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(c) The grant rate percentage is determined by dividing the total estimated project costs stated in the financial assistance award into the amount of EDA funding provided in the grant. For example, if the financial assistance award states that EDA will provide \$50,000 for a project estimated to cost \$100,000, the grant rate is 50% (\$50,000 divided by \$100,000). If the actual eligible project costs were \$100,000, EDA would provide \$50,000. If the actual eligible project costs were \$120,000, EDA would still provide \$50,000. If the actual eligible project costs were only \$80,000, EDA would provide \$40,000 (50% x \$80,000).

§ 305.13 Final inspection.

A final inspection will be scheduled by the grantee, with EDA concurrence and/or participation, when the project has been completed and is functional and when all deficiencies have been corrected.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995. Redesignated at 61 FR 7983, Mar. 1, 1996]

PART 306 [RESERVED]

PART 307—LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, UNIVERSITY CENTER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION AND PLANNING

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SOURCE: 60 FR 49689, Sept. 26, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—Local Technical Assistance

§ 307.1 Purpose and scope.

Funds are awarded to eligible applicants to support the initiation and implementation of area, state, and regional development efforts designed to alleviate economic distress. This program is designed to help economically distressed areas to address local economic development problems through specific project efforts.

§ 307.2 Applicants.

Eligible applicants for Local Technical Assistance grants or cooperative agreements include:

- (a) Public or private non-profit organizations;
(1) National, state, area, district, or local organizations; and/or
(2) Accredited educational institutions or non profit entities representing them.

- (b) Public sector organizations;
  - (1) American Indian tribes;
  - (2) Local governments; and
  - (3) State agencies.

(c) Technical assistance grant funds may not be awarded to private individuals or for profit organizations.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7983, Mar. 1, 1996]

#### §307.3 Selection process.

Projects will be selected in accordance with §304.1 of this chapter.

#### §307.4 Evaluation criteria.

In addition to and/or as an elaboration of evaluation criteria set forth in part 304 of this chapter and to the extent practicable, evaluation criteria should include whether the project:

- (a) Strengthens the capability of state and local organizations and institutions, including non-profit development groups, to undertake and promote effective economic development programs targeted to people and areas of distress;
- (b) Benefits distressed areas;
- (c) Diversifies distressed economies;
- (d) Demonstrates innovative approaches to stimulating economic development in depressed areas;
- (e) Is consistent with the EDA approved Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP) for the area in which the project is located; and
- (f) Presents a reasonable, itemized budget.

#### §307.5 Award requirements.

- (a) Assistance will be for the period of time required to complete the scope of the work. This typically does not exceed twelve months.
- (b) EDA will provide grants and cooperative agreements not to exceed 75 percent of the proposed project costs. Applicants are expected to provide the remaining share. EDA may waive all or part of the 25 percent share of technical assistance grants if it determines that the nonfederal share is not reasonably available because of the critical nature of the situation requiring technical assistance, or for other good cause.
- (c) Quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports and project

products will be specified in the Special Award Conditions of the grant.

### Subpart B—University Center Program

#### §307.6 Purpose and scope.

Funds under the University Center Technical Assistance Program help institutions of higher education in using their own and other resources to address the economic development problems and opportunities of their service area. The University Center Technical Assistance Program is designed to help in improving the economies of distressed areas.

#### §307.7 Applicants.

Eligible applicants for University Center Technical Assistance grants or cooperative agreements include public and private accredited educational institutions and non-profit entities representing them. In certain circumstances, other applicants proposing projects that benefit the University Center Technical Assistance Program may be considered.

#### §307.8 Selection process.

- (a) Projects will be selected in accordance with §304.1 of this chapter.
- (b) The concurrence of EDA in Washington, DC, is required for the selection of all new University Centers.

#### §307.9 Evaluation criteria.

In addition to and/or as an elaboration of evaluation criteria set forth in part 304 of this chapter and to the extent practicable, evaluation criteria include whether the project:

- (a) Has the commitment of the highest management levels of the sponsoring institution;
- (b) Provides evidence of adequate nonfederal financial support, either from the sponsoring institution or other sources;
- (c) Outlines activities consistent with the expertise of the proposed staff, the academic programs, and other resources available within the sponsoring institution;
- (d) Presents a reasonable budget;

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(e) Documents past experience of the sponsoring institution in operating technical assistance programs; and

(f) Adds to the geographic distribution of University Centers across the country.

**§307.10 Award requirements.**

(a) Assistance will be for the period of time required to complete the scope of the work. This typically does not exceed twelve months.

(b) EDA will provide grants and cooperative agreements not to exceed 75 percent of the proposed project costs. Applicants are expected to provide the remaining share. EDA may waive all or part of the 25 percent share of technical assistance grants if it determines that the nonfederal share is not reasonably available because of the critical nature of the situation requiring technical assistance or for other good cause.

(c) Indirect costs are limited to 20 percent of the Federal and nonfederal shares. EDA encourages applicants to absorb all indirect costs for this program.

(d) Quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports and project products will be specified in the Special Award Conditions of the grant.

