

CDBG-DR Compliance Overview

Recovery and Resilience after the Helene Disaster

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Where we've been ...

July Training

- Introduction to the CDBG-DR grant
- Overview of eligible projects/programs outlined in the grantee's Action Plan

August Training

- Compliance with the national objectives
- Tie-back to disaster
- Environmental reviews
- Duplication of benefits

*Recordings available

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Where we're going...



Responsibilities of a
subrecipient



Governing laws and
regulations



How to meet compliance
requirements

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Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)

- Flexible federal grant funding to help communities recover from presidentially declared disasters—funding addresses unmet needs and promotes long-term resiliency
- The CDBG block grant regulations (24 CFR Part 570) apply to CDBG-DR. However, HUD may waive, modify, or add requirements for the specific disaster
- Eligible projects focus on housing, infrastructure, economic revitalization, and mitigation
- 70% of CDBG-DR funds must be spent to benefit low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons
 - Households with incomes $\leq$ 80% Area Median Income (AMI)
 - Projects serving areas where $\geq$ 51% of residents are LMI

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CDBG-DR Hurricane Helene Federal Register Notices

Public Law 118-158

- Congress authorized \$12B in CDBG-DR funds to aid in recovery efforts for federally declared disasters in 2023-2024

Universal Notice (90 FR 1754) – January 8, 2025

- Includes waivers and alternative requirements, regulatory requirements, award process, and eligible disaster recovery activities

Federal Register AAN (90 FR 4759) – January 16, 2025

- Appropriated the funding
- North Carolina: Total \$1.4B
 - \$1,241,843,000 (unmet recovery needs); \$86,277,000 (mitigation)
- Asheville: \$225M

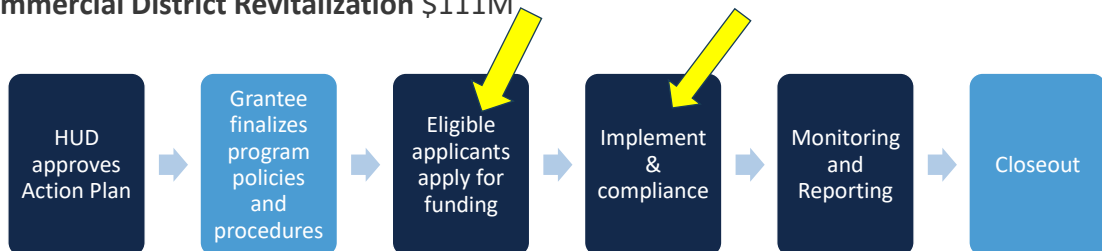
“Revised Universal Notice” – March 19, 2025

- Memo 2025-02 updates the original Universal Notice to align with new executive orders

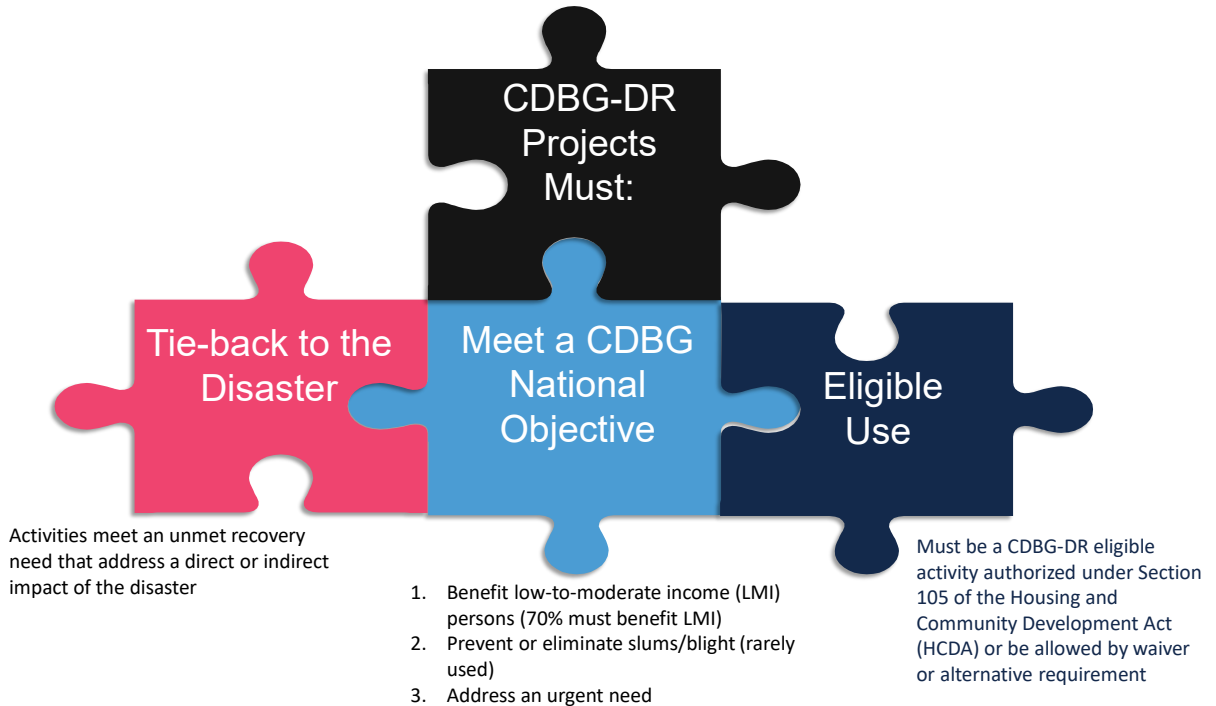
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Hurricane Helene CDBG-DR Program Grantee: NC Department of Commerce

