

Nebraska Department of Economic Development Application for Enterprise Zone Designation

Please submit applications as pdf file, with supporting documentation as attachments within the application and bookmarked.

Completed applications should be uploaded at this secure link:

www.neded.org/business/enterprise-zones

The purpose of the Application Guidelines is to provide a format for Application for Enterprise Zone Designation. The Guidelines do not duplicate useful information contained in Nebraska Statute and the Rules and Regulations. Applicants are highly encouraged to review and reference Nebraska Revised Statutes sections 13-2101 to 13-2112 for definitions and requirements of Enterprise Zone Designation.

Benefits of Designation

During each calendar year in which funds are available from programs including the Housing Trust Fund (Nebraska Revised Statute Section 58-708), Job Training program (Nebraska Revised Statute Section 81-1201-21), Site and Building Development Fund (Nebraska Revised Statute Section 81-12,149), Business Innovation Act (Nebraska Revised Statute Section 81-12,156), or State contract awards (Nebraska Revised Statute Section 73-107) for use by the Department of Economic Development. The department shall consider location of the project in an Enterprise Zone when awarding funds.

In competitive selection economic development cases, if proposals are considered equal, an enterprise zone designation will be the tie breaker.

Designation Process

Application is submitted to the Department and a team of DED staff will review the application for completeness. Once the review is complete, the applicant will be given an opportunity to correct missing or incomplete items.

When the NDED Enterprise Zone Review team determines applications are complete the review team will review all applications for designation and designate up to five Enterprise Zones.

Enterprise Zone Designation Scoring Sheet is included in this application for applicant's review.

Designation as a Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NDED) Enterprise Zone will be effective for ten years, with annual reviews. Enterprise Zones not current and consistent with requirements will result in suspension of certification and benefits associated with certification.

Detailed Enterprise Zone information is located on the Nebraska Department of Economic Development's website:

www.neded.org/business/enterprise-zones

Enterprise Zones Coordinator:
Walker Zulkoski – Business Development Consultant
walker.zulkoski@nebraska.gov
402.471.3741

DED USE ONLY

Project # _____ Date Received _____
Date Approved _____ Denied _____

1. Eligible Applicant

____ County

____ City

____ Village Government

____ Tribal Government (Tribal Government Area shall mean (a) that portion of Knox County under the jurisdiction of the Santee Sioux Tribe, (b) that portion of Thurston County under the jurisdiction of the Omaha Tribe, or (c) that portion of Thurston County under the jurisdiction of the Winnebago Tribe.)

AND

____ Applicant has verified with the Enterprise Zone Coordinator that the proposed Geographic Area of the Enterprise Zone is eligible per the Distress Criteria.

Applicant _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Address _____

Day Phone _____

Day Phone _____

Email _____

Email _____

2. If this is a joint application, please list all applicants:

ATTACHMENTS REQUIRED

3. A resolution of intent to establish an Enterprise Zone or zones:

The resolution shall contain a description of the boundaries of the Enterprise Zone or zones, the time and place of a hearing to be held by the county board, city council, village board, or governing body of a Tribal Government Area, a basic summary of the information to be provided to the Department as specified in the Act, and such other additional information as the governing body of the proposing Political Subdivision may desire.

4. Proof/Notice of Public Hearing:

Any Political Subdivision proposing to create an Enterprise Zone or zones shall hold a public hearing on the question. A notice of the hearing shall be given by one publication of the resolution of intent in a newspaper of general circulation in the city, village, county, or Tribal Government Area at least ten days prior to the hearing.

5. Record of Vote:

The governing body of the Political Subdivision, upon conducting a public hearing, may vote to make a formal application to the Department for the creation of an Enterprise Zone or zones, and take any additional appropriate action with regard to the creation of such zone or zones.

6. Development Plan:

A development plan for the proposed Enterprise Zone that includes goals and objectives, and descriptions of current and prospective actions to encourage private investment in the area, including (a) job training to be provided to new and existing businesses in the zone, and to unemployed and displaced worker residents; (b) provision of technical assistance to businesses in the zone, such as management training, marketing assistance, engineering or technology assistance, and business plan preparation; (c) efforts to be made to assure the safety of businesses and employees in the zone; (d) efforts to be made to market the zone to new and existing businesses as an appropriate place for location or expansion; (e) infrastructure investments to be made which stimulate economic development; and (f) organizational structures to be created and processes to be undertaken which will stimulate economic development.

7. Self-Help Resource Plan:

A plan to insure that resources are available to assist residents of the area with self-help development.

8. Citizen Displacement Plan:

A plan to provide assistance to persons or businesses displaced as a result of zone activity.

9. Documentation of Commitment of Funds:

Documentation of the commitment of city or any other local Political Subdivision revenue, or private nongovernmental funds, or any other nonstate governmental funds for expenditure in the proposed Enterprise Zone to directly or indirectly assist or enable businesses to locate or expand existing operations within the area of the proposed Enterprise Zone during the first three years of its existence, if it is designated an Enterprise Zone by the Department.

- Not less than five hundred thousand dollars for Omaha, NE (a metropolitan class city);
- Not less than one hundred thousand dollars for Lincoln, NE (a primary class city);
- Consistent with local government capabilities to raise additional funds from local sources and shall reflect the applicant's commitment to the proposed Enterprise Zone for counties, Tribal Government Areas, second class cities, and villages

10. Creation of an Enterprise Zone Association

An Enterprise Zone Association shall be created within each Enterprise Zone upon the decision to formally apply for Enterprise Zone designation. Such Enterprise Zone Association shall be governed by an Enterprise Zone Association board which shall consist of seven members to be appointed by the mayor of the city or village with the approval of the city council or village board, or by the county board or Tribal Government Area chairperson.

11. Zone Description:

A description of the geographic location of the proposed zone.

12. Zone Map

A map depicting, the proposed zone.

13. Evidence of Economic Distress

Documentation that the area of the proposed Enterprise Zone represents the area with the greatest level of Economic Distress within the boundaries of the applying Political Subdivision.

14. Description of Positive/Negative Effects:

A description of any projected positive or negative effects of designation of the area as an Enterprise Zone.