

Category	Number	Question	Response	Date Published	Date Revised
Eligibility	1	How do I calculate the unemployment distressed eligibility criterion for my local government?	Your local government must have an average unemployment rate of 9 percent or more over the past three years when calculated using American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates to meet this criterion. <u>Instructions:</u> View the "Employment Status" Table, click on the "Geographies" button above the table, and search for your community. Make sure you find the data for the three most recent ACS 5-Year tables. These can be selected using the "product" dropdown menu. https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=unemployment&tid=ACSST5Y2018.S2301&hidePreview=true	7/23/21	N/A
Eligibility	2	How do I calculate the poverty distressed eligibility criterion for my local government?	Your local government must have a poverty rate of 20 percent or more among individuals not enrolled in higher education, as of the most recent ACS 5-Year Estimates to meet this criterion. <u>Instructions:</u> View the "Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by School Enrollment by Level of School for the Population 3 Years and Over" Table, click on the "Geographies" button above the table, and search for your community. The calculation of the poverty rate should not include individuals enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs, which are listed under their own columns. https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=B14006%3A%20POVERTY%20STATUS%20IN%20THE%20PAST%2012%20MONTHS%20BY%20SCHOOL%20ENROLLMENT%20BY%20LEVEL%20OF%20SCHOOL%20FOR%20THE%20POPULATION%203%20YEARS%20AND%20OVER&tid=ACSST5Y2017.B14006&hidePreview=true	7/23/21	N/A
Eligibility	3	How do I calculate the population decline distressed eligibility criterion for my local government?	Your local government must have a population decline of 5 percent or more between the 2010 Decennial Census and the most recent ACS 5-Year Estimates to meet this criterion. <u>Instructions:</u> View the Decennial Census data and the ACS 5-Year Estimates for your community. <u>Decennial Census data:</u> https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=population&tid=DECENNIALSF12010.P1&hidePreview=true <u>ACS 5-Year Estimates:</u> https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=population&tid=ACSDP1Y2017.DP05&hidePreview=true	7/29/21	N/A
Eligibility	4	How do I calculate persistent poverty for census tract(s) in my local government?	This is currently calculated using the 2000 Decennial Census and the 2006-2010 and 2015-2019 5-Year ACS datasets. Please note, the 2020 Decennial Census will replace the 2015-2019 5-Year ACS data when they become available. <u>2000 Decennial Census:</u> Variables P087002 (total under the poverty level in 1999) and P087001 (total population) can be used for the 2000 rate. <u>2006 - 2010 5-Year ACS:</u> Poverty status in the past 12 months (B17025_001E) divided by the total population (B17025_002E). <u>2015 - 2019 5-Year ACS:</u> Poverty status in the past 12 months (B17025_001E) divided by the total population (B17025_002E). Any tract that has 20% or higher poverty rate for all three years.	7/29/21	N/A
Eligibility	5	Why does DCTA focus on local governments serving communities with less than 50,000 people?	Local governments with 50,000 or more people are entitlement communities and tend to receive resources directly from the federal government and HUD. DCTA intends to directly provide capacity building technical assistance to smaller local governments that typically do not receive resources directly from the federal government.	7/29/21	N/A
Eligibility	6	How do I determine my local government's total population?	Please visit https://data.census.gov to locate the total population for your community according to the latest American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.	7/29/21	N/A
Eligibility	7	What types of activities are eligible under the Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA) Program?	Most local governments that participate in HUD's DCTA program will be asked to engage with a capacity needs assessment (CNA). This helps HUD, the technical assistance (TA) provider, and the local government to explore and better understand the challenges that need to be addressed. Following the CNA, most local governments will participate in engagements specifically designed for them, based on the CNA. This may include training, developing tools, establishing protocols and procedures, or establishing cross-sector working groups. DCTA is not intended to provide funding for staffing positions or building physical infrastructure (e.g. sidewalks, case managers, etc.). However, this TA might be used to rethink a local government's administrative structure or strategic plan (including a hiring schedule and assistance developing appropriate job descriptions for the needed positions), developing strategies for leveraging private sector investment, or existing federal grant programs to finance crucial community development projects, such as sidewalks in a low-income neighborhood.	7/29/21	N/A

