



**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

Policy Development and Research

HUDRD - Wildfire Recovery and Resilience

FR-6600-N-29B

07/19/2022

# Table of Contents

Summary .....	3
Overview .....	3
I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION.....	4
A. Program Description. ....	4
B. Authority. ....	21
II. Award Information. ....	21
A. Available Funds .....	21
B. Number of Awards. ....	21
C. Minimum/Maximum Award Information .....	21
D. Period of Performance.....	22
E. Type of Funding Instrument. ....	22
III. Eligibility Information. ....	22
A. Eligible Applicants.....	22
B. Ineligible Applicants. ....	22
C. Cost Sharing or Matching.....	23
D. Threshold Eligibility Requirements. ....	23
E. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility. ....	24
F. Program-Specific Requirements. ....	25
G. Criteria for Beneficiaries.....	25
IV. Application and Submission Information. ....	25
A. Obtaining an Application Package.....	25
B. Content and Form of Application Submission. ....	26
C. System for Award Management (SAM) and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number. ....	27
D. Application Submission Dates and Times. ....	28
E. Intergovernmental Review. ....	31
F. Funding Restrictions.....	31
G. Other Submission Requirements.....	32
V. Application Review Information.....	33
A. Review Criteria. ....	33
B. Review and Selection Process.....	38
VI. Award Administration Information. ....	39
A. Award Notices.....	39

B. Administrative, National and Department Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Recipients Financial Assistance Awards ..... 40

C. Reporting..... 41

D. Debriefing..... 42

VII. Agency Contact(s)..... 42

VIII. Other Information..... 42

APPENDIX..... 43

**Program Office:**

Policy Development and Research

**Funding Opportunity Title:**

HUDRD - Wildfire Recovery and Resilience

**Funding Opportunity Number:**

FR-6600-N-29B

**Assistance Listing Number:**

14.536

**Due Date for Applications:**

07/19/2022

**Summary**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Strategic Plan sets the direction and focus of our programs and staff to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality, affordable homes for all.

**HUD's Strategic Goals**

HUD's FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan lays out this administration's strategy for ensuring everyone has an affordable, healthy place to live. Over the course of the next four years HUD will pursue two overarching priorities focused on increasing equity and improving customer experience across all HUD programs. Five strategic goals undergird the Plan as follows:

- Strategic Goal 1: Support Underserved Communities
- Strategic Goal 2: Ensure Access to and Increase the Production of Affordable Housing
- Strategic Goal 3: Promote Homeownership
- Strategic Goal 4: Advance Sustainable Communities
- Strategic Goal 5: Strengthen HUD's Internal Capacity

The five goals of the FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan present the core vision of what we hope to accomplish, the strategies to accomplish those objectives, and the indicators of success.

**Overview**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issues this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to invite applications from eligible applicants for the program and purpose described within this NOFO. Prospective applicants should carefully read all instructions in all sections to avoid sending an incomplete or ineligible application. HUD funding is highly competitive. Failure to respond accurately to any submission requirement could result in an incomplete or noncompetitive proposal.

During the selection process HUD is prohibited from disclosing 1) information regarding any applicant's relative standing, 2) the amount of assistance requested by an applicant, and 3) any information contained in the application. Prior to the application deadline, HUD may not disclose the identity of any applicant or the number of applicants that have applied for assistance.

For Further Information Regarding this NOFO: Please direct questions regarding the specific

requirements of this NOFO to the office contact identified in Section VII.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement.** The information collection requirements in this notice have been approved by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, HUD may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid OMB control number. Each NOFO will identify its applicable OMB control number unless its collection of information is excluded from these requirements under [5 CFR part 1320](#).

