American Association of State Colleges and Universities

August 19, 2014
EDA’s mission is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.

As the only federal agency with economic development as its exclusive mission, EDA drives collaborative regional economic development initiatives that lead to job creation.
JAY WILLIAMS
U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development

Jay Williams was appointed by President Obama to serve as the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development and was sworn into office on Tuesday, May 20, 2014.

Fiscal Year 2014 Budget $249K
EDA provides strategic investments to units of state and local government, tribal organizations, universities, and non-profits in communities and regions suffering from severe economic distress.

EDA targets its investments to attract private capital investment and to create long-term, higher-skill, higher-wage jobs.

EDA investments are focused on locally-developed, regionally-based economic development initiatives that directly contribute to economic growth - and that foster innovation, entrepreneurship, and regional competitiveness.
EDA Assistance Criteria
Regions that meet one or more of the following criteria may be eligible for EDA grants

★ Unemployment rate for the most recent 24-month period that is at least 1% point higher than the national average

★ Per capita income that is 80% or less than the national average

★ A special need, such as (but not limited to) plant closings, natural disasters, or military base closures
Eligible Applicants

EDA is not authorized to provide grants or cooperative agreements to individuals or to for-profit entities.

- District Organization of a designated Federal Economic Development District
- Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes
- State, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions
- Institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education
- Public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State
Application Process

- EDA projects must be consistent with the region’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) or alternate EDA-approved strategic planning document capable of meeting EDA’s CEDS or strategy requirements.

- Applications need to address at least one of EDA’s Funding Priorities which are listed on the agency’s website (www.eda.gov).

- Proposals and applications can be submitted to http://www.grants.gov/ or to the appropriate EDA regional office.
EDA staff will evaluate complete applications from eligible applicants to determine if the applications are responsive to this FFO.

a. The project’s demonstrated ability to foster job creation and promote private investment in the regional economy;

b. The project’s feasibility;

c. The project’s sustainability/durability;

d. The applicant’s organizational capacity.
Investment Priorities

- Collaborative Regional Innovation
- Public/Private Partnerships
- National Strategic Priorities
- Global Competitiveness
- Environmentally-Sustainable Development
- Economically Distressed and Underserved Communities
EDA FUNDING PROGRAMS

Economic Development Administration

★ CONSTRUCTION RELATED
- Public Works and Development Facilities Program
- Economic Adjustment Assistance Program

★ NON-CONSTRUCTION RELATED
- Planning
- Technical Assistance
- Economic Adjustment
- University Centers
- Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms
- Research and National Technical Assistance
- Supports the construction or rehabilitation of essential public infrastructure and development facilities necessary to generate private sector jobs and investment.

- Typical investment request: infrastructure to serve industrial parks, industrial sites, port and airport terminals; incubators, workforce development/skills training facilities, location or expansion of industry.
• Provides support for the formulation and implementation of local economic development programs as well as strategies designed to create and retain permanent jobs and increase incomes for economically distressed areas.
• Typical investment request: Project Planning, Impact Analysis, Market Analysis, Feasibility Studies
Helps fill the knowledge and information gaps that may prevent leaders in the public and nonprofit sectors in distressed areas from making optimal decisions on local economic development issues.

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FY16 University Center Economic Development Program Competition

The purpose of EDA’s University Center Economic Development Program is to assist institutions of higher education and consortia of institutions of higher education in establishing and operating University Centers specifically focused on leveraging university assets to build regional economic ecosystems that support high-growth entrepreneurship through:

- Applied research and development
- Technology commercialization
- Targeted activities that cultivate entrepreneurship
EDA seeks University Center Program applications that:

- Benefit distressed communities by linking these communities to larger, more vibrant regional economies
- Present a clear plan for collaborating with and assisting other EDA investment partners, recipients, and stakeholders, including EDA-funded Economic Development Districts (EDDs) and tribes;
- Encompass regional, Statewide and multi-state programs; and create synergies within EDA’s Public Works, Economic Adjustment Assistance, and Partnership Planning programs;
- University Center applicants should integrate their programs across their institutions in order to leverage multiple programs that support economic development
Successful Investment Proposals

- Strong Organizational Leadership
- Advance Innovation
- Anticipates economic Changes and Diversify the Local and Regional Economy
- High Degree of Commitment
“In a world where a great idea can be far more valuable than a means of production, companies can no longer rely on a small group of big brains to do all the thinking.” gamification – competing ideas in a game structure –
Contacting EDA

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Questions?