



Responding to HUD's Requests for Information

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

On December 20, 2022, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published two Requests for Information (RFIs). The RFIs seek public input to strengthen and improve requirements and the allocation formula for entities receiving and implementing Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding.

The RFIs can be viewed in the Federal Register at:

- Request for Information for HUD's Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Rules, Waivers, and Alternative Requirements (FR-6336-N-01): <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-12-20/pdf/2022-27547.pdf>
- Request for Information Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Formula (FR-6337-N-01): <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-12-20/pdf/2022-27548.pdf>

The RFIs can be viewed in Spanish on HUD.gov at:

- [Solicitud de información sobre las reglas, exenciones y requisitos alternativos de la Subvención Global de Desarrollo Comunitario para la Recuperación en Casos de Desastre \(CDBG-DR\) de HUD](#)
- [Solicitud de información sobre la fórmula de la Subvención Global de Desarrollo Comunitario para la Recuperación en Casos de Desastre \(CDBG-DR\)](#)





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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

Q1. What is the purpose of each RFI?

A1: The purpose of the RFI for HUD's CDBG-DR Rules, Waivers, and Alternative Requirements ([FR-6336-N-01](#)) is to solicit feedback to inform how the Department can modify, expand, streamline, or remove CDBG-DR rules and requirements with the goals of:

- Expediting long-term resilient recovery,
- Reducing, or eliminating barriers for impacted beneficiaries,
- Ensuring equitable community recovery, and
- Simplifying compliance for CDBG-DR grantees within its statutory authority.

Additionally, HUD seeks information and recommendations to reduce the administrative burden for those receiving and implementing CDBG-DR funding after a disaster to accelerate the availability of assistance to disaster survivors and affected communities.

The purpose of the RFI for HUD's CDBG-DR Allocation Formula ([FR-6337-N-01](#)) is to solicit feedback on the current allocation methodology. With very few exceptions, HUD allocates CDBG-DR funds by formula to satisfy statutory requirements. The formula has evolved over time depending on the type of disasters, the amount of funding available, policy priorities of different Administrations, and the data available immediately after a disaster. Feedback from this RFI will help the Department learn how it can improve the allocation formula for future CDBG-DR allocations.

Q2. How will public feedback be incorporated?

A2: Congress is considering legislation that would formally authorize CDBG-DR as a permanent program. In the event Congress authorizes the program, the RFIs will inform rule making. If the program is not authorized, HUD anticipates that Congress will continue to appropriate CDBG-DR funds. Therefore, the feedback received from the RFIs will inform improvements to the allocation formula and a "Universal Notice" that will standardize the CDBG-DR process. Interested parties are encouraged to use HUD's Consolidated Notice as a reference for the future, comprehensive notice. HUD's Consolidated Notice can be found in Appendix B of the Federal Register Notices published on February 3, 2022 ([87 FR 6364](#)), May 24, 2022 ([87 FR 31636](#)), and January 18, 2023 ([88 FR 3198](#)).

Q3. What is the deadline for submitting feedback?

A3: Both RFIs have a 60-day public comment period with a deadline of February 21, 2023.



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Q4. Who should submit public comments?

A4: HUD encourages participation from disaster survivors, Federal, state, local, and Tribal governments, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector including small businesses, and other stakeholders (e.g., emergency managers; renters; homeowners; multifamily-housing owners; public-housing agencies; academic researchers; urban planners; engineers; fair housing professionals; disaster recovery professionals; and organizations that advocate for affordable housing, members of protected classes, vulnerable populations, and underserved communities).

Q5. How do I provide feedback?

A5: Interested parties can submit comments electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> or by mail to the Regulations Division, Office of General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 10276, Washington, DC 20410–0500. HUD strongly encourages commenters to submit their feedback and recommendations electronically.

To help you prepare your comments, please see the How Do I Prepare Effective Comments segment of the Commenting on HUD Rules web page, https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/general_counsel/Commenting-On-HUD-Rules#1. While that web page is written for commenting on regulatory proposals, these tips are generally applicable to this RFI. Additionally, Spanish readers can translate this information on HUD.gov by selecting “Español” at the top right corner of the screen. HUD’s translation feature works best when using Google Chrome.

Q6. What format should my feedback be submitted in?

A6: All submissions must refer to the docket number and title of the RFI. Additionally, each individual or organization’s submission is limited to 10 pages in 12-point or larger font. Commenters are also encouraged to identify the number of the specific question(s) to which they are responding.

Q7. Am I required to answer all of the questions in the RFI to participate?

A7: No. The list of questions in the RFIs are a non-exhaustive list and is intended to assist commenters in formulating their responses. This list is not intended to limit the issues or topics that commenters may address. However, the list focuses on changes that are generally within HUD’s statutory authority.