**OMB Approval Number(s):**  
2528-0299

## **I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION.**

### **A. Program Description.**

- **Purpose**

This NOFO announces the availability of \$600,000 to study the effectiveness of disaster recovery funding after wildfire. HUD anticipates awarding one or more cooperative agreements. The goal of the research is to increase the capacity of communities affected by wildfire to use disaster assistance to enhance resilience to wildfire, especially the resilience of low- and moderate-income persons and communities. HUD anticipates the need for such knowledge because in recent years wildfire disasters have become more frequent and destructive and HUD has sharply increased allocations of disaster assistance for wildfires through the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) and Community Development Block Grant-Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) programs (see Table 1 in the Related Documents).

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 provided HUD funding to study the effectiveness of its disaster recovery funding. To find out how disaster assistance, including CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT grants, can be used more effectively during recovery to enhance resilience to wildfires, HUD will award one or more cooperative agreements for studies of communities in the American West affected by presidentially declared wildfire disasters that occurred in 2017 or later. To be considered for funding, a study must include at least one community that received CDBG-DR or CDBG-MIT funding, but may also include one or more communities that did not receive such funding as part of a comparative analysis.

HUD is soliciting proposals that use a community studies method to examine positive, negative, and neutral effects of disaster assistance on the resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities. HUD seeks proposals that will consider both biophysical factors (e.g., defensible space, location of buildings) and social factors (e.g., insurance coverage, education) that affect resilience to wildfire, including actions that may be individual (e.g., putting a new roof on your home, having a get-away bag at your front door) and collective (e.g., building codes and enforcement, free chipper days). “Community studies method” means an observational study that uses multiple data sources to investigate a problem within the context of other behavior and attitudes within a community (adapted from Arensberg, 1954). HUD will consider both retrospective and prospective studies for funding.

### **Background and Policy Relevance of Wildfire to HUD’s Disaster Recovery Funding**

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260, approved December 27, 2020) gave HUD funding to study the effectiveness of disaster recovery funding. This NOFO solicits proposals to study the effectiveness of disaster recovery funding after wildfire disasters. The goal of the research is to reveal opportunities to use disaster assistance grants more effectively to enhance the resilience of low- and moderate-income persons and communities to wildfire.

Historically, the American people have relied on forest management and fire suppression to manage wildfire risk. Federal funding for wildfire recovery and mitigation mostly has been dedicated to immediate response (e.g., FEMA funds) and fuels reduction (e.g., US Forest Service funding). Today we need additional tools, such as land use planning, fire-resistant construction, and fire-adapted communities (Pinchot Institute, 2002; Schoennagel, 2017; U.S. Departments of Interior and Agriculture, 2014). Federal wildfire policy now makes community adaptation to wildfire a cornerstone of policy (Pinchot Institute, 2002; U.S. Departments of Interior and Agriculture, 2014). The federal National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, finalized in 2014, has three goals: (1) resilient landscapes, (2) fire-adapted communities, and (3) safe and effective wildfire response.<sup>[1]</sup> In other words, today's federal wildland fire policy is premised on much more than fire suppression. It recognizes the positive ecological role of fire, and requires people to act individually and collectively to prepare for, and to mitigate, negative impacts of wildfire.

HUD's disaster assistance funds, awarded as CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT grants, could be a useful resource for supporting community adaptation to wildfire, especially for enhancing the resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons. Congress appropriates disaster recovery funds to HUD in response to specific disasters and the funds are flexible, facilitate local control, and must benefit primarily low- and moderate-income persons and communities. CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT grants must be used for purposes that tie back to the specific disaster for which they were appropriated, but potential uses are broad and the funds are intended to support long-term recovery. CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT grants typically

- Provide significant funding additional to other federal disaster response funding
- Are tied to Presidential declarations of major disaster
- Are often used to cover a grantee's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) cost share requirements
- Provide funds to cover needs not addressed by FEMA and Small Business Administration (SBA) disbursements
- Allow uses eligible under the regular CDBG program, which include a broad range of activities such as planning and capacity building, economic development, and relocation of displaced persons, among several others (Cecire and Jaroscak, 2020; HUD, 2001)

