



Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for 2027 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Discretionary Funds for Education and Employment Services to Native American and Migrant and Seasonal Farm Worker (MSFW) Populations

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (the Department) is pleased to announce a NOFA for 2027 CSBG Discretionary funds for education and employment services to Native American and MSFW populations. The Department is seeking organizations interested in administering projects focused on employment and education in Native American and MSFW populations.

Interested applicants must meet the requirements set forth in the application and must submit a complete application through the established system described in the NOFA on or before **Friday, October 2, 2026, 5:00 p.m. Central time.**

The NOFA is available on the Department's web site at <https://www.tdhca.texas.gov/notices-funding-availability-nofas> and the application forms referenced in this packet and submission instructions are available on the Department's web site at <https://www.tdhca.texas.gov/community-affairs-notices-funding-availability-nofa>. The Department looks forward to receiving your completed application. Should you have any related questions, please contact Madison Lozano at 512-475-3341 or madison.lozano@tdhca.texas.gov.

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I. Application Instructions

A. Application Deadline:

All applications must be submitted on or before **October 2, 2026, 5:00 p.m. Central time.**

B. Electronic Submission:

All applications must be submitted electronically to be considered eligible applications. Applications must be submitted through the Wufoo system using the following link:

https://tdhca.wufoo.com/forms/NativeAm_and_MSFW_NOFA

C. Application Questions

Application questions may be submitted via electronic mail to madison.lozano@tdhca.texas.gov. Answers will be provided in the order in which they are received. Please only submit a question once.

The deadline to submit questions related to the content of the NOFA and Application is October 1, 2026, by 5:00 p.m. Central time. Questions related to the content of the NOFA submitted after this deadline may not be answered.

II. Proposed Timeline for NOFA and Application

Date	Action
September 4, 2026	The application will be available through the TDHCA Website: https://www.tdhca.texas.gov/notices-funding-availability-nofas
October 1, 2026 5:00 p.m. CST	Deadline to submit questions regarding the NOFA and application prior to application submission
October 2, 2026 5:00 p.m. CST	Deadline for Applicants to submit applications in response to this NOFA
December 10, 2026	Anticipated date for the Department to present funding recommendations to Board of Directors
February 1, 2027	Anticipated Contract Start Date*
January 31, 2028	Anticipated Contract End Date*

*Any Appeal or delay in funding from HHS, may postpone the Contract Start and End Date

III. General Information

A. Background

The Department has been designated as the state agency to administer the CSBG Program. On an annual basis, the Department receives CSBG funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (USHHS) to ameliorate the causes of poverty within communities.

The Department is permitted to reserve up to 5% of CSBG funds for state discretionary use for which the Department's Board has determined specific uses. This NOFA releases the portion of these 2027 CSBG Discretionary (CSBG-D) funds aimed at education and employment services for Native Americans and MSFWs.

Capitalized words in this NOFA, unless otherwise defined herein, have the meaning outlined in Chapter 2306 of the Texas Government Code or in Title 10 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapters 1, 2, or 6, as applicable.

B. CSBG-D Subrecipient Performance Requirements:

This NOFA is for services to Native American and MSFW populations. The NOFA will provide funding to organizations to provide new or existing projects that provide education and/or employment assistance and services focusing on

the direct needs of individuals and families within the MSFW population or the Native American population. The successful applicant must ensure that participants receive case management along with employment and/or education assistance and services.

This activity must be completed within the 12-month Contract Term. The Contract Term is anticipated to be February 1, 2027, through January 31, 2028.

Subrecipient must complete activities that have the following results:

- For employment projects, an increase in employment skills or increase in persons assisted in obtaining jobs; and/or
- For education projects, an increase in education and/or skills that are expected to lead to increased income.

Persons eligible for direct assistance must have an annual income at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines issued annually by HHS unless Congressional Appropriations authorize otherwise.

C. Funds Available and Award Amounts

In this NOFA, the Department makes available \$300,000 of 2027 non-formula CSBG funds to be utilized for three discretionary projects as outlined below:

Category 1: Migrant and Seasonal Farm Worker Education and/or Employment Assistance and Services Projects (Two projects at \$100,000 each)	\$200,000
Category 2: Native American Education and/or Employment Assistance and Services Projects	\$100,000

An applicant must apply for \$100,000 per application and an applicant (or Affiliate as defined in 10 TAC §6.2(b)(1)) is limited to receiving an award in only one category (unless no other eligible applications under either Category are recommended). If applying in both categories, the applicant must indicate in the application on Attachment A which award it will accept if the score results in a recommendation for both. If applying for more than one category of award (i.e., applying for both MSFW and NA), the applicant must fill out a separate application for each.

