

**Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS)  
Requests Additional Guidance for  
Fiscal Year 2026**



**Office of  
Senator Susan M. Collins**

## **Congressionally Directed Spending Requests Additional Guidance for Fiscal Year 2026**

The fiscal year (FY) 2026 federal appropriations process includes opportunities to fund local projects through Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS). This opportunity is only available to nonprofit entities and state and local governments. For-profit entities are not eligible for CDS funding.

As the Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Collins champions investments in Maine that promote job creation and economic development, improve infrastructure, enhance the wellbeing of Mainers, and protect our environment that would benefit from a one-time allocation of funds.

Each appropriations subcommittee has issued its own eligibility criteria and information requirements to be submitted with each CDS request. Please consult the relevant sections below, listed by appropriations funding bill and eligible accounts, for additional guidance and instructions on CDS request submissions. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any of Senator Collins' State Offices or email [appropriations@collins.senate.gov](mailto:appropriations@collins.senate.gov)

**Augusta Constituent Service Center**  
68 Sewall Street, Rm. 507  
Augusta, ME 04330  
(207) 622-8414

**Bangor Constituent Service Center**  
202 Harlow Street, Rm. 20100  
Bangor, ME 04401  
(207) 945-0417

**Biddeford Constituent Service Center**  
160 Main Street, Suite 103  
Biddeford, ME 04005  
(207) 283-1101

**Caribou Constituent Service Center**  
25 Sweden Street, Suite A  
Caribou, ME 04736  
(207) 493-7873

**Lewiston Constituent Service Center**  
55 Lisbon Street  
Lewiston, ME 04240  
(207) 784-6969

**Portland Constituent Service Center**  
One Canal Plaza, Suite 802  
Portland, ME 04101  
(207) 618-5560

For additional information on the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations general guidance and rules and regulations, please visit here: <https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/fy-2025-appropriations-requests-and-congressionally-directed-spending>

## Table of Contents

<b>AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA), AND RELATED AGENCIES.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>HOMELAND SECURITY.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.....</b>	<b>17</b>

**NOTE:** The *Build America, Buy America Act* (BABAA) requires that any infrastructure projects funded (in whole or in part) with federal assistance use only iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials produced in the United States.<sup>1</sup> This requirement applies to articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. If you are submitting a CDS request for funding for an infrastructure project, please be advised to take this requirement into account. If you have questions about whether your request seeks funding for an infrastructure project, please contact your nearest constituent service center for assistance prior to submitting your request

## **AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA), AND RELATED AGENCIES**

Requests for CDS will be accepted in the following accounts under the FY26 Agriculture, Rural Development and Food and Drug Administration Appropriations bill. All requests must meet the applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made. If your project requires matching funds or other cost share requirements, please demonstrate that you are able to meet that requirement in your application submission.

**Agricultural Research Service (ARS); Buildings and Facilities (B&F).** CDS requests for ARS B&F may only include funding for existing facilities or facilities where funding has been provided in the past. Facilities must be ARS-owned.

**National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Research and Facilities Act Program (RFAP).** Eligible qualifying institutions (Land Grant Universities, Non-Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture, and other eligible entities as defined in section [7 U.S.C. 6971\(f\)\(1\)\(C\)](#)) may request

---

<sup>1</sup> [IIJA](#), § 70914 (a)

funds for constructing, purchasing, updating, renovating, or modifying agricultural research buildings to conduct research in the areas of agriculture and food sciences. Funds may be used to fund site design, purchase and installation of permanently affixed equipment for research, as well as for construction or renovation of buildings or sites for agricultural research facilities or other facilities that store agricultural research experimental samples.

CDS recipients must provide a 100% non-federal match for any RFAP award. Recipients cannot move forward without a commitment to match funding before obligation. Not more than 3 percent of the CDS funding shall be available to pay for administrative costs. Construction projects are subject National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review, and must comply with Build America Buy America requirements. Learn more about RFAP [here](#).

**Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS); Salaries and Expenses (S&E).**

CDS requests for APHIS S&E must align with APHIS' mission and must meet environmental review requirements (i.e. NEPA and ESA). Learn more about APHIS' programs [here](#). The period of availability for APHIS CDS will be one-year funding (i.e. until the end of the fiscal year).

**Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program.** CDS requests through the WFPO account must have a local sponsor. Eligible local sponsors can be any State, political subdivision, soil or water conservation district, flood prevention or control district, or combinations thereof; any irrigation or reservoir company or water users' association; or any Indian tribe or tribal organization.