Recently, there has been a sharp increase in the number of wildfire disasters that receive CDBG-DR or CDBG-MIT funds. Grants from these programs went to only 15 of the 61 wildfire major disasters declared since 1992 (when CDBG-DR started). The first wildfire disaster to receive such funds was in 2003. As of this writing, 7 of the 15 wildfire major disasters that received CDBG-DR or CDBG-MIT allocations occurred in 2017 or later. (See Table 1 in the Related Documents for a list of presidentially declared wildfire disasters and associated CDBG-DR grants.) Of the \$90 billion in disaster recovery funding awarded by HUD since 1992, only about

\$2.4 billion went to wildfire disasters—and most of that (\$1.9 billion, or 79 percent) was awarded for wildfire disasters that occurred during or after 2017.[2]

The 2017 so-called “Wine Country” fires in California led to \$162 million in CDBG-DR grant funds. The Thomas Fire started in 2017 in Ventura County, CA and was followed by massive mudslides in Montecito in 2018, resulting in \$88 million in CDBG-DR funds. Wildfires and high winds in California in August of 2018 (including the Carr and Mendocino Complex fires) led to a CDBG-DR grant of \$491 million. The Camp Fire, which incinerated more than 18,000 structures in Butte County (including most of Paradise, CA) in winter of 2018 resulted in a grant of \$525 million in CDBG-DR funds. Wildfires in California in 2020 led to a grant of \$231 million. In Oregon in 2020, the Alameda Drive and Santiam Fires substantially destroyed the towns of Phoenix, Talent, Detroit, and Gates, resulting in a CDBG-DR grant of \$422 million (See Table 1 in the Related Documents).

Forest scientists predict that due to a combination of forest conditions and climate change, very large wildfires will continue to become more frequent (Cobian-Iñiguez, Gollner, and Kolden, 2020; Hessburg et al., 2021; Parks and Abatzoglu, 2020; Pyne, 1997; Schoennagel, 2017; Singleton et al., 2019; Weber et al., N.D.). Between 1983 and 2014, the total number of acres burned in one year by wildfires was usually under 5,000,000 and never exceeded 10,000,000. In 2015 wildfires burned more than 10,000,000 acres; this happened again in 2017 and 2020 ([Wildfires and Acres | National Interagency Fire Center \(nifc.gov\)](#)).[3]

We do not have the tools to suppress very large fires effectively, and increased building in the wildland-urban interface (WUI)—areas where human development and wildland vegetation meet or mingle—exposes more homes to wildfires (Radeloff et al., 2018). Homes burned down by wildfire in WUI areas are likely to be rebuilt or replaced by new construction (Mockrin et al., 2016; Kramer et al., 2021). Locations with past wildfires are at risk of experiencing similar fires again.

In the years after 2010 and especially after 2015, wildfires consumed a large number of structures. For instance, as of May 2022, 15 of California’s top 20 most destructive fires were in 2015 or later (CalFire, [fire.ca.gov](#)).[4] The value of structures destroyed in California’s 2015 fire season was so high that insurance companies, and California’s Department of Insurance, worried *for the first time* that pay-outs related to wildfires in California might become an unacceptable risk.[5] Previously, wildfires annually destroyed only a few hundred or a few thousand structures. In 2015 and again in 2016, wildfires burned more than 4,000 structures. In 2017, wildfires incinerated nearly 13,000 structures, followed by 25,000 in 2018, and 18,000 in 2020 (<https://headwaterseconomics.org/natural-hazards/structures-destroyed-by-wildfire/>).

