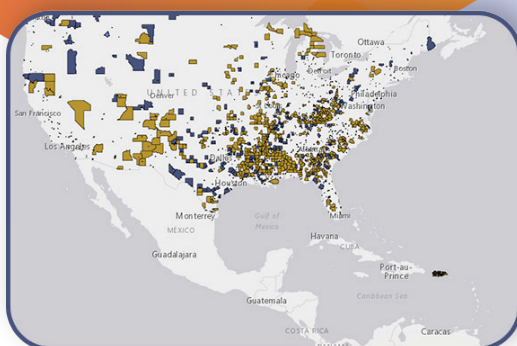


DISTRESSED CITIES AND PERSISTENT POVERTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



The Distressed Cities and Persistent Poverty Technical Assistance (DCTA) program is designed to build capacity of local governments experiencing economic distress and assist local governments and their nonprofit partners in alleviating persistent poverty in specific areas. Through DCTA, HUD provides technical assistance (TA) directly to entities serving smaller communities with populations under 50,000.



Visit HUD's interactive eligibility map to see if your local government is eligible!

[Click HERE to view map](#)

For this program, ***"economically distressed"*** local governments have:

MINIMUM: 9%



- an average **unemployment rate** of 9 percent or higher over the past three years using American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates;

MINIMUM: 20%



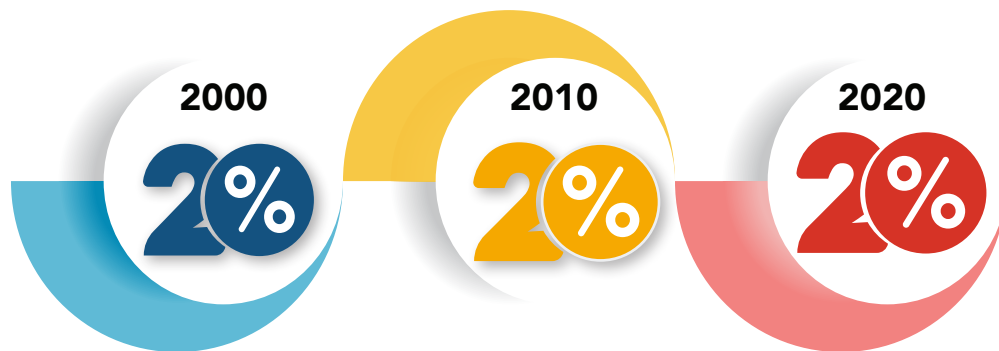
- a **poverty rate** of 20 percent or higher among individuals not enrolled in higher education as of the most recent ACS 5-year estimates, or

MINIMUM: 5%



- a **population decline** of 5 percent or higher between the 2010 Decennial Census and most recent ACS 5-Year estimates.

For this program, areas experiencing **"persistent poverty"** means:
A census tract with a poverty rate of 20 percent or higher over the past 30 years.



Examples of local governments:

- Tribes
- Villages
- Towns
- Cities
- Counties
- Municipalities

DCTA considers good fiscal health, strong financial performance, and effective financial management practices to be the foundation for successful implementation of projects and progression towards goals. Therefore, these are central components of the TA offered through this program.

Other possible areas of TA under the DCTA program include governance and management, leadership development, data and research, building partnerships, community engagement, strategic planning, plan implementation, and program evaluation.

Most DCTA recipients work on building capacity in the areas listed above by identifying a priority challenge or opportunity they would like to make progress on. See examples on the following page.



What is technical assistance (TA)?

Guidance which enables recipients to overcome a lack of specific skills or knowledge and, by doing so, become more successful in meeting the needs of their communities. TA is the transfer of skills and knowledge to entities that may need, but do not possess, such skills and knowledge.

CHALLENGE OR OPPORTUNITY <i>Identified by recipient (local government)</i>	ASSESSMENT <i>TA Provider assesses capacity in specific areas based on the identified challenge or opportunity</i>	TA ACTIVITIES <i>Tailored capacity building support is provided to pursue the opportunity or address the challenge</i>	DESIRED OUTCOME <i>A goal the recipient is working towards with the TA</i>
Challenge: chronic disinvestment in downtown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing partnerships Community assets Demographics Planning documents Economic development history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist in development of local program to support small business owners. Provide guidance on strategy for attracting larger employers. 	<p>Establish a coalition of local businesses and organizations invested in improving downtown.</p> <p>Secure funding for main street store façade restoration.</p>
Opportunity: state CDBG-DR funds will be made available through a competitive process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiscal health Financial management practices Community background 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support in remedying recent adverse financial audit findings. Training in grant management. Support in reviewing funding opportunities and drafting a competitive application. 	Local government receives CDBG-DR funds for identified projects.