Category	Number	Question	Response	Date Published	Date Revised
Eligibility	8	If U.S. Census data is not representative of my community, may I use alternate data sources to demonstrate that my community meets the eligibility criteria?	The DCTA Team understands that Census data may not reflect recent changes in a small community’s economic and population situation, especially in communities that were affected by natural disaster. If you have alternate state or local data from a reputable data source, you may use this data to demonstrate your Unit of General Local Government’s (UGLG’s) eligibility for this program. You must include detailed information about the alternate data source and the statistics calculated by this alternate source in your emailed request. Please also include the Census data and a statement explaining why it is not representative of your community.	7/29/21	N/A
Eligibility	9	Does a community need to meet all three distressed criteria to be considered eligible under Category 1?	A community only needs to meet the economically distressed criteria for one of three areas (unemployment rate, poverty rate, or population decline). Meeting more than one criterion will not impact prioritization. However, if a community meets both an economically distressed criterion (Category 1) and includes census tracts experiencing persistent poverty (Category 2), this may increase prioritization and TA resources that are available.	7/29/21	N/A
Eligibility	10	Is there a minimum community population size for a local government to be eligible for Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA)?	DCTA will prioritize communities with populations between 8,000 and 40,000 people. The DCTA Team is working on alternative resources to assist communities with populations under 8,000. Communities whose populations are smaller than 8,000 but believe their Unit of General Local Government (UGLG or local government) (e.g. town, village) has capacity to engage in and receive sustainable technical assistance (TA) may submit a request. If this applies to your community, please include information about your local government leadership support and staff capacity in your request email. Please note, the direct recipient of the TA must be a local government (e.g. county, city, or tribe). If the community does not have a local governing body, this program may not be an appropriate TA option. Please contact distressedcities@hud.gov for further guidance.	7/29/21	N/A
Eligibility	11	What types of entities or organizations are eligible to receive technical assistance under the Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA) program?	The direct recipients of DCTA will be Units of General Local Government (UGLGs or local governments) (cities, townships, counties, parishes, villages, etc.) and tribal governments. UGLG equivalents in U.S. territories (e.g. districts, counties, or municipalities) may also be eligible to receive DCTA. The entity that receives the technical assistance must either directly govern the community or be directly involved in policy making and/or program development for that community. As of HUD fiscal year 2022, nonprofit organizations may receive technical assistance through this program by partnering with their associated local government.	7/29/21	N/A
Eligibility	12	Can tribal governments be eligible for Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA)?	Yes. Tribal governments that meet Category 1 (economically distressed) and/or Category 2 (experiencing persistent poverty) criteria that have fewer than 50,000 people are eligible for DCTA.	7/29/21	N/A
Eligibility	13	Are local governments in the U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa) eligible for the Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA)?	All local governments in U.S. territories may be considered for this technical assistance. We recognize that local governments in these territories are not found in the list of Units of General Local Government (UGLGs), and we also recognize that the Census data HUD is using to determine eligibility may not be available for some of these communities. HUD will work with representatives of these communities to determine eligibility. Please contact distressedcities@hud.gov for further guidance if you are a representative of a local government in a U.S. territory.	7/29/21	N/A
Outreach	14	I work in a HUD Field Office and want to share Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA) Program opportunities with local governments in my service area, what should I do?	You may wish to work with your Field Office Director, Public Housing Director, and Community Planning and Development Director to reach out to county and city government leaders in your service area. Remember, DCTA is prioritized for local governments whose population is between 8,000 and 50,000. The DCTA Team strongly encourages you to visit the Distressed Cities Technical Assistance page on the HUD.gov – where the most up-to-date information may be found about this program. If you would like to request a briefing for your HUD office on this program, please send an email to distressedcities@hud.gov.	7/29/21	N/A

Category	Number	Question	Response	Date Published	Date Revised
Process	15	How will HUD determine who gets technical assistance?	<p>The Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA) Team reviews requests for assistance on a case-by-case basis using a formalized process. This begins with whether the applicant represents a Unit of General Local Government (UGLG or local government) or tribal government, and whether the community meets the selection criteria (economically distressed or experiencing persistent poverty, and population size). For more information on these criteria, as well as instructions for submitting requests for technical assistance, please visit the Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance page on the HUD.gov.</p> <p>The DCTA Team will also evaluate the local government’s capacity to receive and benefit from DCTA in a sustainable way, the tenure and priorities of local/tribal government leadership, and the local/tribal government’s previous interactions with HUD. These previous interactions with HUD may include conversations with the local HUD office. Please note that the funding for this program is limited and not every request from eligible applicants will be selected for technical assistance under the DCTA program.</p>	7/29/21	N/A
Process	16	Is there a deadline for applying for Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA)?	<p>There is no deadline for applying. We will continue to review applications for assistance until the funding runs out. Please note that not all requests for assistance will be approved.</p> <p>We encourage you to submit your application at a time when you have the capacity to work with HUD’s technical assistance (TA) provider. Communities with stable leadership, management and staff that are committed to engaging with HUD and the TA provider will be prioritized for TA.</p>	7/29/21	N/A