- **Reconstruction/Rehabilitation of Owner-Occupied Units (\$807M)**
 - *Eligible applicants limited to individual property owners
- **Workforce Housing (\$53M)**
- **Multifamily Rental Housing (\$191M)**
- **Infrastructure: \$193M**
- **Commercial District Revitalization \$111M**



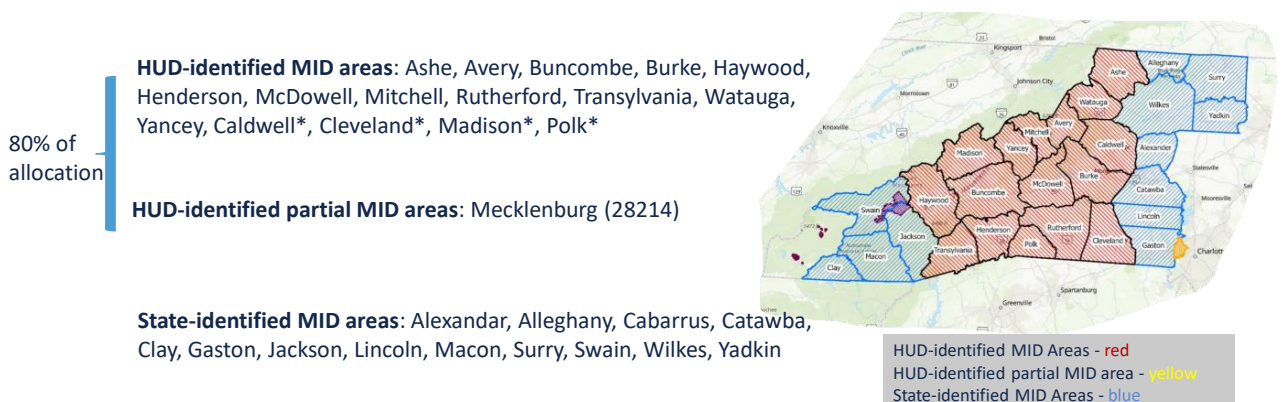
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Most Impacted & Distressed Areas (“MID” Areas)

80% of the CDBG-DR funds must be spent in HUD-identified MID areas

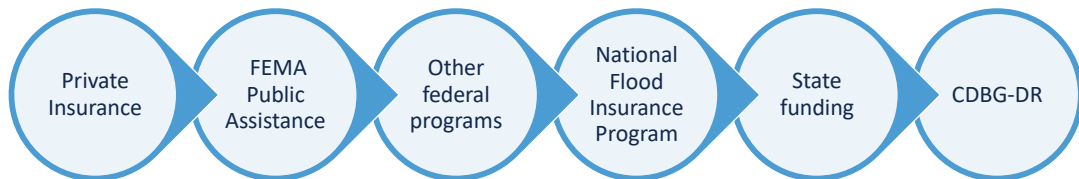


*NCDOC expanded the HUD-Identified MID areas to include all of Caldwell, Cleveland, Madison, and Polk, and the entirety of these counties are considered HUD-identified MID areas.

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Duplication of Benefits

A DOB occurs when a person, household, or other entity receives financial assistance from multiple sources that can be used for the same purpose, AND the total assistance exceeds the total need.