Any individual project may not exceed a watershed or sub-watershed size of 250,000 acres. At least 20 percent of the project's benefits must be directly related to agriculture. If you are submitting a request for CDS through the WFPO account, you must certify that you have been in contact with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Maine State Office, and confirm that the proposal meets all WFPO project requirements and financial requirements. To contact the Maine NRCS Office, please visit their website:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/state-office-contacts/maine-state-office>

**Rural Development.** USDA Rural Development staff are available to answer specific questions regarding project eligibility for Community Facility and Distance Learning & Telemedicine grants. To contact Maine's USDA State Office, please visit the following website:

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/me/maine-contacts> In addition to certifying that applicant contribution requirements will be met, please also certify in your application that you have contacted the Maine USDA Rural Development office and have confirmed the proposed project meets the program's eligibility requirements.

- **Community Facilities (CF) Grants.** CDS requests funded under this account must meet applicant contribution requirements (must be a cash match; it cannot be in-kind), which vary based on area population. Towns with populations over 20,000 are not eligible for this program. For a full list of eligible entities, uses, and limitations, please see [7 CFR Part 3570](#). This program will fund **up to** 75% of total project costs, with match requirements based on population size as follows:

- Maximum of **75 percent** when the proposed project is located in a rural community having a population of **5,000** or fewer;
- Maximum of **55 percent** when the proposed project is located in a rural community having a population of **12,000** or fewer;
- Maximum of **35 percent** when the proposed project is located in a rural community having a population of **20,000** or fewer.

Funds may not be used for the following activities:

- To reimburse funds for projects already constructed/acquired or projects that will be completed by the passage of the final bill;
- To pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring costs, including purchases or rentals that are generally considered to be operating and maintenance expenses (unless a CF loan is part of the funding package);
- To fund facilities to be used primarily for recreation purposes; and
- To fund facilities to be used primarily for business entrepreneur purposes.

This program is subject to the *Build America Buy America Act* requirements which will apply to the total project cost, not just the Federal cost-share portion. Applicants must also meet environmental review requirements (i.e., NEPA). Applicants must complete an application if awarded a CDS in the final bill.

- **Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants.** CDS requests funded under this account require a 15 percent non-federal match (matching funds cannot come from another Federal source). A full list of eligible entities, uses, and limitations can be found here: [7 CFR Part 1734 Subpart A and B](#). Broadband deployment is not an eligible use of funds for DLT.

## COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES

Requests for CDS will be accepted in the following accounts under the FY26 Commerce, Justice, and Science (CJS) Appropriations bill. Requests for CDS through this bill should fund local projects that further the missions of CJS agencies by increasing the understanding of the oceans and the atmosphere, protecting our communities, and promoting space- or standards- related science. There must be a clear, demonstrable nexus to the applicable agency's missions and programs, and the request should articulate that nexus. Funding recipients must be governmental or non-profit entities. All requests must meet the applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made.

### Department of Commerce

**National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST); Scientific & Technical Research Services (STRS); External Projects.** CDS requests through this account should address scientific, technological, and standards-related research and technology development. There must be a clear, demonstrable nexus to the research component of the project and to a NIST research program. Construction projects will not be accepted.

**NIST; Construction of Research Facilities.** CDS requests through this account should support non-Federal research facilities, including for projects at research institutions and colleges and universities. However, given the significant investments necessary for construction projects, only a very limited number of projects will be supported on an annual basis.

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); Operations, Research, and Facilities (ORF); Special Projects.** CDS requests through this account should address fisheries, marine mammals, ocean, coastal issues, climate, weather, atmospheric research, data acquisition, and forecasting programs. Construction projects will not be accepted.

### **Department of Justice**

**Office of Justice Programs; State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance; Byrne Discretionary.** CDS requests through this account should support additional equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems for criminal justice systems. All projects must have a nexus to the criminal justice system, and funding cannot be used for land acquisition or construction.

**Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS); Law Enforcement Technology.** CDS requests through this account should support the development of technologies and automated systems to assist law enforcement agencies in investigating, responding to, and preventing crime. Recipients shall include State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and their public agencies (for example, police and/or sheriff's departments). Allowable activities are limited to the statutorily allowable purpose areas under the [COPS Office statute](#), including the procurement of equipment, technology, or support systems, and the development of new technologies to assist recipient entities in reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime. For additional guidance on allowable expenses, please consult with the Subcommittee. CDS requests funded in a final bill will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), and the applicable Award Owner's Manual.

### **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**

**Safety, Security and Mission Support (SSMS).** CDS requests through this account should focus on science education, research, and technology development related to NASA's mission. Medical research projects and projects at NASA-owned Visitor Centers or a State's designated Space Grant Consortium will not be funded. This account cannot fund construction but may be used for equipment, research funding, or education programs.

## **ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT**

Requests for CDS will be accepted in the following accounts under the FY26 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill. All requests must meet the applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made. If your project requires matching funds or other cost share requirements, please demonstrate that you are able to meet that requirement in your application submission.

**Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation.** For the Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation, only authorized projects and programs will be considered for funding. Below are the eligible accounts for CDS.

- Corps of Engineers: Investigations
- Corps of Engineers: Construction
- Corps of Engineers: Operation & Maintenance
- Corps of Engineers: Mississippi Rivers & Tributaries: Investigations
- Corps of Engineers: Mississippi Rivers & Tributaries: Construction
- Corps of Engineers: Mississippi Rivers & Tributaries: Operation & Maintenance
- Bureau of Reclamation: Water and Related Resources

**Department of Energy.** CDS requests through this account should be in line with current Department of Energy missions that focus on transformative science and technology research, development, and demonstration under the five topic areas listed below. This includes requests that are not eligible for funding through tax credits or other federal incentives.

- Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
- Electricity
- Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response
- Nuclear Energy
- Fossil Energy and Carbon Management

For the Department of Energy account, projects must follow statutory cost sharing requirements as required by section 988 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, and will be dependent on the scope and technological maturity of the project. The following are the general cost share assumptions:

- Research or development activities of a basic or fundamental nature: no minimum cost share.
- Research or development activities of an applied nature: 20 percent cost share.
- Demonstration or commercial application: minimum 50 percent cost share

Funds may not be used for the following activities:

- Projects that require multiple years of funding.
- Construction of new facilities and buildings.
- Vehicle charging projects, unless the project is connected to larger clean energy sources (like a battery) or has clean energy applications beyond the charging station.
- Electrical substation replacement or routine grid upgrades that could otherwise be funded under ratepayer contracts or through existing federal incentives.
- Planning studies for a forthcoming project.
- Clean energy projects that do not show transformative or emerging technological solutions. For example, solar panels, battery storage, or light bulb upgrades without any transformative technology or integrated energy system associated with it.
- Planning studies for NetZero goals, for example “City of X seeks \$500K for a NetZero planning document/report.”

## FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Requests for CDS will be accepted in the following accounts under the FY26 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill. All requests must meet the applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made. If your project requires matching funds or other cost share requirements, please demonstrate that you are able to meet that requirement in your application submission.

**Small Business Administration (SBA); Administrative Provision.** CDS requests through this account should support small businesses, encompassing entrepreneur training, counseling, and research. Please be advised: SBA CDS funding is not intended for the provision of seed capital for small businesses, nor for sub-grants or loans, or the construction or acquisition of facilities.

**National Archives and Records Administration, National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).** CDS requests through this account should help ensure online public discovery and use of historical records collections, encourage public engagement with historical records, strengthen the nation's archival network, or publish documentary editions of historical records. This includes initiatives like record digitization, programming, and online availability of records. In considering how to develop your project, please review the NHPRC "[Eligibility](#)" page on NARA's website.

**National Archives and Records Administration, Repair and Restoration.** CDS requests through this account should dedicate funding for one or more of the 15 presidential libraries established under the Presidential Libraries Act.

**General Services Administration (GSA); Federal Buildings Fund, Construction and Acquisition.** CDS projects are projects not in either the FY26 GSA budget request or the Judiciary's budget request. Projects that are in either the FY26 GSA budget request or the Judiciary's budget request or were partially funded in a prior enacted FSGG Appropriations Act are considered programmatic, not CDS. Construction projects are for new GSA-owned federal courthouses, federal office buildings, or land ports-of-entry. ***Please note:*** *Eligible projects do not include state or county facilities, DOD facilities, VA facilities, or transportation infrastructure facilities.*

**General Services Administration, Federal Buildings Fund, Repairs and Alterations:** CDS projects are projects not in either the FY26 GSA budget request or the Judiciary's budget request. Projects that are in either the FY26 GSA budget request or the Judiciary's budget request or were partially funded in a prior enacted FSGG Appropriations Act are considered programmatic, not CDS. Repair projects must be core GSA-owned courthouses, office buildings, or land ports-of-entry in need of either basic or major repairs or alterations. ***Please note:*** *Eligible projects do not include state or county facilities, DOD facilities, VA facilities, or transportation infrastructure facilities.*



**Office of National Drug Control Policy, Administrative Provision (Prevention Grants).**

CDS projects should focus on evidence-based drug-related projects, such as primary prevention of substance use disorder. Preferred prevention programs would include community-based coalitions which, as part of their application, propose data-driven, evidence-based prevention interventions; have established measurable objectives; and proposed implementing a comprehensive mix of strategies. Also, Drug-Free Communities (DFC)-funded coalitions recently trained by CDC to implement Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) as part of their substance use prevention efforts are recommended. Among other things, allowable expenses include building rent and equipment. Unallowable expenses include (but are not limited to) real property purchases, and construction or renovation costs. ***Please note:*** *Programs should not be substance specific. Treatment programs are not eligible.*

## HOMELAND SECURITY

Requests for CDS will be accepted in the following accounts under the FY26 Homeland Security Appropriations bill. All requests must meet the applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made. If your project requires matching funds or other cost share requirements, please demonstrate that you are able to meet that requirement in your application submission.

