

§ 307.15 Award requirements.

(a) Assistance will be for the period of time required to complete the scope of the work. This typically does not exceed twelve months.

(b) EDA will provide grants and cooperative agreements not to exceed 75 percent of the proposed project costs. Applicants are expected to provide the remaining share. EDA may waive all or part of the 25 percent share of technical assistance grants if it determines that the nonfederal share is not reasonably available because of the critical nature of the situation requiring technical assistance or for other good cause.

(c) Quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports and project products will be specified in the Special Award Conditions of the grant.

Subpart D—Research and Evaluation

§ 307.16 Purpose and scope.

The purposes of research and evaluation projects are as follows:

(a) To determine the causes of unemployment, underemployment, underdevelopment, and chronic depression in various areas and regions of the Nation;

(b) To assist in the formulation and implementation of national, state, and local programs that will raise employment and income levels and otherwise produce solutions to problems resulting from the above conditions; and

(c) To evaluate the effectiveness of programs, projects, and techniques used to alleviate economic distress and promote economic development.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7983, Mar. 1, 1996]

§ 307.17 Eligible applicants.

Eligible applicants for Research and Evaluation grants or cooperative agreements include:

- (a) Private individuals;
- (b) Partnerships;
- (c) Corporations;
- (d) Associations;
- (e) Colleges and universities; and
- (f) Other suitable organizations with expertise relevant to economic development research. Research funds may

not be used to start or expand a private business.

§ 307.18 Selection process.

(a) Projects will be selected in accordance with § 304.1 of this chapter.

(b) EDA may during the course of the year, identify specific research or program evaluation projects it wishes to have conducted. Organizations and individuals interested in being invited to respond to SOAs to conduct such studies should submit information on their capabilities and experience. See the annual FY NOFA for the appropriate point of contact and address.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7983, Mar. 1, 1996]

§ 307.19 Evaluation criteria.

In addition to and/or as an elaboration of the evaluation criteria set forth in part 304 of this chapter and to the extent practicable, EDA will use the following criteria to evaluate research and evaluation proposals:

- (a) Suitability of the subject;
- (b) Potential usefulness of the research to state and local economic development officials and specialists;
- (c) General quality and clarity of the proposal;
- (d) Soundness and completeness of the research methodology; and
- (e) Total cost and value of proposed product in relation to cost.

§ 307.20 Research topics and structure.

(a) EDA is interested in receiving proposals dealing with:

- (1) Employment and unemployment;
- (2) Income and poverty;
- (3) Rural and nonmetropolitan economic development;
- (4) Urban economic development; or
- (5) Regional and local growth and competitiveness.

(b) Requests should be for specific, well-defined, one-time research projects. EDA research grants are not intended for support of continuing programs (permanent research programs, publication and information programs, periodic forecasts, etc.), or for non-research activities.

(c) EDA normally prefers research of broad geographical scope.

(d) Preference will normally be given to practical cause-and-effect research

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(including hypothesis testing models) and descriptive analyses, as opposed to theoretical studies, forecasting models, and “how to” guides.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7983, Mar. 1, 1996]

§ 307.21 Award requirements.

(a) Assistance under this program will normally be for a period not exceeding 15 months.

(b) EDA will provide grants and cooperative agreements covering up to 100 percent of project costs.

Subpart E—Economic Development Districts, American Indian Tribes and Redevelopment Areas—Economic Development Planning Grants

§ 307.22 Purpose and scope.

The primary objective of planning assistance for administrative expenses is to support the formulation and implementation of economic development planning programs designed to create or retain permanent jobs and income, particularly for the unemployed and underemployed in the most distressed areas. Planning activities supported by these administrative funds must be part of a permanent and continuous process involving significant leadership by public officials and private citizens.

§ 307.23 Definitions.

(a) Category A grants means those made to Economic Development Districts and Redevelopment Areas; and

(b) Category B grants means those made to American Indian Tribes.

§ 307.24 Applicants.

Eligible applicants are economic development district organizations, redevelopment areas, organizations representing redevelopment areas (or parts of such areas), American Indian tribes, organizations representing multiple American Indian tribes, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

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§ 307.25 Selection process.

EDA invites currently funded grantees to apply if they are in compliance with their current financial assistance awards. EDA will select projects in accordance with § 304.1 of this chapter.

§ 307.26 Evaluation criteria.

(a) In addition to and/or as an elaboration of the evaluation criteria set forth in part 304 of this chapter and to the extent practicable, EDA will evaluate applicants on the following:

(1) Quality of the proposed work program;

(2) Management and staff capacity and qualifications;

(3) Involvement of the local leadership in the applicant's economic development activities; and

(b) Previously funded grantees, in addition to the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section, will be evaluated on the basis of the quality of their past performance.

§ 307.27 Award requirements.

(a) Assistance will normally be for a 12-month period.

(b) Grant assistance may be provided for up to 75 percent of project costs for Category A grants with the applicant required to provide the remaining share from non-federal sources. Category B grant assistance may be provided for up to 100 percent of project costs.

(c) EDA will make annual determinations of satisfactory performance, and periodically conduct on-site performance appraisals.

§ 307.28 Limitations.

(a) Except as set forth in paragraph (b) of this section, no planning grants to economic development district organizations will be extended unless at least three-fourths of the counties within the district boundaries indicate, by resolution or other appropriate document, their commitment to support the activities of the district.

(b) Where a sufficient number of counties have withdrawn from the district to make compliance with this three-fourths requirement impossible or unreasonable, EDA may fund the continuing committed counties in the