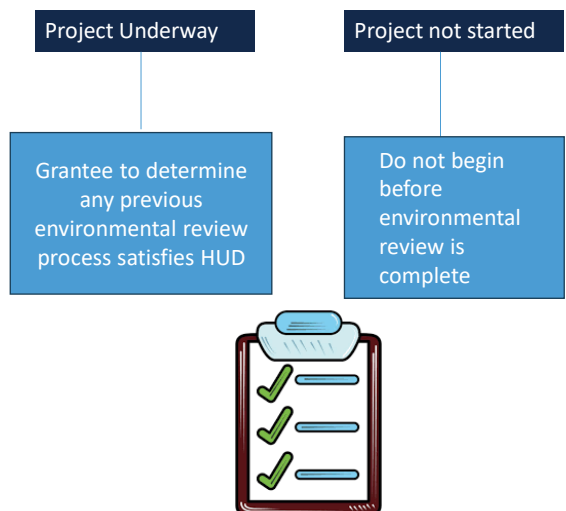


The state grantee is responsible for the DOB analysis—not the unit of government

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Environmental Reviews

- Environmental review process must be completed and approved BEFORE funds are committed or spent!
- The state grantee will determine the environmental review process for each project type
- Do NOT start a project before the environmental review process is complete.
 - Do not move dirt!
 - Do not acquire property!
 - Do not hire engineers to design a project (yet)!



Avoid “Choice-Limiting” Actions:

- Committing HUD or non-HUD funds (e.g., purchasing property/executing contracts)
- Physically altering a property (e.g., site grading or demolition)

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GRANTS ARE...Not Free Money!



Post-Award Management



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State Law Authority to Accept Grants

§ 160A-17.1. Grants from other governments.

- The governing body of any city or county is hereby authorized to make contracts for and to accept grants-in-aid and loans from the federal and State governments and their agencies for constructing, expanding, maintaining, and operating any project or facility, or performing any function, which such city or county may be authorized by general law or local act to provide or perform.

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State Law Resources

School of Government Online Resources for
Economic Development & Revitalization



[Assistance with Development and Revitalization Projects](#)
[UNC Development Finance Initiative \(DFI\)](#)
[NC Communities: Submit Projects for Free Revitalization Analysis by Students](#)

[Economic Development](#)
[Economic Development Tools and Strategies \(On Demand Online 60-minute Module\)](#)
[When May NC Local Governments Pay an Economic Development Incentive?](#)
[Notice and Hearing Requirements for Economic Development Appropriations](#)
[Local Government as Lender: Emergency Loans for Small Businesses](#)
[Closed Session Deep Dive: The Business Location Exception](#)
[Acquiring real property for redevelopment—can local governments keep it confidential?](#)
[Conveyance of Local Government Property to Nonprofit EDC for Industrial Park](#)
[Remote workers: When do they count for local economic development incentives?](#)

[Revitalization and Downtown Development](#)
[Conveyance of Property to Private Entity for Community Economic Development – Chart](#)
[Follow Procedures Prior to Acquiring Property for Redevelopment](#)
[Reasons Why Downtown Development Programs Should Involve Secured Loans—Not Grants](#)
[Sale of Historic Structures by NC Local Governments for Redevelopment](#)
[Conveyance of property in a public-private partnership for a “downtown development project”](#)
[Downtown Facade Improvement Programs](#)
[How a North Carolina Local Government Can Operate a Land Bank for Redevelopment](#)
[Using a Redevelopment Area to Attract Private Investment](#)

[Private Affordable Housing Development:](#)
[Local Government Support for Privately Owned Affordable Housing](#)
[Conveying property to housing organization for low- and moderate-income homeownership](#)
[Affordable Housing Powers for Local Governments – Chart](#)

[Property Tax and Affordable Housing](#)
[Property Tax Exemptions and Community Economic Development](#)
[Special Property Tax Rules for Affordable Housing](#)
[Gentrification and Property Tax Relief](#)
[Government Property, Private Leases, and Property Taxes](#)

SOG Courses that Cover Public-Private Partnerships

- [Affordable Housing Seminar for local government leadership](#) (in person Oct. 16 in Chapel Hill)
- [Community Development Academy](#) (in person 6 days in Chapel Hill, March 17-19 and April 14-16)
- [Development Finance Toolbox](#) (online Dec. 2-4)

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Legal Framework

Universal Notice and Memoranda	Universal requirements governing the allocation of disaster funding
24 CFR 570	CDBG program regulations govern CDBG-DR, absent exception or alteration
Program-Specific Policies	Grantee writes policies and procedures for each funded program
Cross-Cutting Federal Regulations	Environmental review, URA, Section 3, Fair Housing, Davis-Bacon, etc.
Uniform Guidance 2 CFR 200	Uniform administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements for federal awards
State law	NC law applies to expenditures of federal grant awards (e.g. procurement)