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)**

**Projects.** CDS requests through this account must meet the eligibility requirements of the PDM grant program, including the non-federal cost-share requirement, benefit-cost ratio, hazard mitigation plan, and environmental and historic preservation requirements. Full requirements can be found in the fiscal year 2024 [NOFO for the “Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program”](#). For your reference, the status of hazard mitigation plans can be found here. For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2026 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state agency responsible for administering mitigation grants in the requestor’s state must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that entity will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency affirming that it believes the project is eligible.

**FEMA; Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program.** CDS requests through this account must meet the eligibility requirements of the EOC grant program, including the non-federal cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements. Full requirements can be found in the fiscal year 2024 [NOFO for the “Emergency Operations Center Grant Program”](#). For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2026 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state administrative agency (SAA) must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that agency will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate SAA affirming that it believes the project is eligible.

## INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

Requests for CDS will be accepted in the following accounts under the FY26 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill. All requests must meet the applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made. If your project requires matching funds or other cost share requirements, please demonstrate that you are able to meet that requirement in your application submission.

**NOTE:** Requests for CDS submitted under Interior and Environment appropriations accounts may be asked to answer supplemental questions.

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Water and Wastewater Infrastructure, State and Tribal Assistance Grants.** CDS requests through this account can include construction of, and modifications to, municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. The Subcommittee will limit water infrastructure grants only to projects that are publicly-owned or owned by a nonprofit entity. Privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for water infrastructure grants. In general, local and/or municipal projects should be included on a state's most recently finalized Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan (IUP) or meet eligibility requirements for funding under State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) guidelines. You must identify whether the project is drinking water or clean water project. There is a minimum 20 percent cost share requirement for any state or local water infrastructure grant funded through CDS. NOTE: You may not use ARPA funding to satisfy cost-share.

For more information on CDS requests previously funded through this account, and eligible funding to be used as the cost share, please visit [here](#).

**Indian Health Service (IHS); Sanitation Facilities Construction (SFC).** CDS requests through this account must be for projects included on the Indian Health Services' (IHS) Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS) list.

**National Park Service (NPS); Historic Preservation Fund (HPF).** CDS requests through this account should meet the eligibility requirements of [existing HPF competitive programs](#). Competitive grant programs are limited to preservation – new construction, reconstruction, and acquisitions of historic properties or historic collections are **not** eligible. The maximum CDS funding amount is \$500,000 for any HPF project, and there is a one-to-one match requirement with non-federal cash and/or in-kind contributions. All HPF grantees, including successful CDS recipients, must meet standards set by the Secretary of the Interior and comply with the [audit requirements](#). For the Save America's Treasures (SAT) HPF competitive grant program, the property must be listed as an historic place on the National Register of Historic Places or as a National Historic Landmark.

**U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry (SPF); Forest Resource Information and Analysis.** CDS requests through this account should provide technical and financial assistance grants to non-federal forest landowners, including state, Tribal, and local governments. Activities within this account include forest health management, cooperative fire

protection, wood innovation, and urban and community forestry. Requests should contribute to meeting the goals of the State's Forest Action Plan, conserve and steward working forests or open space, protect forest health from insects and disease, meet urban and community forestry goals, create opportunities for innovative wood use, improve fire mitigation efforts, or otherwise benefit communities and forested lands.

**Projects on Agency Lists.** Only requests for projects that are not included in the President's budget request or for funding levels that are above the amounts provided in the President's budget request will be considered, with a strong preference for projects included on agency-submitted priority lists.

- **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF):** Note that while third party organizations may advocate for specific projects, the CDS recipient for federal acquisition is the federal agency that will eventually manage the land (BLM, FWS, NPS, or USFS), or in the case of the Forest Legacy Program, it is the state.
- **Land Management Agencies, Construction (LMCON):** The four land management agencies (BLM, FWS, NPS, and USFS) receive annual appropriations for new construction and other capital improvement projects and typically include a short list of specific projects in the President's budget request. Note that the CDS recipient is the federal agency.

**Land Management Agencies, Local Projects and Research.** CDS requests for funds must be relevant to the specified mission area within the bureaus listed below and contribute to responsible stewardship of land, wildlife, and recreation resources or contribute to priority research areas that inform stewardship of those resources. Proposed projects should contribute to local, state, and federal efforts to benefit species, habitat, and/or enhanced stewardship of land and water resources. Project funding is not intended to primarily fund annual operations and maintenance of existing programs at the state, federal, or local level.

