



NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO)

Notice Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024

Funding Opportunity Title: CDBG-DR Housing Resilience Planning (HRP)
2019 Disaster, Winter Storm Ulmer (DR-4420) Disaster Recovery

Allocation Amount: \$2,000,000

Award Ceiling: \$250,000 for single jurisdiction
\$500,000 for multi-jurisdiction

Award Floor: \$100,000

Application Portal Opens: Wednesday, July 10, 2024, 8AM C/7AM MTN

Application Portal Closes: Monday, August 12, 2024, 6PM C/5PM MTN

The State of Nebraska's Department of Economic Development (DED) has allocated CDBG-DR funding for Housing Resilience Planning (HRP) activities. In accordance with the [Nebraska DR Action Plan](#), as amended, DED issues this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for eligible entities representing communities within the HUD- and state-defined MID area.¹ The purpose of HRP is to promote comprehensive community resilience by developing plans for housing recovery, resilience, and affordability that address flood vulnerabilities. Awards under this program are expected to be Exempt under the environmental review processes as articulated within CDBG-DR Manual, Chapter 8: National Environmental Policy Act.

DED will accept HRP applications for 30 days; dates are listed at the top of this NOFO. DED will accept applications via AmpliFund for a potential award of CDBG-DR funding to support eligible activities. This is a competitive funding opportunity. Applications selected for a HRP award will be scored according to the published [HRP Evaluation and Scoring Matrix](#). In addition to those selection criteria, DED will review all applications for priority projects.

OVERVIEW OF HRP APPLICATION PROCESS:

Step 1: Read the **HRP Program Guide** to ensure eligibility and program understanding prior to beginning your application. This program guide and other program materials are available on DED's CDBG-DR webpage for [HUD Requirements > Program Guidelines](#).

¹ In accordance with federal requirements, 80% of Nebraska's total CDBG-DR allocation must benefit the HUD-defined MID area, the remaining 20% may be directed to benefit the "State-defined MID area." See DR Action Plan, Appendix B: Eligible Areas for a complete list of counties included within the State-defined MID Area.

Step 2: Log in to an existing or register for an AmpliFund account. For assistance with AmpliFund related matters, visit [DED's Grants Help Center](#).

Step 3: Register and attend the Application Webinar. To support HRP Applicants, DED will host a webinar to walk through the program requirements, AmpliFund application, and scoring/selection process. After registering, you should receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Attendance is not required to apply for funding.

CDBG-DR Housing Resilience Planning – Application Webinar

Tuesday, July 09, 2024, 11AM Central/10AM MTN

Register in advance for this meeting: [HERE](#)

Step 4: During the application period, complete the HRP application in its entirety plus any supporting documentation requested.

APPLICATION SELECTION CRITERIA AND PRIORITY PROJECTS. As done with the CDBG-DR housing and infrastructure funding opportunities, DED will prioritize an applicant's submission based on tiering conditions summarized in the table below. Tiering encourages investments in the HUD-MID area and those that serve LMI residents.

Tier	Priority Description
1	Project will be implemented in a HUD-defined MID ² area <u>AND</u> the proposed service area has a population that is greater than 50% low- and moderate-income (LMI) ³ residents.
2	Project will be implemented in a HUD-defined MID area <u>OR</u> serves an LMI service area.
3	Project will NOT be implemented in a HUD-defined MID area and does NOT serve an LMI service area.

Applications meeting the threshold requirements will be scored using the tiering and competitive evaluation criteria listed in the matrix below. Applications not meeting minimum points may not be eligible for an award. Points are awarded for each criterion as outlined below.

Evaluation and Scoring Matrix on the following page.

² Most Impacted and Distressed (MID) Areas: Areas of most impact as determined by HUD or the State using the best available data sources to calculate the amount of disaster damage. The HUD MID-designated areas for Winter Storm Ulmer (DR-4420) are Dodge County, Douglas County, and Sarpy County.

³ LMI is defined as Households whose total annual gross income does not exceed 80% of AMI, adjusted for family size.

HRP EVALUATION & SCORING MATRIX

THRESHOLD		TIERING & COMPETITIVE		
Criteria	Score	Criteria		Max Pts
Applicant is an eligible entity.	Pass/Fail	TIERING	Service area meets LMI National Objective	5
Applicant identified an eligible service area.	Pass/Fail		Located in HUD-defined MID	5
Project demonstrates direct or indirect “tie-back” to the Disaster (i.e., geographic service area was part of a DR-4420 declared disaster area). (If applicable, include alignment with needs outlined in the Action Plan Unmet Needs Assessment.)	Pass/Fail	Planning goals enhance community recovery and resilience against future flooding and flood-related disasters. ⁴		2
Applicant or its agent has grant funding experience, including staff and board expertise adhering to state and federal funding requirements (e.g., Uniform Grants Guidance, NEPA).	Pass/Fail	Planning goals support and address needs of Vulnerable Populations.		1
Project planning activities focus on reducing flood vulnerability in the service area.	Pass/Fail	Planning goals address restoration housing available to LMI populations, including efforts focused on known LMI census tracts.		1
Project planning activities address one <u>or</u> more of the following areas of focus: (1) Housing recovery , which supports communities in gathering data about existing housing stock and damages and implementing programs that help communities recover by using available funds.	Pass/Fail	Planning goals address affordable housing available to LMI populations.		1
		Alignment with long-term local or regional planning efforts, including demonstration of local support from community leaders, residents, and businesses for the proposed project.		1