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Title 24 - Housing & Urban Development

Part 570 – Community Development Block Grants

Subpart A – General Provisions

Subpart C – Eligible Activities

Subpart D – Entitlement Grants

Subpart E – Special Purpose Grants

Subpart J – Grant Administration

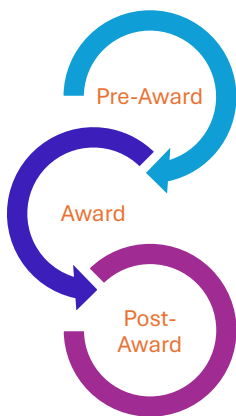
Criteria for national objectives	24 CFR 570.208
Applicability of UG	24 CFR 570.502
Agreements with subrecipients	24 CFR 570.503
Program Income	24 CFR 570.504, -.500
Use or real property	24 CFR 570.505
Records to be maintained	24 CFR 507.506



Subpart J specifies how CDBG compliance deviates from the UG.

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Uniform Guidance 2 CFR Part 200



Subpart A – Acronyms and Definitions

Subpart B – General Provisions

Subpart C – Pre-Award Requirements

Subpart D – Post-Award Requirements

Subpart E – Cost Principles

Subpart F – Audit Requirements

Appendices I - IX

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UG Subpart D, Post-Award Compliance

Financial Management (200.302)

Internal Controls (200.303)

Program Income (200.307)

Property Management (200.310-316 and 200.329)

Procurement (200.318-327 and Appendix II)

Subrecipient Management and Monitoring (200.331-333)

24 CFR 570.502 – Applicability of UG

- Exempts and modifies compliance with certain UG provisions.

Refer to Subaward Agreement for specific compliance requirements!

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Cross-Cutting Requirements

- **Environmental regulations**
 - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- **Civil rights and fair housing**
 - Fair Housing Act
 - Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
 - Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act (24 CFR Part 75)
 - Section 540 of the Rehabilitation Act and ADA
- **Labor standards**
 - Davis-Bacon Act
 - Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act
- **Acquisition and relocation**
 - Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act (URA)

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Grantee as Pass-Through Entity

- Adopt policies and procedures for each CDBG-DR program
 - Workforce Housing
 - Multifamily Rental Housing
 - Infrastructure
 - Commercial District Revitalization
- Execute subaward agreement with subrecipient to carry out a specific program
- Monitor subrecipients to ensure compliance with federal law and program guidelines



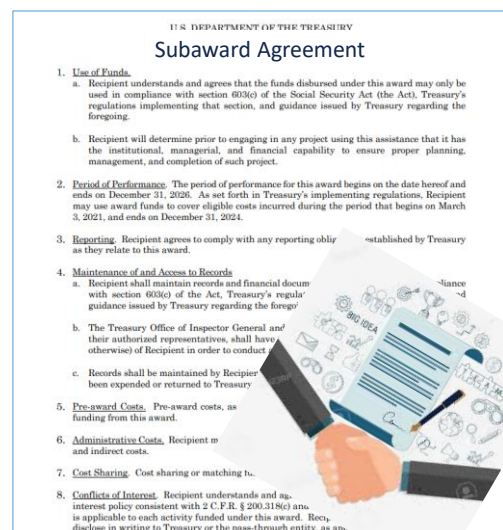
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Executing the Subaward Means Accepting its Terms

Terms of subrecipient agreement will include requirements, such as:

- Project name
- Award amount
- Scope of services
- Period of performance
- Budget/payment drawdowns
- 24 CFR Part 570, applicable CDBG regs
- 2 CFR Part 200, applicable Uniform Guidance regs
- Cross-cutting federal regulations
- Reporting/closeout
- Record retention
- Suspension and termination
- Reversion of assets

24 CFR 570.503



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Policies & Procedures

UG Required Policies

- Payment Management Policy, §200.302(b)(6)
- Allowable Cost/Cost Principles, §200.302(b)(7)
- Procurement Policy, §200.318
- Conflict of Interest Policy, §200.318(c)(1-2)

Other Policies

- Property management
- Financial management
- Documentation/record retention
- Policies for cross-cutting federal laws (adopt grantee's policies)
- Fraud, Waste, and Abuse

See subaward agreement for specific policy requirements!

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Annual Audit

Audit category is based on total funds expended, not the receipt of funds.

LGC may force LG to select auditor from approved list if LG had investigative audit with findings by the State Auditor within last 3 years. The auditor will report to the LGC and governing board.