In sum, because of climate change and building patterns, the trend of more frequent, larger fires destroying greater numbers of structures is likely to continue. In the past, the American people relied on fire suppression and fuels reduction to manage wildfire risks, but we lack capacity to effectively and efficiently suppress monster wildland fires—this fact plus increased building in WUI areas means that today we need additional tools to manage wildfire risks, such as land use planning, building and construction codes, and community-based organizing, such as the Washington State Fire-Adapted Communities Learning Network (Alexandre et al., 2016; Kramer

et al., 2018; Schoennagel, 2017; <https://www.fireadaptedwashington.org/>). Community adaptation, moreover, is a cornerstone of federal wildland fire policy (Pinchot Institute, 2002; U.S. Departments of Interior and Agriculture, 2014).

### ***Community Studies of Recovery from Wildfire***

Wildland-urban interface (WUI) communities are diverse. One typology identifies four WUI types: (1) formalized, suburban, (2) high amenity-high resource, (3) rural lifestyle, and (4) working landscape/resource dependent (Paveglio et al., 2014). Even undocumented migrant workers, defined less by geographic boundaries and more by shared social conditions, can be identified as a community with unique responses to wildfire (Mendez, Flores-Haro, and Zucker, 2020). Different community types bring different values and capacities to the problem of managing wildfire risk (Abrams et al., 2015; McCaffrey, 2015; Paveglio and Edgeley, 2017; Rodriguez Mendez, et al., 2003), and risk management programs tailored to local context are more successful (McCaffrey, 2015). Wildfire disasters can be focusing events, but do not *necessarily* lead to policy or behavioral changes that decrease vulnerability to wildfires (Mockrin et al., 2016; Kramer et al., 2021). Finally, financial factors may be strong incentives or barriers to specific preparedness and mitigation activities—for instance being under-insured has been an incentive to stay and defend a property rather than evacuate (see McCaffrey, 2015 for review and discussion).

Disaster assistance may offer individuals and communities an opportunity to enhance resilience to wildfire, and this is partly because financial factors are critical in shaping preparedness, response, and mitigation (McCaffrey, 2015). However, we know of only a few studies that investigate the influence of disaster assistance on resilience to wildfire, especially of low- and moderate-income persons and communities. Studies of community recovery from wildfire disaster tend to mention the existence of funding without close analysis of its role and impacts on recovery or adaptation to wildfire. One exception is a study of how populations affected by the Carlton Complex fire in 2014 in Washington state viewed FEMA aid (Edgeley and Paveglio, 2017). According to residents, FEMA officials did not understand the rural west, mismeasured damage, and did not clearly communicate the application process, leading to misunderstandings about needs representations. These experiences affected how respondents prepared for future wildfires. The authors concluded that “social dynamics between locals and extra-local organizations is a crucial component” of recovery that influences resilience to future wildfires (p. 145).

Disaster assistance, when it is available, may be an important “extra-local” factor in recovery from wildfire disasters. To our knowledge, however, there are no studies of recovery from wildfire that embed the sources and uses of all disaster mitigation and recovery funding within a community study. There are no community studies of the uses and consequences of HUD’s disaster recovery or mitigation funding after a wildfire disaster. There are no community studies that take a close look at how disaster assistance in the wake of a wildfire influences the long-term resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities. With this NOFO, HUD seeks to address this gap in knowledge.

### **Research Needs & Research Questions**



This NOFO will fund a study that examines the full picture of disaster recovery and mitigation assistance for community recovery after a wildfire disaster, and analyzes the influence of this disaster assistance—including CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT grants—highlighting positive, negative, and neutral effects on the resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities. Based on careful empirical analysis of specific cases, the research ultimately should also identify opportunities to use recovery and mitigation funding more effectively to increase the resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities.

HUD will fund one or more studies of community recovery from wildfire guided by the following general questions about the long-term recovery of communities from wildfire disasters:

1. As part of recovery from wildfire disaster, how do communities consider and prioritize activities intended to increase resilience to wildfire—including biophysical and social factors, and individual and collective actions?
2. How does disaster recovery and mitigation funding influence these processes and priorities?
3. What are the positive, negative, and neutral impacts of activities supported by disaster recovery or mitigation funds on the resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities?
4. What recovery activities could be supported by disaster recovery and mitigation funding that would enhance the resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities, but have not been, or usually are not implemented?
5. How do low- and moderate-income members of wildfire-affected communities conceive of and define resilience to wildfire and how would they measure community resilience to wildfire?