⁴ Pursuant to the Federal Register Notice (see [83 FR 5844](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/02/09/2018-02-09) at 5856, February 9, 2018), HRP Program plans should include an assessment of natural hazard risks, including anticipated effects of future extreme weather events and other hazards. Additional resources to assist in this process are available on the HUD exchange website: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-dr/resources/#natural-hazard-risk-and-resilience-tools>.

<p>(2) Housing resilience, which allows communities to determine their existing risks and vulnerabilities and develop actions that increase resilience against future disasters. Communities can use funding to further assess their long-term recovery needs.</p> <p>(3) Affordable housing, which helps communities develop programs that preserve existing affordable housing and encourage the development of new affordable housing.</p>		<p>Cost reasonableness and project readiness. Applicant outlined how the estimated budget was determined for the proposed project and demonstrated overall project readiness.</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>Total Points Possible</p>			<p>18</p>
<p>Minimum Points to Receive an Award</p>			<p>8</p>

We look forward to assisting your community with the development of housing resiliency plans to improve Nebraska’s resiliency in the aftermath of Winter Storm Ulmer (DR-4420) and for future disasters. If you have questions about the information in this NOFO, please send an email to ded.cdbgdr@nebraska.gov.

Anticipated Timeline on the following page.

Spanish interpretation can be provided; please email ded.cdbgdr@nebraska.gov with your request. Ofrecemos traducción simultánea en español; por favor mandar un email a ded.cdbgdr@nebraska.gov con la solicitud.

ACCOMMODATIONS. Closed captions available. Spanish interpretation can be provided. Individuals requiring sensory accommodations, including interpreter services, Braille, large print or recorded materials should contact Lori Cole at 402-471-3746 or lori.cole@nebraska.gov.

Los individuos no hablan Inglés y los individuos con discapacidad podrán solicitar las ayudas y servicios auxiliares necesarios para la participación de contacto con el Departamento de Desarrollo Económico PO Box 94666, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4666, lori.cole@nebraska.gov.

MORE INFORMATION. Nebraska’s CDBG-DR programs are administered by the DED Disaster Recovery Division. For more information about CDBG-DR programs, including details about the MID area and program priorities, visit the [DED’s CDBG-DR website](#). If you have general questions about the CDBG-DR program, please direct them to ded.cdbgdr@nebraska.gov.

If this email was forwarded to you, please be sure to sign-up for the CDBG-DR mailing list by completing the [contact form](#). Individuals who are hearing and/or speech impaired and have a TTY may contact the Department through the Statewide Relay System by calling (711) INSTATE, (800) 833-7352 (TTY), or (800) 833-0920 (voice). The relay operator should be asked to call DED at (800) 426-6505 or (402) 471-3111. Additional information is available on the Nebraska Relay website at <http://www.nebraskarelay.com/>. Nebraska Relay offers Spanish relay service for our Spanish-speaking

customers. Spanish-to-Spanish (711) or 1-888-272-5528; Spanish-to-English (711) or 1-877-564-3503. Nebraska le ofrece el servicio de relevo a nuestros clientes en español. Los consumidores de TTY pueden escribir por máquina en español y las conversaciones serán retransmitidas en español y inglés.

Housing Resilience Planning (HRP) Anticipated Timeline			
Date	Event/Action	Location/Details	Responsible Party(ies)
Tue., July 09, 2024	Application Information Session 11:00AM C/10:00AM MTN	Virtual. Registration information above.	DED
Wed., July 10, 2024	Application Portal Opens	Application can be found at: https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/cdbg-dr	DED
Wed., July 24, 2024	Office Hour , 9:30AM C/8:30AM MTN	Available via email notification	DED
Mon., August 12, 2024	Application Closes	Submit via AmpliFund – https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/cdbg-dr	Applicant
Thur., September 12, 2024	Notification of Intent to Award	DED to issue via email. This stage will also include Award Setup in AmpliFund.	DED
30 days after NOIA	Execute Subrecipient Agreement (SRA)	DED to issue SRA. DED signs last.	DED/Awardee
45 days after NOIA	Environmental Review	Subrecipient submits materials to DED. DED to enter ERR in HEROS.	Subrecipient/DED
45 days after NOIA	Award Conditions	Subrecipient shall submit materials to DED as specified in the SRA. Subrecipient must identify Recipient Grant Manager (RGM).	Subrecipient/DED
18 months after NOIA	Project Implementation	Subrecipient submits reporting, requests for reimbursement, and other information to DED.	Subrecipient
24 months after NOIA	Project Closeout	Subrecipient submits monitoring and closeout materials per DED request for information. Upon acceptance, DED will issue letter of closeout.	Subrecipient/DED