Financial Audit: All local governments must undergo an annual financial audit. (G.S.

Yellow Book Audit:
Expend \$100,000 or more in combined federal or state dollars.

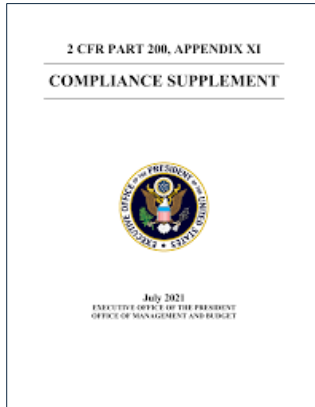
State Single Audit:
Expend \$1 million or more in state funds must have a state single audit (threshold is \$500,000 for FYs ending on or before June 30, 2025).

Federal Single Audit:
Expend \$1 million or more in federal dollars during the non-federal entity's fiscal year.

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Federal Single Audit

Not all compliance categories are tested, but compliance is still required



A	B	C	E	F	G	H	I	J	L	M	N
Activities Allowed or Unallowed	Allowable Costs/Cost Principles	Cash Management	Eligibility	Equipment/Real Property Management	Matching, Level of Effort, Earmarking	Period Of Performance	Procurement Suspension & Debarment	Program Income	Reporting	Subrecipient Monitoring	Special Tests and Provisions

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Financial Management System 2 CFR 200.302

Identify all federal awards received and expended

Produce accurate, current, and complete financial reporting in accordance with GAAP

Maintain records that identify the source and application of funds for federally-funded activities

Establish written procedures to verify cost allowability in accordance with Subpart E – Cost Principles

Minimize time elapsed between the transfer of funds

Provide effective internal control over all funds, property and other assets to ensure they are adequately safeguarded

G.S. 159-26 sets forth similar capability requirements for accounting system!

Maintain Distinct Accounting Information

- Authorizations
- Obligations
- Unobligated balances
- Assets
- Expenditures
- Program Income
- Interest

Maintain source documentation

- Paid invoices
- Time sheets and payroll records
- Contracts, purchase orders
- Bid documents
- Bank statements
- All source documents that support financial transactions

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Establish Accounting Procedures

The subrecipient is responsible for ensuring all CDBG-DR expenditures:

- Are appropriated by the governing board into a budget ordinance
- Do not exceed the award amount in the subrecipient agreement
- Are expended during the period of performance
- Are separately tracked
- Are supported by documentation of the purchase

****Must preaudit obligations pursuant to G.S 159-28**

Components of Accounting System

Chart of Accounts



Cash Receipts Journal



Cash Disbursements Journal



Payroll

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All revenue MUST BE appropriated before it may be expended



Capital Project Ordinance	Annual Budget Ordinance	Grant Project Ordinance
Multi-year	Single Fiscal Year	Multi-year
For capital projects only	Mainly operating expenses	Anything funded with a grant (operations and/or capital)
Often involves debt financing	Traditional revenue sources	Allows for easier compliance with grant regulations

159-13.2

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Allowable Activities

Eligible Projects + Eligible Beneficiaries

Program/Activity Eligibility Documentation

- Description of program or activity
- Location
- Unmet need/disaster tie-back
- National Objective

Supporting Documentation

- ☐ Damage Assessment / Unmet Needs Analysis
- ☐ Maps, Photos, or GIS Data Showing Impact
- ☐ Demographic or Income Data (if LMI benefit)
- ☐ Cost Estimates / Scope of Work
- ☐ FEMA or Insurance Claim Documentation

24 C.F.R. 570.506

Document Project
Eligibility
Determinations

CDBG-DR Program/Activity Eligibility Documentation Template

Subrecipient Name: _____

Grant Agreement Number: _____

1. Program or Activity Information

Program/Activity Name: _____

Description of Program or Activity:
(Provide a clear, concise description of the work to be performed, including major components, location(s), and expected outcomes.)

2. Responsible Oversight

Primary Contact Person: _____

Title/Position: _____

Department/Division: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Additional Oversight Staff (if applicable): _____

3. Disaster Tie-Back

Declared Disaster Name and FEMA DR Number: _____

Description of Disaster Impact:
(Explain the specific impact caused by the declared disaster, such as damage to infrastructure, housing, or economic disruption.)

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Allowable Activities

Eligible Project: Is the project an eligible housing, infrastructure, or economic revitalization project? Eligible under state law?

Location: Is the project located in a HUD-identified MID area? If not, is it in a state-identified MID area?

Tie-Back to Disaster: Does the program or activity address a direct or indirect impact of Hurricane Helene?