REQUEST TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Local governments may submit requests via the online form available at:

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/cpdt/dcta

There is currently no deadline to request assistance. Submitting a request early is highly encouraged to better ensure HUD has resources and capacity to approve the request.

Beginning in fall of 2021, local governments may partner with other local governments and/or local nonprofit organization(s) to receive TA through the DCTA program. Partner nonprofit organizations must be established 501(c)3 organizations with a history of working to alleviate poverty in the local government's jurisdiction.

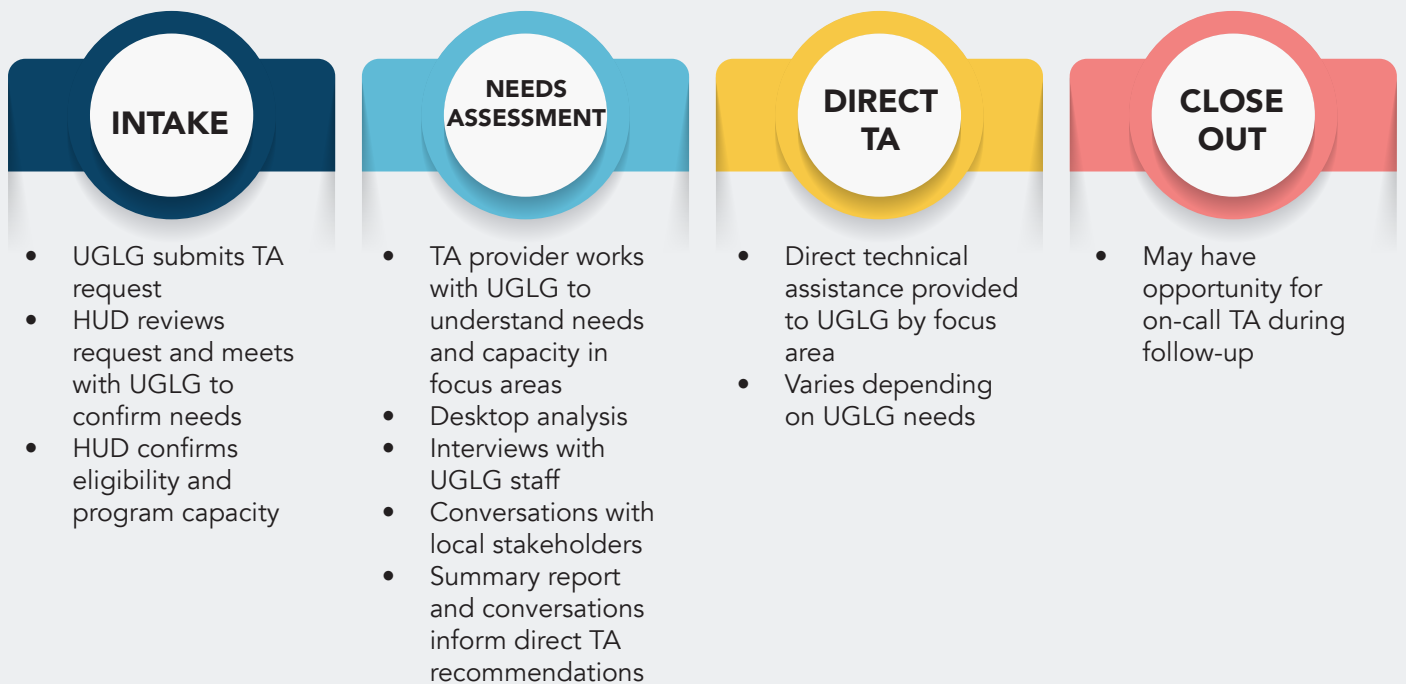


BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN THE DCTA PROGRAM

This program is designed to help small local governments and their nonprofit partners:

- Improve Financial Management: Adopt effective, efficient, and sustainable (long-term) financial management practices that improve fiscal health
- Improve Internal Processes: Based on the local government and nonprofit's needs, improve internal processes, such as:
 - Developing financial policies and procedures
 - Gathering and analyzing data that is representative of the community
 - Implementing or tracking progress of recently adopted planning documents
 - Building cross-sector partnerships
 - Establishing equitable community engagement practices
- Build Program Capacity: Based on the local government's interests, build capacity program areas, such as:
 - Creating opportunities for economic revitalization and growth
 - Planning for economic stabilization and recovery post disaster (including prolonged disasters and public health crises)
 - Strategizing around housing and community development projects, including identifying funding
 - Leveraging federal development programs such as opportunity zones

PHASES OF THE DCTA ENGAGEMENT



** The timeline for each phase depends on the scale and challenge of the needs for each engagement. The average duration of engagement is estimated to be 18 months.*

MORE INFORMATION/QUESTIONS

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/cpdta/dcta

Email: distressedcities@hud.gov