- **BLM, Management of Land and Resources, Land Management Priorities** – project requests may be considered for activities related to wildlife and aquatic habitat management. These projects must occur on or have a nexus to BLM lands.
- **NPS, National Recreation and Preservation** – project requests may be considered for grant programs funded within this account.
- **NPS, Statutory and Contractual Aid** – project requests may be considered for activities relating to operating, managing, and preserving resources in gateway communities or as otherwise authorized by law. Projects cannot be for units in the National Park System.
- **FWS, Resource Management, Stewardship Priorities** – project requests may be considered for fish and aquatic conservation, habitat conservation, recovery, and restoration activities. Projects cannot be for units in the National Wildlife Refuge System.
- **USGS, Surveys Investigations and Research, Special Initiatives** – project requests may be considered for high priority and core science research, and ecosystem and water resources related activities.

**Bureau of Indian Affairs, Operation of Indian Programs, and Special Initiatives:** BIA provides direct services and funding for compacts and contracts for Tribes to provide programs for a wide range of activities. While the Subcommittee will not consider CDS projects for individual Tribes, the Subcommittee may consider requests from other eligible entities that honor the commitment to invest in Tribal communities, create economic opportunities, foster cultural heritage, promote efficient and effective Tribal governance, and conserve natural resources that are consistent with activities currently funded under the Operation of Indian Programs account. Construction projects are not eligible.

**Environmental Protection Agency, Science and Technology, Research: National Priorities.** CDS requests through this account should be for high priority lines of research related to environmental quality and/or human health.

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); State and Tribal Assistance Grants, STAG Infrastructure Grants.** CDS requests through this account should be related to existing funding categories and activities within the STAG account that will result in improvements in environmental quality and/or human health.

## **LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES**

Requests for CDS will be accepted in the following accounts under the FY26 Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education Appropriations bill. All requests must meet the applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made. If your project requires matching funds or other cost share requirements, please demonstrate that you are able to meet that requirement in your application submission.

### **Department of Labor (DOL)**

**Employment and Training Administration (ETA).** CDS requests through this account should clearly articulate a project purpose and be focused on meeting the employment and training needs of workers. Generally these projects should include direct services which could include career services, training services (including work-based training), supportive services, and other permissible services, as they are defined in WIOA<sup>2</sup>. Typical activities include training unemployed individuals to increase their skills and obtain employment and enhancing the skills of incumbent workers to get higher-paying jobs. CDS requests must include a basic budget that clearly describes how the funds will be used for specific activities to achieve the project's goals.

Typical activities include training unemployed individuals to increase their skills and obtain employment and enhancing the skills of incumbent workers to get higher-paying jobs.

---

<sup>2</sup> Generally these are defined in [20 CFR § 678.430](#), [20 CFR § 680.200](#), and [20 CFR § 680.900](#).

CDS funding may be used for the purchase of equipment, but generally only if it is an incidental part of the larger project to provide direct services (a similar standard applies to curriculum development). If a larger portion of the CDS funding is expected to be used for equipment or curriculum development, please articulate that and provide a detailed justification for why such investments are necessary to meet the employment and training needs of individuals.

CDS funding through the ETA account cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities or the purchase of land or buildings.

### **Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**

**Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).** CDS requests through HRSA must fall under one of the following categories:

- **Health Facilities Construction and Equipment.** CDS requests for the cost of limited-scope construction, renovation, or capital equipment purchase for facilities for health, mental health, or substance use disorder services, training of health professionals, or medical research. Examples of eligible facilities include hospitals, health centers, and clinics; skilled nursing facilities; mental health centers; facilities for schools of medicine, nursing, or other health professions; and medical research laboratories. In addition to construction and renovation, CDS funding can be used to acquire capital equipment, such as lab equipment, x-ray machines, or telehealth and information technology. The Committee will not consider a CDS request for federal funding within this account that exceeds \$15 million. Equipment-only CDS requests—that is, requests not involving construction—are permissible. Generally, any equipment having a useful life of more than one year and a unit cost of at least \$5,000 will be eligible as capital equipment. In addition, equipment with lower costs may also be eligible, provided that it is treated as an item of capital expense under the recipient institution’s pre-existing, written accounting policies. Equipment expenses for health information systems and electronic medical records systems are permitted expenditures. The costs of expendable supplies such as pharmaceuticals, lab chemicals, or office paper are not eligible.

HRSA Health Facilities funding cannot be used to acquire land or purchase existing buildings, or to pay salaries or other operating costs. Funding cannot be used to pay for work previously completed. CDS requests can be used for architectural and engineering costs associated with an eligible construction project, but cannot be used for general feasibility studies or planning and design. For more information on construction and equipment requests, see: <https://www.hrsa.gov/grants/manage-your-grant/training/community-project-funding-congressionally-directed>.