If sufficient eligible applications are received that meet threshold criteria, it is anticipated that three awards of \$100,000 each will be made by the Department's Board of Directors (Board). The Department intends to fund the two highest scoring applications for assistance to the MSFW population, and the one highest scoring application for assistance to the Native American population. However, if sufficient eligible applications are not received to accomplish that, then the next highest scoring application meeting threshold and scoring criteria in either category will be recommended. If no other applications in either category remain, except from an applicant (or Affiliate) that has already been recommended for an award, the Department may recommend a second award to the next highest scoring application. If the Department does not receive sufficient eligible applications in response to this NOFA to exhaust available funding, the Department reserves the right to reprogram the funds.

The availability of 2027 CSBG-D funds for subrecipient organizations is dependent on the Department's receipt and availability of funds from USHHS. Access to funds may be limited to the amount of 2027 CSBG-D funds available to the Department from USHHS, and is subject to Board decisions regarding its use.

D. Eligible Applicant Organizations

Organizations eligible to apply for CSBG-D NOFA funds are: Private Nonprofit Organizations with 501(c) status, Public Housing Authorities, Local Mental Health Authorities, Units of General Local Government, and Regional Councils of Governments who are proposing an educational and/or employment project targeted to either MSFW populations or Native Americans.

Per [10 TAC §1.406](#), organizations must have adequate fidelity bond coverage or commit to obtaining adequate fidelity bond coverage in order to administer funds.

E. Ineligible Applicant Organizations

Organizations ineligible to apply for the competitive 2027 CSBG-D funds are:

- Private Nonprofit Organizations that do not have a Certificate of Formation (or Articles of Incorporation);
- Private Nonprofit Organizations that the Texas Secretary of State's Office website does not state are authorized to do business in Texas;
- Organizations for which persons on the organization's governing body or employees are debarred or suspended by the Department or another governmental agency; and
- Organizations for which persons on the organization's governing body or employees are on the suspended or debarred listed for the System for Award Management (SAM) in accordance with 2 CFR Part 180 and 2 CFR Part 376.

F. Private Nonprofit Organizations.

The Department is not requiring that an organization submit a Certificate of Formation or proof of eligible status. However, it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that its information including its Certificate of Formation (formally known as Articles of Incorporation) with the Texas Secretary of State's Office is correct and complete at the time of application. The Department will confirm proof of active status directly with the Texas Secretary of State. The Secretary of State's website is <https://direct.sos.state.tx.us/home/home-corp.asp> (must have account to conduct a search). Failure to have proof of active status with the Texas Secretary of State will cause the application to be terminated without further review as further described in Section VI - A of the NOFA.

G. Registration Requirements

Prior to contract execution, the successful applicant must provide the Department with the organization's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) (formerly known as Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS)) and proof of registration with the SAM. If the organization is not registered, go to <https://www.sam.gov> to renew, update, or create a new registration.

H. Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996

In response to President Trump's Executive Order 14218 (Ending Taxpayer Subsidization of Open Borders), USHHS issued guidance that CSBG is a federal public benefit and subject to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA). Under this guidance, CSBG-D funding for MSFW and Native American education and employment activities is also considered a federal public benefit and subject to PRWORA. Therefore, the Department must ensure that an individual receiving benefits under this NOFA is a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National, or Qualified Alien and is requiring that any recipient of CSBG funding must also comply with PRWORA. Awardees under this NOFA (Administrators) are required to meet this requirement through options provided for in the Department's rule on this subject and in the Contract. The method the awardee uses must be identified at contract execution to ensure that a person receiving federal benefits is a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National, or Qualified Alien. Applicants will select their preferred option on Attachment H of the Application. Refer to [10 TAC §1.410](#) for more information.

IV. State and Federal Requirements

Subrecipient shall comply with all provisions of the Federal and State laws and regulations listed below and in Attachment G, including but not limited to:

Public Law 105-285, Title II - Community Services Block Grant Program, Subtitle B Community Services Block Grant Program of the Community Services Block Grant Act, Chapter 106 of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. §9901 *et seq.*), as amended by the "Community Services Block Grant Amendments of 1994" (P.L. 103-252) and the Coats Human Services Reauthorization Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-285).

Subrecipient shall also comply with the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, the Pro-Children Act of 1994, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).

Subrecipient shall practice non-discrimination and provide equal opportunity in compliance with federal law in keeping with the President's Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and ensure that a person shall not be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, be subjected to discrimination under, or be denied employment in the administration of or in connection with any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds made available under this contract, on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief.

Subrecipient shall comply with political activity prohibitions and shall not utilize CSBG funds to influence the outcome of any election, or the passage or defeat of any legislative measure or to directly or indirectly hire employees or in any other way fund or support candidates for the legislative, executive, or judicial branches of government of subrecipients, the State of Texas, or the government of the United States.

