

Community Development Block Grant

*Supporting Community Revitalization Projects
in the City of Frederick*

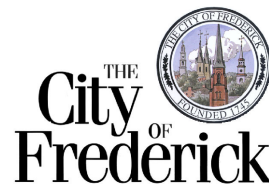


Administered by the
City of Frederick
Department of Planning
Community Development Division

Department of Planning
Community Development Division
Community Development Block Grant
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Community Development Block Grant funds help develop viable Frederick communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.



HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible federally-funded program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs. Beginning in 1974, the CDBG program is one of the longest continuously run programs at the US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

Under its Entitlement provision, CDBG provides block grants to Metropolitan Cities and Urban Counties. The City of Frederick is an Entitlement Metropolitan City, as are Hagerstown, Annapolis, Baltimore, and Cumberland.

HUD awards grants to entitlement community grantees to carry out a wide range of community development activities directed toward revitalizing neighborhoods, economic development, and providing improved community facilities and services.

WHAT ARE ELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDS?

In order to qualify for CDBG funding, an activity must further one or more of the following National Objectives:

- **Benefit low- and moderate-income persons;**
- **Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; and**
- **Meet a community need having particular urgency.**

CDBG funds may be used for activities which include, but are not limited to:

- acquisition of real property;
- relocation and demolition;
- rehabilitation of residential and non-residential structures;
- construction of public facilities and improvements, such as water and sewer facilities, streets, neighborhood centers, and the conversion of school buildings for eligible purposes;
- limited public services,
- activities relating to energy conservation and renewable energy resources; and
- provision of assistance to non- and for-profit businesses to carry out economic development and job creation/retention activities.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Eligible grantees are as follows:

- principal cities of Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs);
- other metropolitan cities with populations of at least 50,000; and
- qualified urban counties with populations of at least 200,000 (excluding the population of entitled cities).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Each year, beginning in January, the Department of Planning - Community Development Division (DPCD) publishes a Request for Proposals for its coming grant year (which runs July 1st – June 30th each year). Please note that the amount of CDBG funds that can be used for public services is limited to 15% of the annual grant award, therefore, only “bricks and mortar” type of projects will be considered.

A pre-proposal meeting with City staff is mandatory for anyone wishing to submit a proposal. This meeting will ensure that the proposals meet one of the National Objectives and qualify as an eligible activity per HUD requirements. This meeting will also afford the opportunity to discuss the administrative and procedural requirements, which pertain to the use of federal CDBG dollars. Prior to scheduling this initial screening meeting, applicants must submit one original and two (2) copies of the funding application by the application deadline.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE

Recognizing that CDBG regulations can be complex at times, DPCD staff will gladly answer any regulatory questions prior to submission of project proposals and/or provide you copies of CDBG handbooks, HUD regulations or Federal requirements – OMB circulars, Labor (Davis Bacon wage) requirements etc.

**Improving Frederick communities,
One project at a time...**