- **Rural Health.** CDS requests for projects to improve health care in rural areas. Examples of eligible activities include medical, dental, or mental health care services; health promotion and education; chronic disease management; telehealth services; and improvements to emergency medical services. CDS funds can be used for services only in areas that meet HRSA’s definition of rural. For lists of eligible rural areas and further information regarding that definition, see: <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/about->

[us/definition/index.html](#). Please include the address of the project's activities in the Project Detail, if different than the legal entity recipient address, for purposes of determining project eligibility.

HRSA CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).** CDS requests submitted through the Health Surveillance and Program Support account and must fall under one of the following categories:

- **Mental Health**—funding to support programs that promote the prevention or treatment of mental health disorders, including rehabilitation, outreach, and other support services.
- **Substance Abuse Treatment**—funding to support programs that improve access, reduce barriers, and promote high quality, effective treatment and recovery services.
- **Substance Abuse Prevention**—funding to support programs to prevent the onset of illegal drug use, prescription drug misuse, alcohol misuse, and underage alcohol and tobacco use.

SAMSHA cannot be used for construction (other than a limited amount of renovation necessary to carry out a funded project), and SAMHSA CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.

**Administration for Children and Families (ACF).** CDS requests within ACF must fall under one of the following categories:

- **Child Abuse Prevention**—projects to improve the prevention, assessment, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect through research, model service improvement, information dissemination, and technical assistance. Projects must serve or target abused and/or neglected children and their families.
- **Social Services Research and Demonstration**—projects to promote the ability of families to thrive through financial self-sufficiency in order to reduce poverty and to promote the healthy development and greater well-being of children and families. Projects can serve a diverse population including: low-income individuals, children, youth, families, individuals with developmental disabilities, and Native Americans.

CDS funding within ACF cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities, and ACF CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.

**Administration for Community Living (ACL); Aging and Disability Services Programs.** CDS requests under this account should improve the ability of older adults and individuals of all ages with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in their communities. Generally, CDS requests should focus on improving access to, or the quality of, education, training, support services, and independent living services for older adults and individuals with disabilities.

CDS funding within ACL cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities, cannot be used for the provision of medical care, and ACL CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.

**Department of Education (ED)**

**Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE).** CDS requests through this account may address a variety of elementary and secondary education projects, including instructional services, afterschool centers, curricula development, teacher training, acquisition of books and computers, arts education, social and emotional learning activities, full-service community schools, and early childhood education. In general, the focus of elementary and secondary education CDS requests should be providing early childhood or K-12 educational services.

CDS requests to provide and improve special education services at the elementary and secondary levels are also eligible under this heading. These CDS requests may include early intervention services for infants and toddlers, transition services, and postsecondary education services.

Eligible CDS recipients are state education agencies, school districts, colleges and universities, and other public and private nonprofit entities. Generally, CDS requests intended for individual schools is provided to the applicable school district and not directly to the individual school.

CDS funding within FIE cannot be used for construction or renovation of school buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling or minor alterations in a previously completed building, for example as part of technology upgrades. Daycare and childcare projects that do not include educational services are also not eligible under this account. If a significant portion of CDS funds are expected to be used for the purchase of equipment, make sure to note that in the Project Detail and include a justification for that use of funds.

**Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE).** CDS requests through FIPSE should primarily be focused on improving access to, or the quality of, postsecondary education. This can include a range of activities as authorized and specified in section 741(a) of the Higher Education Act ([20 U.S.C. 1138\(a\)](#)). CDS recipients are usually colleges and universities but may include other public and private nonprofit organizations.

Examples of the types of CDS requests that can be funded under FIPSE include projects to hire and train faculty, establish and improve degree programs, improve teacher preparation programs, develop and improve curricula, upgrade technology, equipment, and telecommunications, provide student support, and implement university partnerships with school districts. If a significant portion of CDS funds are expected to be used for the purchase of equipment, make sure to note that in the Project Detail and include a justification for that use of funds.

CDS requests must include a basic budget that clearly describes how the funds will be used for specific purposes to achieve the project's goals.

CDS funding within FIPSE cannot be used for endowments, or for the construction or renovation of facilities, except in the case of minor remodeling or minor alterations in a previously completed building, for example as part of technology upgrades.

## **MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

The following Military Construction accounts are eligible for CDS requests: Army, Navy and Marine Corps, Air Force, Defense-Wide, Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, and Air Force Reserve. Requests may include major construction projects included on the list below, unspecified minor military construction, and planning and design.