Subrecipient shall comply with 45 CFR §87.2 and ensure that CSBG funds are not to be used for sectarian or inherently religious activities such as worship, religious instruction or proselytization, and must be for the benefit of persons regardless of religious affiliation.

Subrecipient shall comply with Chapter 2264 of the Texas Government Code and will not knowingly employ an undocumented worker, where "undocumented worker" means an individual who, at the time of employment, is not lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States or authorized under law to be employed in that manner in the United States.

Subrecipient is not permitted to award any funds provided by this contract to any party that is debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in federal assistance programs under Executive Order 12549. The Subrecipient will be required to agree that prior to entering into any agreement with a potential subcontractor that the verification process to comply with this requirement will be accomplished by checking [SAM.gov | Duns - Sam UEI](#).

Chapter 2306 of the Texas Government Code;
Title 10 Texas Administrative Code, Part 1, Chapters 1 and 2;
Title 10 Texas Administrative Code, Part 1, Chapter 6, Subchapters A and B;
2 CFR Part 200, as applicable;
Executive Order 14218 (Ending Taxpayer Subsidization of Open Borders), February 19, 2025;
Title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA);
and Texas Grant Management Standards, as applicable.

V. Application Content

The Application Attachments are posted separately on the TDHCA website as fillable PDF and Excel documents at: <https://www.tdhca.texas.gov/community-affairs-notice-funding-availability-nofa>. Each Application must include the following items:

- Attachment A: Applicant Information
 - Complete PDF
- Attachment B: Application Questions
 - Parts 1-4 of Excel document must be completed and uploaded along with monitoring reports and any other documents requested therein.

Any attachments related to questions within Attachment B Application Questions should identify the section number and be numbered accordingly. Please use the following format to provide any information which is requested in response to questions if the space provided in the Excel worksheet is insufficient:

✓ 11-point font

✓ Standard 8½" x 11" paper with 1" margins

- Attachment C: Audit Information, Audit Certification Form, and Audit Documents
 - Attachment C: Complete and sign the Audit Information PDF. The certification must be signed by the organization's Executive Director or equivalent title, with contractual signatory authority. If such cannot be attested, then attach a document explaining why.
 - Attachment C1: Complete the Audit Certification Form in Excel.
 - Attachment C2: Upload Audit and related documentation, as applicable based on the information below
 - An organization that is subject to the Federal Single Audit Act requirements must certify that the *Single Audit* for the latest fiscal year is available at the Federal Audit Clearinghouse and *submit a copy of the organization's most recent Single Audit Report*.
 - An organization that is subject only to the State Single Audit Act must *submit a copy of the organization's most recent Single Audit Report*.
 - An organization not subject to either the Federal or the State Single Audit requirements must *submit a copy of a third-party Audit of Financial Statements prepared by a Certified Public Accountant, including any notes to the audit*.
- Attachment D: Previous Participation Form
 - Complete Excel document and submit either in its original format or as a PDF.
 - In completing the Excel document, be sure that if your response to question #3 is "No," place initials in the yellow highlighted box on the far-right side.
- Attachment E: Certifications Regarding Legal Actions, Debarment and Compliance with Laws.
 - Complete and sign PDF. The certification must be signed by the organization's Executive Director or equivalent title, with contractual signatory authority. If such cannot be attested, then attach a document explaining why.
- Attachment F: Private Nonprofit Organization's Tax-Exempt Status Documentation, if applicable
 - Use PDF as cover sheet and upload with tax-exempt status documentation
 - All private nonprofit organizations must provide documentation of their status as a tax-exempt entity under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. The ruling should be on IRS letterhead which is legible and signed by the IRS District Director. Expired advanced rulings from the IRS are not acceptable. Other documentation which may be utilized to document tax-exempt status include a letter from the State of Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts or a certified legal document showing status.
 - If an organization is a subsidiary of a parent organization, documentation of the parent organization's IRS ruling and a copy of the page listing the affiliate organization in the documents filed with the IRS by the parent organization should be uploaded.
- Attachment G: Applicant Certifications
 - Complete and sign PDF. The certification must be signed by the organization's Executive Director or equivalent title, with contractual signatory authority. If such cannot be attested, then attach a document explaining why.
- Attachment H: PRWORA Certification
 - Complete and sign PDF. The certification must be signed by the organization's Executive Director or equivalent title, with contractual signatory authority. If such cannot be attested, then attach a document explaining why.
 - Applicants must select one of three options to ensure compliance with PRWORA. Applications without this certification will be sent a notice of elimination of their application from consideration and notified of their opportunity to appeal.

- Attachment I: Project Budget
 - The proposed budget is to be submitted utilizing the Attachment I Excel document. Complete and sign the Summary Page and complete subsequent Tabs 1-7.
 - This NOFA does not have limitations on the amount of funds utilized for the provision of direct services or for the costs of staff assigned to provide the direct services, provided the costs meet federal and state requirements.