A community study is an observational method that uses multiple data sources (e.g., documents, household surveys, direct observation, census data products, ecosystem assessments, budgets, etc.) and multiple analytic methods to investigate a problem within the context of other behavior and attitudes within a community (adapted from Arensberg, 1954). In this case, the problem is how to use disaster recovery and mitigation funding to promote long-term resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities.

Biophysical resilience factors are biological, physical, and ecological variables that influence wildfire ignitions, wildfire severity, and damage caused by wildfire, recovery processes, and resilience or adaptation. Examples include fire-resistant building, bird-safe power lines, fuels build-up and treatments, topography, and weather.

Social resilience factors are the beliefs, attitudes, and actions of individuals and groups that influence wildfire ignitions, wildfire severity, damage caused by wildfire, recovery processes, and resilience or adaptation. Examples include insurance coverage, defensible space ordinances, presence of organizations promoting fire-adapted communities, knowledge of wildfire safety and preparedness, perspectives on natural resource management, relations with outside organizations, the social composition of a community, and its memories of wildfire.

HUD intends to fund a study (or studies) that includes all of the following elements:

1. Using a community studies approach
2. Studying one or more communities affected by presidentially declared wildfire disasters that occurred during or after 2017, including at least one community that received CDBG-DR or CDBG-MIT funding
3. Producing a picture that is as complete as possible of the disaster recovery and mitigation funding (including federal, state, and local public sources, and private sources) available to residents and to the community, and the activities supported by each source
4. Describing community prioritization of resilience as part of the recovery process, and the role of disaster assistance in these processes, including prioritization of biophysical and social factors, individual and collective actions
5. Assessing the extent to which the recovery activities supported by disaster assistance had positive, negative, and neutral impacts on the resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities, looking at both biophysical and social factors that influence resilience to wildfire
6. Including diverse perspectives from affected persons, considering especially forms of social exclusion (e.g., citizenship, homelessness, race or ethnicity, and disability) relevant in the studied sites

### **Methodological Considerations**

HUD will consider for funding studies that investigate one or more communities. Applicants should propose an approach to selecting communities to study, and one of the studied communities must be a recipient of CDBG-DR or CDBG-MIT funding.

Applicants should use a notion of community that works for the proposed study. HUD encourages use of an existing notion of community, but HUD is not committed to any one particular definition. HUD is not looking for extensive discourse on community concepts, but rather HUD is looking for empirical studies of communities recovering from wildfire that use a conceptual framework suited to the study. Examples of community studies of wildfire impacts or recovery include Mockrin et al.'s (2016) study of recovery processes in three different jurisdictions (one city and two counties) affected by wildfire in the Colorado front range. This study uses jurisdiction to bound community. In contrast, Paveglio and Edgeley (2017) use an anthropological approach and identify distinct communities based on attitudes, economic base, and lifestyles. In a study of the 1994 Wenatchee fires in Washington state, Rodriguez et al. (2003) use three different notions of community: "(1) community as local society bounded by geography or territory, (2) community as local social system..., (3) community as shared meaning and identity ...extending over ... distance" (p. 61). In a study of the impacts of wildfires on undocumented Latin and indigenous workers in California, Mendez, Flores-Haro, and Zucker (2020) study communities defined by immigration status, ethnicities and languages, and labor markets. Fairbrother et al. (2014) argue that policymakers need to acknowledge communities as networks that extend beyond locality and geography and generally be more explicit about how the term "community" is used.