### **Eligible Lists:**

- Future Years Defense Program (FYDP). Each military department, to include the Guard and Reserve, as well as Defense-Wide agencies, plans its major military construction program five years into the future. FYDPs identify these future planned projects, which are candidates for CDS requests.
- Unfunded Requirements/Priorities Lists (UFR/UPL). In addition to the annual budget request and as required by law, each military department submits to the congressional defense committees a document identifying unfunded priorities that would be funded if additional appropriations were provided.
- Cost-to-Complete (CTC). Variables such as construction market conditions can affect cost estimating throughout the military construction programming process, and as such, DOD can experience cost increases that cannot be sufficiently covered by available appropriated funding. In these cases, the military departments submit a list of projects – separate from the budget request – that have received an authorization and appropriation but require additional funding to be completed.

Eligible major military construction projects must be:

- Authorized in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 or prior year National Defense Authorization Act;
- At 35% design or higher with a DD 1391\*; and
- Prepared to award a construction contract in FY 2026.

\*The DD 1391 form is required by DOD for any military construction project. It contains scope and cost estimates, an assessment of the current requirements, justification for the project, and anticipated contracting and construction timelines. Any project that meets the CDS eligibility requirements should have a DD 1391.

When submitting the request, be sure to complete the following requirements:

- Identify which list (FYDP, UFR/UPL, or CTC) includes the project requested, if major construction;
- Confirm that the project is at 35% design has a DD 1391 planning document, attached the DD1391;and



- Confirm that the requested project has either been previously authorized or a request to authorize has been submitted to the Senate Armed Services Committee.

## **TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

Requests for CDS will be accepted in the following accounts under the FY25 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill. All requests must meet the applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made. If your project requires matching funds or other cost share requirements, please demonstrate that you are able to meet that requirement in your application submission.

**Transportation Planning, Research, and Development (TPR&D).** This account funds transportation research projects eligible under title 23 or title 49, United States Code.

- Planning for specific local highway, transit, rail, or port projects that are eligible under HIP, TIG, CRISI, or PIDP should *not* be requested through this account.
- Requests for national or regional research and development projects are encouraged through this account.

**Grants-in-Aid for Airports (Airport Improvement Program or AIP).** This account funds airport capital projects eligible under chapter 471 of title 49, United States Code (<https://www.faa.gov/airports/aip/overview>).

- Applications for CDS through this account must include the status of the planning and environmental work so staff can assess the readiness of the project. You should also provide a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.
- As AIP CDS follows the existing AIP statute, the Federal cost-share requirements still apply to CDS. For large and medium primary hub airports, CDS can cover 75 percent of eligible costs (or 80 percent for noise program implementation). For small primary, reliever, and general aviation airports, CDS can cover a range of 90-95 percent of eligible costs, based on statutory requirements.
- Applications for CDS through this account must include a link to the airport master plan that includes the requested project.
- Applications for CDS through this account must include the total cost of the project and include the airport name (see [NPIAS](#) for airport names) in your application.

**Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP).** This account funds highway capital projects eligible under title 23, United States Code; including, but not limited to, highway and bridge construction projects, planning, environmental review, design, and right-of-way acquisition. Operational expenses are not eligible.

- All highway CDS funds will be provided directly to your State Department of Transportation. If a local or county level government is requesting the CDS, they will be required to coordinate with the State DOT to receive the funding and ensure a non-Federal match is available.

- If your project is not currently on the STIP or TIP, please provide a letter from MaineDOT confirming that: (1) the project is eligible for Federal-aid highway funding under title 23, United States Code; (2) the State DOT is willing to carry out the project if funding is enacted; and (3) the State DOT will include the project on the STIP or TIP once funding for the project is enacted.
- Applications for CDS through this account should include the status of the planning and environmental work in your application in order to determine the readiness of the project. Applications should also provide a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.

**Transit Infrastructure Grants (TIG).** This account funds transit capital projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code;

- Applications for CDS through this account should include the status of the planning and environmental work so staff can assess the readiness of the project. You should also provide a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.
- Applications for CDS through this account should include a link to the STIP or TIP that includes the requested project.
  - **NOTE:** Transit projects that are not currently on the STIP or TIP may be eligible if a transit agency has provided a letter confirming that: (1) the project is eligible for transit funding under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code; (2) the transit agency is willing to carry out the project if funding is enacted; and (3) the transit agency will include the project on the STIP or TIP once funding for the project is enacted.
- Applications for CDS through this account should list the total cost of the project, which should be consistent with the total cost of the project in the STIP or TIP.

**Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement (CRISI) Grants.** This account funds rail capital projects eligible under section 22907 of title 49, United States Code.

