 for community-wide or neighborhood-, district- or site-specific planning and strategic development.

Application Process

CDBG-PLNG applications are accepted on a continuous basis. Potential applicants that have received a CDBG Planning award in the previous 18 months are not eligible to apply.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

If awarded, proposed project activities should begin within 6 months of the award date, and the project should be completed within 22 months of award.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

An eligible applicant is a general-purpose unit of government, which includes a City, Village or Town with a population less than 50,000 and counties with populations under 200,000.

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