National Objective: Does the project meet the LMI objective? (household, area, clientele, jobs)

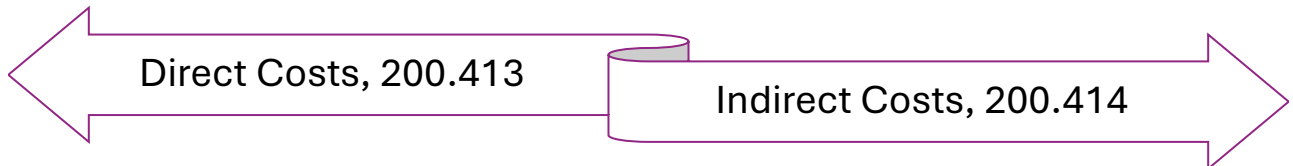
National Objective –If the project does NOT serve LMI, does it address an urgent need? If not, slums/blight objective?

Eligible
Projects
+
Eligible
Beneficiaries

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Allowable Costs

- **Direct costs** can be easily assigned to a specific project or program with a high degree of accuracy
 - Personnel costs
 - Materials and supplies
 - Equipment
 - Training
 - Travel
- **Indirect costs** are incurred for common or joint purposes benefiting more than one cost objective
- Indirect costs are allocated in proportion to the benefit provided.
 - General administrative expenses
 - Facilities costs



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Allowable Cost Review

Necessary	• Costs must be directly tied to the performance of eligible work
Reasonable	• Current market rates for similar goods or services • A cost or price analysis is required for procurements over \$250K
Allocable	• Cost are either direct or allocated proportionately
Consistently treated	• Consistent with the internal policies and procedures
Adequately documented	• Documents must evidence the transaction and support a determination of reasonableness

2 CFR 200.403

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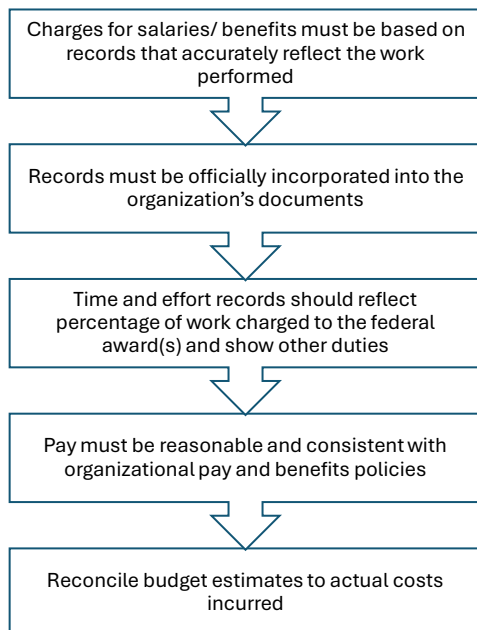
Selected Items of Costs

2 C.F.R. 200.420 to 200.476

Uniform Guidance identifies 55 cost items, stating if they are chargeable to federal awards and under what conditions.

SECTION	TITLE
200.425	Audit services
200.430	Compensation – personal services
200.431	Compensation – fringe benefits
200.432	Conferences
200.439	Equipment
200.444	General costs of government
200.473	Training and education costs
200.475	Travel costs

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Compensation & fringe benefits § 200.430, .431

Compensation (wages and salaries) is allowable if certain criteria is satisfied

Fringe benefits include, but are not limited to, the costs of leave (vacation, family-related, sick or military), employee insurance, pensions, and unemployment benefit plans.

Except as provided elsewhere in these principles, the costs of fringe benefits are allowable provided that the benefits are reasonable, provided under established written leave policies.

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Preaward Costs

- The grantee may reimburse subrecipients for pre-award costs incurred on or after the incident date, if the environmental review and all other cross-cutting requirements are met before the underlying activity begins.

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Cost Items	Grant Project: Utility Subsidy Program				
	Expenditures	Necessary	Reasonable	Allocable	Allowable
Personnel	\$22,000	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fringe Benefits	\$4,659	✓	✓	✓	✓
Travel					
Equipment					
Supplies	\$562	✓	✓	✓	✓
Contractual					
Construction					
Leases					
Communication	\$3,000	✓	✓		
Cash Payments	\$50,000	✓	✓		
...					
Total Direct Charges	\$80,221				
Indirect Charges	\$8,022				
Total	\$88,243				

Establish review processes for cost items within each project. Review should occur before payment of any invoices.