This NOFO requires a community studies approach, which means investigating a problem within

the context of other behavior and attitudes within a community. In this case the problem is how to use disaster recovery and mitigation funding to promote long-term resilience to wildfire, especially of low- and moderate-income persons and communities. A community study is an observational method that uses multiple data sources (e.g., documents, household surveys, direct observation, census data products, ecosystem assessments, budgets, etc.) and multiple analytic methods. (Adapted from Arensberg, 1954.) Within this approach, selected factors can be observed.

HUD intends to fund a proposal or proposals that look at different types of factors that may affect or enhance resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities, including biophysical and social factors and individual and collective actions. Applicants should propose an approach to including consideration of how disaster assistance affected both biophysical and social resilience factors in the particular localities that will be studied.

Applicants should propose an approach to showing the influence of disaster assistance in particular localities in terms of positive, negative, and neutral consequences for resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities. A community study could or might include a quasi-experimental or experimental analysis, but we are not looking for those kinds of analyses here. By asking for a community studies approach, we are looking for descriptive methods that produce narratives about the influence of disaster assistance that are convincing, that is, narratives using well-defined concepts, making clear arguments, grounded in local knowledge, and based on detailed empirical data and information.

In considering how to produce a full picture of disaster assistance within studied communities, applicants cannot rely on the unmet needs analysis conducted by CDBG-DR grantees (although it may be useful). Applicants should propose an approach to producing a full picture of recovery resources available to studied communities, including private and public resources, and, if relevant, pre-disaster hazard mitigation grants that may have had an impact on the wildfire disaster being studied. Please be aware that it is not always easy to trace the use of CDBG-DR funds. For instance, areas affected by fires in Colorado in 2012, received CDBG funding in 2013 when floods followed the fires; in 2015, two areas that had been affected by the 2012 wildfires were retroactively declared eligible for CDBG funds. This is documented in Mockrin et al. (2016), whereby the authors do not specify if funds were CDBG or CDBG-DR, but do state that “federal funds post flooding created a new source of support for long-term disaster and recovery planning, including wildfire” (p. 1150).

HUD’s Policy Statement on Program Evaluation published August 13, 2021, encourages HUD-supported research to include diverse perspectives in research teams and data collection, including racial and ethnic diversity, and engagement of affected persons in research in ways tailored to particular studies. It also encourages dissemination of research findings to studied populations. (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/08/13/2021-17339/hud-program-evaluation-policy-policy-statement>).

## **Project Deliverables**

*Project Management Deliverables.* HUD’s Cooperative Agreements require certain deliverables

as part of the project management system, including the following: (1) Opening meeting with HUD, (2) Management and Work Plan with a detailed allocation of grant resources and timelines, (3) Quality Control Plan, and (4) Quarterly Progress Reports.

*Research Project Deliverables.* Project deliverables must be approved by the Government Technical Representative. HUD will have substantial involvement in definition of project deliverables, which include the following:

- (1) Expert Panel
- (2) Research Design
- (3) Data Collection and Analysis Plan that includes data collection instruments or protocols, informed consent materials, data analysis plans, IRB approval
- (4) Meeting with HUD staff to discuss research plans
- (5) Draft research report 1
- (6) Meeting with HUD staff to discuss plans for the final report
- (7) Draft research report 2
- (8) Final Research Report
- (9) Policy Brief for a broad audience of practitioners and policymakers, including federal, state, and local policymakers.
- (10) Dissemination of research findings to affected communities.

The Expert Panel should be a multidisciplinary group with expertise in biophysical and social factors that affect resilience to wildfire. The Expert Panel must include at least one physical or biological scientist, one social scientist, and one practitioner. The Expert Panel will advise the study, contribute to the policy brief, and may participate in discussions with HUD staff and the research team on project deliverables. For example, the expert panel might include, but is not limited to, experts in wildfire science, urban and regional planning, forest management, fire-resistant construction, building code enforcement, WUI communities, organization of fire-adapted communities, adaptive governance, watershed resilience, and so on. HUD anticipates the Expert Panel will have at least six members.

