



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &
 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Charles D. Baker, Governor ♦ Karyn E. Polito, Lt. Governor ♦ Janelle L. Chan, Undersecretary

**CDBG One-Year Action Plan
 FY 2019 Proposed Changes**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is contemplating the following changes to the MA CDBG program for FY 2019.

COMMUNITY BASED PLANNING REQUIREMENT:

For FY 2019, communities will not be required to submit a Community Development Strategy (CDS). Communities will be expected to discuss how community based planning helped determine the need for particular projects when responding to competitive questions.

ALLOCATION OF CDBG FUNDS: DHCD proposes the following allocation of funds based on level funding from 2018.

MA CDBG PROGRAM COMPONENT	FY 2019 ALLOCATION
Community Development Fund	\$22,352,557
Mini-Entitlement Program	\$ 9,075,000
-Section 108 Loan Guarantee*	\$ 10,000,000
Reserves	\$ 250,000
Section 108 Loan Repayments** (No. Adams, Everett)	\$ 336,622
Administration and Technical Assistance	\$ 1,091,676
TOTAL AVAILABLE (includes \$29,757,361 allocation plus up to \$50,000 in program income)	\$33,105,855
*Section 108 Loan Program allocation does not impact the FY 2018 Allocation **Section 108 Loan Repayments are budgeted but not necessarily required. This is an "up to" amount. Amounts not required for repayment to HUD will be reallocated to other components.	

Other proposed changes:

- All communities that did not apply during the FY 2017 or 2018 application round must comply with Section D. Threshold II, ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan. Those who applied in 2017 or 2018 have already satisfied the requirement.

<i>J. CDBG PROGRAM COMPONENTS</i>

2. MINI-ENTITLEMENT PROGRAM

DHCD has recalculated the Mini Entitlement Program for FY 2019.

Municipalities were selected to be Mini-Entitlement communities if they met the three following criteria: (1) The percentage of low and moderate income residents is 40% or greater; (2) a poverty rate higher than the state average of 8.0% and (3) population over 12,000. The following 11 communities will be Mini-Entitlement communities for FY 2019.

Amherst	North Adams
Chelsea	Palmer
Everett	Southbridge
Gardner	Wareham
Greenfield	Webster
	West Springfield

Grant Award Amounts and Requirements

Mini Entitlement communities are eligible for an award of up to \$825,000 based upon prior performance including effective implementation of activities, timely expenditure of funds and performance as indicated in monitoring reports, along with, the community's ability to identify eligible, feasible activities that can be completed in a timely manner. Mini-Entitlement applications will contain an 18-month implementation plan. Mini-entitlement grantees must comply with standards for timely expenditure and available program income (see Applicant/Project Thresholds above and 3 below). FY 2019 Mini-entitlement awards to Grantees that do not meet the required standards will be reduced by an amount necessary to bring the grantee into compliance.

FY 2019 Mini Entitlement communities will receive an annual commitment of funds for a three year period (through 2021) subject to federal funding and HUD's approval of the Commonwealth's One Year Plan.

Evaluation and Award Criteria

The following requirements apply to the Mini-Entitlement Program:

1. In accordance with the Massachusetts CDBG Priorities listed in Section A, DHCD seeks to fund projects identified through meaningful community-based planning and priority setting processes as described in SECTION D. 6.

2. Activity packets must be completed and will be scored to ensure that activities are feasible and ready to proceed at the time of award. Activities will be scored in accordance with the project feasibility question of the application as detailed above in the CDF section. Activity packets must receive a minimum 50% score of each item in the feasibility question. All FY 2019 Mini-Entitlement applications must describe how CDBG funds will be allocated; include goals and performance measures for each activity; demonstrate compliance with a federal national objective and all federal/state requirements; and provide a management plan. The project packets will be reviewed for compliance with these evaluation criteria.
3. Mini Entitlement applicants that exceed the timely expenditure threshold as described above will have a 2019 award reduced by the amount over the threshold.
4. All activities that are eligible under Section 105(a) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, will be considered for funding with the exception of organizational activities of downtown partnerships.
5. Mini-Entitlement communities may not join with other communities as joint applicants.

The town of Dennis will be guaranteed a transition grant of \$400,000 in FY 2019. The town may compete in the Community Development Fund for a full award as allowed by the CDF rules.

AVAILABILITY OF CDBG PROGRAM FUNDS

Application Due Dates for CDBG FY 2019 Program:

Community Development Fund:	March 1, 2019
Mini-Entitlement Program:	March 1, 2019

EXHIBIT 2

MUNICIPAL ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY FOR CDBG PROGRAM FUNDS IN FY 2019

Based on the FY 2018 One Year Action Plan, a single Community Development Fund community may receive no more than \$1.35 million from two successive years. Reserves awards are not subject to the \$1.35 million cap per community.

As a result, FY 2019 award limits apply to the following FY 2018 grantees, in the following amounts:

Agawam - \$550,250	Marlborough - \$550,000
Athol - \$643,252	Montague - \$612,065
Ayer - \$600,000	Oak Bluffs - \$930,610
Brookfield - \$550,000	Orange - \$550,000
Buckland - \$550,000	Rockland - \$605,000
Clinton - \$550,000	Stoughton - \$763,859
East Longmeadow - \$551,118	Townsend - \$550,000
Easthampton - \$552,000	Ware - \$382,000
Edgartown - \$896,212	Warren - \$640,505
Fairhaven - \$578,303	West Tisbury - \$896,212
Huntington - \$941,975	
Hardwick - \$350,000	

DHCD will hold public sessions and a hearing to receive comments on the proposed FY 2019 One-Year Action Plan prior to its submission to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). See below for times and locations information. Interested parties are encouraged to submit comments, in writing or via email, in advance of the public sessions and by October 31, 2018. Comments will continue to be accepted directly to DHCD any time prior to, or at the scheduled hearing. Comments may be directed to: Mark Southard, Community Development Manager, DHCD, 100 Cambridge St, Suite 300, Boston, MA 02114 or mark.southard@mass.gov.

Wednesday October 24, 2018 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Springfield, MA

Thursday October 25, 2018 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Boston, MA