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Program Income

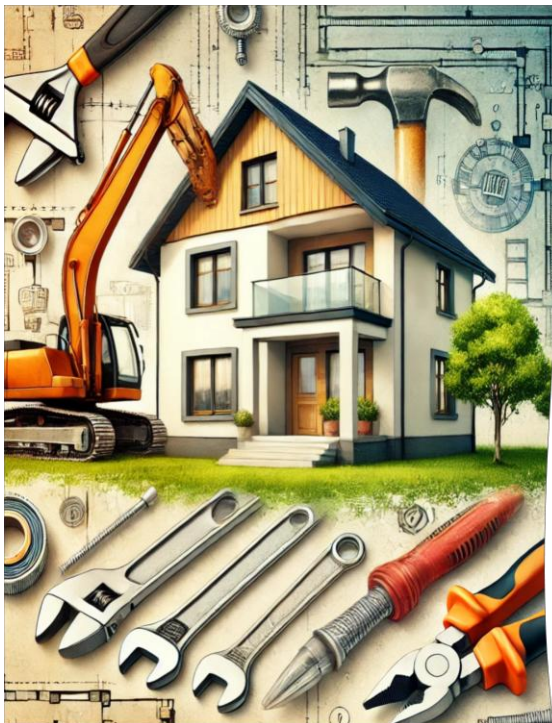
24 CFR 570.504
24 CFR 570.500

Program income means gross income received by the recipient or a subrecipient directly generated from the use of CDBG-DR funds. Program income includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Proceeds from the disposition by sale or long-term lease of real property purchased or improved with CDBG funds;
- Proceeds from the disposition of equipment
- Gross income from the use or rental of real or personal property acquired with CDBG funds
- Payments of principal and interest on loans

Subaward agreement will establish how the subrecipient shall treat program income.

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Property Management

- **Real property** - Land and buildings or apparatuses attached thereto.
- **Equipment** - Tangible personal property with a useful life of more than one year AND cost to purchase exceeds the lesser of the unit's capitalization level OR \$10,000.
- **Supplies** - All personal property other than equipment.

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Real Property

24 CFR 570.505, -.502

Property costing \$25,000 or more that is acquired or improved using CDBG-DR funds

- Real Property must be used to:
 - Meet one of the national objectives for 5 years after expiration of subaward agreement, or longer if specified in the subaward agreement. 24 CFR 570.503(b)(7)
- A change of the original use allowed if:
 - The new use meets a national objective
 - The CDBG-DR program is reimbursed for its fair share of FMV
- Proceeds from the disposition of real property are likely subject to program income requirements.
*See subaward agreement.

Records to Maintain

- Contracts for purchase of real property
- Documents on property use (beneficiaries, rent charged, etc.)
- Evidence supporting any change of use
- Financial records for upgrades, showing proportional CDBG-DR and other funds

*Records relating to real property have longer retention periods. See 24 CFR 570.502(7)(ii)

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Equipment

24 CFR 570.502 & 2 CFR 200.313

Equipment Requirements

- **Use:** Equipment not needed for CDBG activities must be:
 - Transferred to the recipient for CDBG use, **or**
 - Retained after compensating the recipient (24 CFR 570.502)
- **Disposition**
 - Sale proceeds are generally considered program income (24 CFR 570.502)
- **Management** (2 CFR 200.313)
 - Maintain detailed equipment records
 - Conduct physical inventory and reconcile at least every 2 years
 - Establish controls to prevent loss, damage, or theft

Equipment Tracking

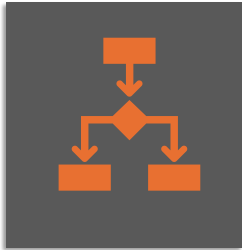
- ✓ Description of equipment or real property, including the serial number or another identification number
- ✓ Source of funds
- ✓ Who holds the title
- ✓ Acquisition date and cost
- ✓ Percentage of federal participation in project cost
- ✓ Location, use, and condition
- ✓ Disposition data

★ Refer to subaward agreement for specific requirements

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Subawards



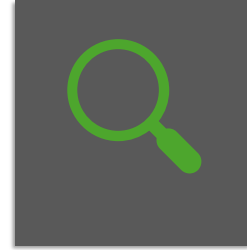
Determination of
relationship:
Subrecipient or
Contractor
2 CFR 200.331



Risk Assessment
2 CFR 200-332(b)-(c)



Formation and
issuance of
subaward
agreement
2 CFR 200.332(a)