**Subpart C—National Technical Assistance**

**§307.11 Purpose and scope.**

Funds under the National Technical Assistance Program are awarded to assure the successful initiation and implementation of development efforts designed to alleviate economic distress. This program is designed to help alleviate or prevent conditions of excessive unemployment or underemployment and problems of economically distressed areas.

**§307.12 Applicants.**

Eligible applicants for National Technical Assistance grants or cooperative agreements include:

(a) Public or private non-profit organizations, including:

(1) Non-profit national, state, area, district, or local organizations; and

(2) Accredited educational institutions or non-profit entities representing them.

(b) Public sector organizations and Native American organizations, including:

(1) American Indian tribes;

(2) Local governments; and

(3) State agencies.

(c) Technical assistance grant funds may not be awarded to private individuals or for profit organizations.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7983, Mar. 1, 1996]

**§307.13 Selection process.**

(a) Projects will be selected in accordance with §304.1 of this chapter.

(b) EDA may during the course of the year, identify specific economic development technical assistance activities it wishes to have conducted. Organizations and individuals interested in being invited to respond to Solicitations of Applications (SOAs) to conduct such studies should submit information on their capabilities and experience. See the annual FY NOFA for the appropriate point of contact and address.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7983, Mar. 1, 1996]

**§307.14 Evaluation criteria.**

In addition to and/or as an elaboration of the evaluation criteria described in part 304 of this chapter and to the extent practicable, evaluation criteria include whether the project:

(a) Does not depend upon further EDA or other Federal funding assistance to achieve results;

(b) Strengthens the capability of state and local organizations and institutions, including non-profit development groups, to undertake and promote effective economic development programs targeted to people and areas of distress;

(c) Benefits severely distressed areas including both rural and urban counties and communities;

(d) Diversifies distressed economies;

(e) Demonstrates innovative approaches to stimulating economic development in depressed areas.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7983, Mar. 1, 1996]

**§ 307.15 Award requirements.**

(a) Assistance will be for the period of time required to complete the scope of the work. This typically does not exceed twelve months.

(b) EDA will provide grants and cooperative agreements not to exceed 75 percent of the proposed project costs. Applicants are expected to provide the remaining share. EDA may waive all or part of the 25 percent share of technical assistance grants if it determines that the nonfederal share is not reasonably available because of the critical nature of the situation requiring technical assistance or for other good cause.

(c) Quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports and project products will be specified in the Special Award Conditions of the grant.

### Subpart D—Research and Evaluation

**§ 307.16 Purpose and scope.**

The purposes of research and evaluation projects are as follows:

(a) To determine the causes of unemployment, underemployment, underdevelopment, and chronic depression in various areas and regions of the Nation;

(b) To assist in the formulation and implementation of national, state, and local programs that will raise employment and income levels and otherwise produce solutions to problems resulting from the above conditions; and

(c) To evaluate the effectiveness of programs, projects, and techniques used to alleviate economic distress and promote economic development.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7983, Mar. 1, 1996]

**§ 307.17 Eligible applicants.**

Eligible applicants for Research and Evaluation grants or cooperative agreements include:

- (a) Private individuals;
- (b) Partnerships;
- (c) Corporations;
- (d) Associations;
- (e) Colleges and universities; and
- (f) Other suitable organizations with expertise relevant to economic development research. Research funds may

not be used to start or expand a private business.

**§ 307.18 Selection process.**

(a) Projects will be selected in accordance with § 304.1 of this chapter.

(b) EDA may during the course of the year, identify specific research or program evaluation projects it wishes to have conducted. Organizations and individuals interested in being invited to respond to SOAs to conduct such studies should submit information on their capabilities and experience. See the annual FY NOFA for the appropriate point of contact and address.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7983, Mar. 1, 1996]

**§ 307.19 Evaluation criteria.**

In addition to and/or as an elaboration of the evaluation criteria set forth in part 304 of this chapter and to the extent practicable, EDA will use the following criteria to evaluate research and evaluation proposals:

- (a) Suitability of the subject;
- (b) Potential usefulness of the research to state and local economic development officials and specialists;
- (c) General quality and clarity of the proposal;
- (d) Soundness and completeness of the research methodology; and
- (e) Total cost and value of proposed product in relation to cost.

**§ 307.20 Research topics and structure.**

(a) EDA is interested in receiving proposals dealing with:

- (1) Employment and unemployment;
- (2) Income and poverty;
- (3) Rural and nonmetropolitan economic development;
- (4) Urban economic development; or
- (5) Regional and local growth and competitiveness.

(b) Requests should be for specific, well-defined, one-time research projects. EDA research grants are not intended for support of continuing programs (permanent research programs, publication and information programs, periodic forecasts, etc.), or for non-research activities.

(c) EDA normally prefers research of broad geographical scope.

(d) Preference will normally be given to practical cause-and-effect research

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(including hypothesis testing models) and descriptive analyses, as opposed to theoretical studies, forecasting models, and “how to” guides.

[60 FR 49678, Sept. 26, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 7983, Mar. 1, 1996]

**§ 307.21 Award requirements.**

(a) Assistance under this program will normally be for a period not exceeding 15 months.