Note: Attachments C, E, G, and H require a signature by the head of the organization (i.e. Executive Director or Chief Executive Officer). Handwritten or electronic signatures are acceptable. Typed signatures will not be accepted. Failure to provide a signature on these attachments will deem the document as incomplete, and the application will be eliminated from the competition.

VI. Application Review Process

A. Eligibility Review

The Department will review applications to determine if they meet the following eligibility criteria. If the Department determines that any of these criteria have not been satisfied, the application will not be reviewed, and the applicant will be sent a notice of the elimination of their application from consideration and notified of their opportunity to appeal. The eligibility criteria are:

- Application documents must be submitted electronically to be considered eligible applications. Applications are to be submitted through the Wufoo using the following link: https://tdhca.wufoo.com/forms/NativeAm_and_MSFW_NOFA
- An Applicant must meet all requirements as set forth in Section III - General Information, D. Eligible Applicant Organizations; and
- An Applicant must not be an ineligible applicant organization as set forth in Section III - General Information, E. Ineligible Applicant Organizations.

Any applicant not meeting these threshold criteria will be terminated. A notice of termination will be sent, and an applicant will have an opportunity to appeal the decision in accordance with 10 TAC §1.7, Staff Appeals Process.

B. Deficiency Notices

After the application deadline, the Department will not consider any unsolicited information that an applicant may want to provide. If the Department identifies deficiencies within Attachments A-H, separate from the eligibility criteria listed above, it will issue a deficiency notice to request the deficiency be resolved and automatically *deduct 10 points* from the final score for each deficiency. This includes the documents requested in Attachment B – Part 2, Section 2.1 related to monitoring reports and 2.2 Audit.

For certain questions in Attachment B, the Department may choose to not issue a deficiency notice if applicant did not respond to it, fully answer a question(s), or provide requested information. The applicant will simply not receive points for those questions where information was not provided or if the question indicates deduction, points will be deducted. For example, for Section 2.6, a deficiency notice will not be issued for failure to provide a response to the question; however, the Department will evaluate performance data and deduct points accordingly.

Deficiency notices will be e-mailed to the applicant's chief executive and the person specified as the "person to contact with application questions" in the applicant information form (Attachment A). If the applicant does not provide the requested information *within three business days*, the applicant will be sent a notice indicating termination of the application.

C. Scoring of Applications

Applications determined eligible for review will be scored by the Department. The Department will utilize a standard scoring instrument to evaluate, score, and rank each application. The scoring instrument will award points based on

the applicant's response to the requested information in Attachment B. Questions within Attachment B that go unanswered will not receive any points. The Department reserves the right to reject applications with a score below 50% of the maximum eligible points. If all applicants score below the minimum point threshold, the Department reserves the right to review the top overall scoring entity and if, in the Department's judgment, they can appropriately administer the CSBG-D funds, may recommend an award to its Governing Board.

Upon completion of scoring each application, applicants will be provided a scoring notice with an opportunity to appeal.

The Department will consider and evaluate prior monitoring and/or audit issues during its application scoring. Additionally, other factors to be considered in the scoring of each application will include, but not be limited to:

- Experience assisting the Native American and MSFW populations with education and/or employment services;
- Capacity to effectively administer federal funds and to ensure compliance with regulations;
- Ability to demonstrate staff and organizational capacity to deliver the proposed services; and,
- Ability to demonstrate positive past performance with Department or other federally funded programs, including the results of Department monitoring reviews, timeliness of submission of reports, and other information deemed relevant to performance.

In the event of a tie, the following sections will be used to break the tie – Section 3.1 (highest score), followed by Section 1.2 + 1.3 (highest score), followed by Attachment B, Part 4 (highest score).

D. Awards

Applicants whose applications rank high enough will be reviewed by the Department's Previous Participation Review and Approval Process and subsequently brought to the Department's Governing Board for consideration of an award.

E. Appeals Process

An appeal of a staff determination must be submitted in writing and in accordance with the Texas Administrative Rule Title 10, Part 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, §1.7 which can be found at the Secretary of State's website at [Home - Rules & Meetings](#)

VII. Appendices

Federal and State Resources:

- CSBG Act, COATES Human Services Reauthorization Act of 1998, available at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/resource/community-services-block-grant-statute> Texas Administrative Code - 10 TAC Chapter 1, Administration, available at [Home - Rules & Meetings](#)
- Texas Administrative Code - 10 TAC Chapter 2, Enforcement, available at [Home - Rules & Meetings](#)
- Texas Administrative Code - 10 TAC Chapter 6, Subchapter A, General Provisions, available at [Home - Rules & Meetings](#)
- Texas Administrative Code - 10 TAC Chapter 6, Subchapter B, Community Services Block Grant, available at [Home - Rules & Meetings](#)