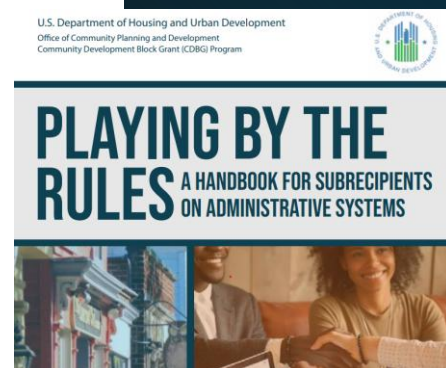


Post-award
monitoring
2 CFR 200.332(d)-(h)

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Recordkeeping Requirements

- Records must be *accurate, complete, and orderly*
- 24 CFR 570.506 outlines many documentation requirements
- Subrecipient agreement will establish specific recordkeeping requirements
- Adopt document & record retention policies and procedures



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Categories of Records

Administrative

- ☐ Grant application
- ☐ Subaward agreement
- ☐ Approved budget
- ☐ Communications with grantee
- ☐ Internal controls
- ☐ Record keeping policy
- ☐ Conflict of Interest Policy
- ☐ Other program-specific policies

Financial

- ☐ Budget (e.g., grant project ordinance)
- ☐ Authorizations
- ☐ Obligations/expenditures
- ☐ Interest
- ☐ Program income
- ☐ Payment drawdowns
- ☐ Contracts
- ☐ Source documents (Pos, invoices, bid records)
- ☐ Chart of accounts
- ☐ Journals and ledgers
- ☐ Payroll records

Program

- ☐ Eligibility determinations
 - ☐ Project description
 - ☐ Beneficiaries
- ☐ National objective
- ☐ Compliance with cross-cutting requirements
- ☐ Real property transactions and supporting documents

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Areas of Compliance

- Eligible activities and beneficiaries
- National objectives
- Tieback to disaster
- Financial management
- Internal controls
- Compliance with program policies and procedures
- Duplication of benefits
- Cross-cutting federal requirements
- Recordkeeping
- Additional terms included in subrecipient agreement

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How can we ensure compliance with all these rules?



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Internal Control

2 CFR 200.303

Internal controls are the system, processes, and procedures designed to promote:

- effective business operations,
- accurate recordkeeping, and
- compliance with governing laws, regulations, and policies.

Internal Control Adoption Process

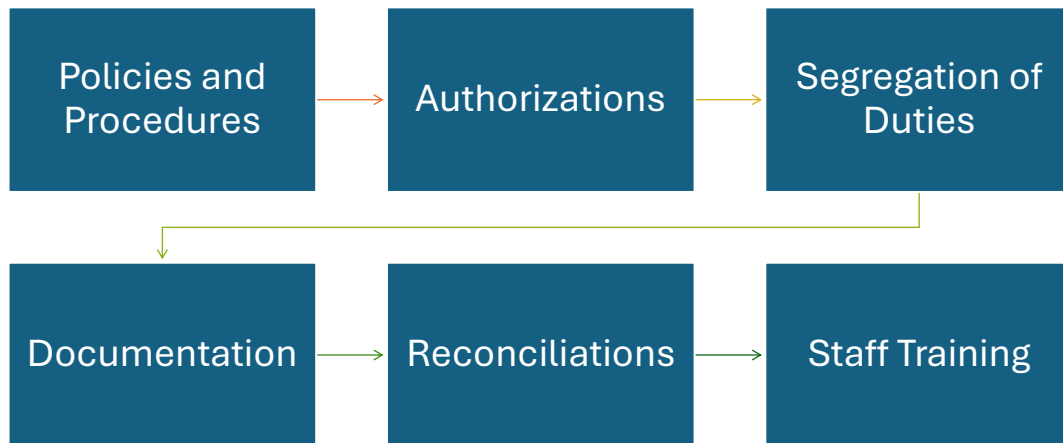
- Management to establish system of internal controls
- Risk assessment
- Implement control activities
- Communicate expectations to staff
- Monitor control system

**New requirement: Take reasonable cybersecurity measures to safeguard information.

Internal controls should be modeled after the guidance in the Standards of Internal Control in the Federal Government (the Green Book) or the COSO Framework.

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Internal Control Activities



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What may we do now to prepare?

Project Planning

- Conduct needs assessment to identify and prioritize unmet recovery needs
- Identify possible project location(s)
- Align proposed project with a direct/indirect "tie-back"
- Confirm the project meets a CDBG national objective
- Coordinate efforts and communicate with stakeholders

Administrative Planning

- Evaluate capacity to prepare grant application
- Consider technical assistance needs
- Draft or revise policies to reflect CDBG-DR rules (procurement/conflict of interest, etc.)
- Establish grant management and oversight systems
- Adopt internal controls

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