- Applications for CDS through this account should include the status of the planning and environmental work so the Subcommittee can assess the readiness of the project. You should also provide a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.
- Applications for CDS through this account should include a link to the State Rail Plan that includes the requested project.
  - **NOTE:** Rail projects that are not currently on a State rail plan may be eligible if a State rail agency or State DOT has provided a letter confirming that: (1) the project is eligible for rail funding under section 22907 of title 49, United States Code; (2) the State rail agency, State DOT, or other relevant State agency is willing to carry out the project if funding is enacted; and (3) the State rail agency or State DOT will include the project on the State Rail Plan once funding for the project is enacted.
- Applications for CDS through this account should include the total cost of the project, which should be consistent with the total cost of the project in the State Rail Plan.

**Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP).** This account funds port projects eligible under section 54301 of title 46, United States Code.

- Applications for CDS through this account must include the status of the planning and environmental work so staff can assess the readiness of the project. You should also provide a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.
- Applications for CDS through this account must include a link to the relevant planning document or website for the project, if applicable.
- Applications for CDS through this account are required to denote whether:
  - The project is eligible under 46 USC 54301, specifically which eligible use;
  - The recipient is eligible under 46 USC 54301, specifically (A) through (F);
  - The project is at a small port as described under 46 USC 54301(b); and
  - The project is in a rural area as described under 46 USC 54301(a)(12).
- The current NDAA includes a provision that prohibits DOT from funding “a grant to purchase fully automated cargo handling equipment that is remotely operated or remotely monitored with or without the exercise of human intervention or control, if the Secretary of Transportation determines such equipment would result in a net loss of jobs within a port or port terminal,” which will apply to all PIDP CDS. If fully automated equipment is proposed to be acquired or terminal infrastructure for such equipment is proposed to be created, the applicant must provide information describing any job changes that will result from the project, including supporting evidence demonstrating and certifying that the project will *not* directly result in a net loss of jobs or degradation of job quality. Failure to provide detailed information relating to automation and jobs may result in the Subcommittee rejecting the request.

**Economic Development Initiatives (EDI).** EDI projects are funded within the “Community Development Fund” account for activities eligible under section 5305 of chapter 69 of title 42, United States Code, as well as for affordable housing construction. Projects should address affordable housing, community services, and/or economic development, and must be comparable to activities in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Eligible EDI activities include, but are not limited to:

- Acquisition of real property;
- Construction, rehabilitation, and improvements to affordable housing;
- Blight removal or remediation;
- Public housing modernization and,
- Construction, rehabilitation, and improvements of public facilities, such as neighborhood centers, parks, and shelter for persons having special needs such as survivors of domestic violence and the homeless, *except for* buildings for the general conduct of government.

**Federal requirements:** EDI projects are subject to all general Federal requirements, including the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards under 2 CFR Part 200, Build America Buy America (BABA) preferences, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), HUD’s NEPA-implementing regulations under 24 CFR Part 50 or 24 CFR Part 58, and all appropriate Federal environmental and historic preservation laws,

regulations, and Executive Orders. The environmental review must be completed by a “Responsible Entity” (RE), which is a state, unit of general local government, or Tribe. Nonprofits will need the RE for where the project is located to conduct the environmental review on their behalf.

- Applications for CDS through this account must include the status of the planning and environmental work so staff can assess the readiness of the project. Applications should also indicate if a RE has been identified to conduct a Federal environmental review should one be necessary for the project. You should also provide a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.
- Applications for CDS through this account should identify which of the three National Objectives of the broader CDBG program the EDI project and its activities meets and include relevant data and a description indicating **how** it meets such National Objective(s). The three CDBG program National Objectives are:
  1. benefit low- and moderate-income persons or communities;
  2. prevent or eliminate slums or blight; or
  3. address community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community for which other funding is not available.

The most common CDBG National Objective that EDI projects will meet is the benefit to low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons, which can be demonstrated through a benefit to a specific service area, serving a limited clientele, housing for certain income households, and the creation or retention of jobs for individuals at certain income levels.

- If using the LMI National Objective, please review this HUD resource:  
<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg/cdbg-low-moderate-income-data/>
- If the project is meeting the LMI National Objective through the service area, use the “Map Application” tool to provide the necessary data points on the LMI population in that service area:  
<https://hud.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=279eca0222754f8a954bbf8cf995a1a3>

To review HUD’s current implementation of the EDI program and the applicable Federal requirements, please see HUD’s following EDI resources:

[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/edi-grants](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/edi-grants)  
<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cpf/>

**Other restrictions:** Any expenses incurred prior to the enactment of a final FY 2025 appropriations bill cannot be reimbursed with EDI funds. THUD CDS cannot be used for operational expenses or administrative salaries and benefits for EDIs. Examples of these ineligible expenses are costs that cover an organization’s day-to-day operations, such as utilities, rent, office supplies and equipment, insurance, and an organization’s staff salaries and benefits.