

STATE OF MAINE

CDBG

Community Development Block Grant



Maine Office of Community Development

www.meocd.org

CDBG Funding is Provided by HUD



Annual allocation through State CDBG Program.

Maine CDBG in a Nutshell

- Applicants limited to Maine communities
- Lewiston, Auburn, Portland, Biddeford, Most of Cumberland County & Bangor excluded
- Currently 14 programs offered – competitive applications!
- Funds must primarily benefit low and moderate income (LMI) persons
- LMI income limits set at 80% of county median & adjusted by family size
- Projects may benefit individuals & targeted groups depending on program and purpose



Three Aspects of a Strong Application

- 1. You have a Plan
- 2. You have Partners
- 3. You have Matching Funds



You need a Plan

Know what you want to achieve. Have a Plan that identifies the components, the goals, the strategies, and the methods to achieve them.



Community Planning Program

- Up to \$10,000 for Planning activities with a community benefit.
- Requires a 25% Match



Downtown Revitalization Grant

\$600,000 – 25% cash match

- **Must implement comprehensive, integrated solutions to problems in downtown areas**
- **Downtown must meet definition of PL 776**
- **Must have completed an approved downtown plan within last 5 years**
- **Great flexibility**



You need Partners

One person or group can't do everything. By collaborating with others and pooling our limited resources we can often achieve much more.



Downtown Revitalization Grant Program

- Must have completed a QMS or similar planning process
- Emphasizes maximizing partnerships and all funding sources including local financing
- Allows great flexibility to achieve local solutions
- Between 1997 – 2009 more that 33 communities will have received about \$13 million in funding



Common DR Activities



- Parking
- Sidewalks
- Street Lights
- Signage
- Parks & Green Space
- Facade Grants



Winthrop



Greenville

You have Matching Funds

For Planning Grants and Downtown Revitalization Grants you must have matching funds of 25%. Community Enterprise Grants do not require matching funds, but those that have match tend to score better. It shows commitment and readiness.



Community Enterprise Grant

Provides grant funds to assist in pocket parks and streetscape improvements in downtown and village areas.

\$150,00 Maximum Grant

No matching funds required

3 funding categories



Business Facades & Streetscapes

- **Business Facades**

- For exterior improvement and signage on existing businesses
- Activities must take place in a designated slum/blight area or assist a documented spot blight site
- Communities may require matching funds commitment
- Maximum façade grant is \$25,000 per business assisted



- **Streetscapes**

- Lighting, sidewalks, signage, plantings, etc.
- Activities must take place in a designated slum/blight area or a 51% LMI community
- All improvements must take place on public property



Micro-Enterprise Grant/Loan

- **Micro Enterprise**
- **Maximum grant/loan of \$25,000**
- **Business must have 5 or fewer employees and be owned by an LMI person**
- **No job creation/retention requirements**
- **Loan repayments may establish a revolving fund**
- **Great potential for Creative Economy Initiatives**



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For more information contact us at:



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