(b) EDA will provide grants and cooperative agreements covering up to 100 percent of project costs.

**Subpart E—Economic Development Districts, American Indian Tribes and Redevelopment Areas—Economic Development Planning Grants**

**§ 307.22 Purpose and scope.**

The primary objective of planning assistance for administrative expenses is to support the formulation and implementation of economic development planning programs designed to create or retain permanent jobs and income, particularly for the unemployed and underemployed in the most distressed areas. Planning activities supported by these administrative funds must be part of a permanent and continuous process involving significant leadership by public officials and private citizens.

**§ 307.23 Definitions.**

(a) Category A grants means those made to Economic Development Districts and Redevelopment Areas; and

(b) Category B grants means those made to American Indian Tribes.

**§ 307.24 Applicants.**

Eligible applicants are economic development district organizations, redevelopment areas, organizations representing redevelopment areas (or parts of such areas), American Indian tribes, organizations representing multiple American Indian tribes, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

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**§ 307.25 Selection process.**

EDA invites currently funded grantees to apply if they are in compliance with their current financial assistance awards. EDA will select projects in accordance with § 304.1 of this chapter.

**§ 307.26 Evaluation criteria.**

(a) In addition to and/or as an elaboration of the evaluation criteria set forth in part 304 of this chapter and to the extent practicable, EDA will evaluate applicants on the following:

(1) Quality of the proposed work program;

(2) Management and staff capacity and qualifications;

(3) Involvement of the local leadership in the applicant's economic development activities; and

(b) Previously funded grantees, in addition to the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section, will be evaluated on the basis of the quality of their past performance.

**§ 307.27 Award requirements.**

(a) Assistance will normally be for a 12-month period.

(b) Grant assistance may be provided for up to 75 percent of project costs for Category A grants with the applicant required to provide the remaining share from non-federal sources. Category B grant assistance may be provided for up to 100 percent of project costs.

(c) EDA will make annual determinations of satisfactory performance, and periodically conduct on-site performance appraisals.

**§ 307.28 Limitations.**

(a) Except as set forth in paragraph (b) of this section, no planning grants to economic development district organizations will be extended unless at least three-fourths of the counties within the district boundaries indicate, by resolution or other appropriate document, their commitment to support the activities of the district.

(b) Where a sufficient number of counties have withdrawn from the district to make compliance with this three-fourths requirement impossible or unreasonable, EDA may fund the continuing committed counties in the

name of the original district organization if EDA determines that the remaining counties can meet the requirements for authorizing and designating economic development districts, as set forth at part 302 of this chapter.

### Subpart F—State and Urban Economic Development Planning Grants

#### § 307.29 Purpose and scope.

Planning assistance is to strengthen significant economic development planning capability and initiatives of eligible applicants to ensure a more productive use of available resources in reducing the effects of economic problems by formulation and implementation of an economic development program. Assistance must be part of a continuous process involving significant local leadership from public officials and private citizens and should include efforts to reduce unemployment and increase incomes. These efforts should be systematic and coordinated when applicable, with other planning organizations in the area, and should strengthen the planning capabilities of applicants.

#### § 307.30 Applicants.

Eligible applicants under this program are as follows:

- (a) Governors or agencies so designated by Governors of States;
- (b) Chief executive officers of cities or counties, or their designated agencies or organizations; and
- (c) Sub-state planning and development organizations (including redevelopment areas and economic development districts).

#### § 307.31 Selection process.

Projects will be selected in accordance with § 304.1 of this chapter.

#### § 307.32 Evaluation criteria.

In addition to and/or as an elaboration of the evaluation criteria set forth in part 304 of this chapter and to the extent practicable, EDA will evaluate projects on the following:

- (a) Overall quality of the proposal;
- (b) Extent to which the proposed planning activities are expected to:

(1) Impact upon the service area's economic development needs; and

(2) Address the problems of the unemployed and underemployed of the area, including minorities, workers displaced by plant closings, etc.;

(c) The proximity of the performing office to the chief executive (i.e., likelihood that the activities will have a significant influence on the policy and decision making process);

(d) Past performance of currently or formerly funded grantees, when applicable;

(e) The amount of local participation provided as matching share to the Federal funds; and

(f) Other characteristics, such as involvement of the private sector businesses and professional groups in the proposed activities, and particularly for states, the innovativeness of the proposed approach and replicability of the model process or results.

#### § 307.33 Award requirements.

(a) Assistance will be for the period of time required to complete the work. This period is normally 12 to 18 months.

(b) Grant assistance may be provided for up to 75 percent of project costs. Applicants will be required to provide the remaining share, preferably in cash.

### PART 308—REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTS UNDER THE TITLE IX ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM

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- 308.1 Purpose and scope.
- 308.2 Use of economic adjustment grants.
- 308.3 Eligible applicants.
- 308.4 Eligible areas.
- 308.5 Selection process.
- 308.6 Evaluation factors.
- 308.7 Award requirements.

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SOURCE: 60 FR 49692, Sept. 26, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 308.1 Purpose and scope.

(a) The Economic Adjustment Program addresses the particular needs of