The Final Research Report must comprehensively document the study methods and report the findings.

The Policy Brief must be a stand-alone document that proposes innovative ways to more effectively use federal disaster assistance to enhance the resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities. It should be based on lessons drawn from the community study, but go beyond those lessons to incorporate creative input from the research team and the Expert Panel. The Policy Brief must be written for a broad audience of practitioners and policymakers, including federal, state, and local policymakers.

The Government Technical Representative and other HUD staff will work closely with grantees to define deliverables. HUD will have substantial involvement in carrying out the activity contemplated by the award.

Final work products shall be well written and the final research report and policy brief shall conform to HUD's formatting requirements. (See <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/About/style->

guide-for-reports.pdf.)

HUD intends to publish the final research report and the policy brief.

### **Eligible Activities**

Eligible activities include all research, convening, and project management activities that contribute to producing high-quality research that meets the NOFO objectives and answers the guiding research questions. Eligible activities include, but are not necessarily limited to the following:

- Research activities required to complete the funded research, such as the articulation of research questions (including literature review); development of research design, data collection and analysis plans; data collection (including ethnographic data), analysis of data; submission of publication-quality research reports; and presentations on findings
- Regular communication with HUD staff on all project deliverables, as required by HUD's substantial involvement under the cooperative agreement
- Consulting with experts on any aspect of the research as needed to bring expertise to enhance the research team's knowledge in critical areas, such as identification of resilience factors or requirements attached to diverse disaster assistance, and so on
- Consulting with key informants
- Creating and coordinating a multi-disciplinary expert panel that brings together physical or biological scientists, social scientists, and practitioners (e.g., land use planners or insurance professionals, etc.) (including honoraria for expert panel members)
- Meeting regulatory requirements for research, such as Institutional Review Board approval
- Project management activities, including the requirements of HUD's project management system (Opening Meeting, Management and Work Plan and Budget, Quality Control Plan, and Quarterly Progress Reports) and regular communication with HUD staff for monitoring purposes

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[1] <https://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/thestrategy.shtml> Accessed October 12, 2021

[2] These numbers probably overstate amounts granted for wildfire recovery. For instance, a closer look at the 2003 grant of \$10.4 million to California shows that it was used in different places for recovery from earthquake, flooding, and wildfire.

[3] These very large fires seem unprecedented to us because of decades of fire suppression in American forests, but very large fires are not foreign to the western ecosystem when viewed over centuries.

[4] Information on wildfires is more readily available from California, but the pattern is not unique to California. Climate change has caused forests and other wildlands to get drier across the west. Parks and Abatzoglu (2020) show that increased severity of wildfires and acreage burned also has been documented in the Pacific Northwest and the Southwest.

[5] California Department of Insurance (DOI) Fact Sheet: Impact of Wildfires on Insurance Non-Renewals and Availability and other DOI sources. We have not found the underlying reports or data analyses. See [http://www.insurance.ca.gov/0400-news/0100-press-releases/2019/upload/nr063\\_factsheetwildfire.pdf](http://www.insurance.ca.gov/0400-news/0100-press-releases/2019/upload/nr063_factsheetwildfire.pdf).

- **Changes from Previous NOFO.**

Not Applicable. This is a new NOFO.

- **Definitions.**

a. Standard Definitions

**Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).** Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) means taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination to overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics. Specifically, affirmatively furthering fair housing means taking meaningful actions that, taken together, address significant disparities in housing needs and in access to opportunities, replacing segregated living patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws. The duty to affirmatively further fair housing extends to all program participant's activities and programs relating to housing and urban development.

**Assistance Listing number** refers to the publicly available listing of Federal assistance programs managed and administered by the General Services Administration, formerly known as the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA). Assistance Listing is a unique number assigned to identify a Federal Assistance Listings, formerly known as the CFDA

**Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)** is the person authorized to submit applications on behalf of the organization via Grants.gov. The AOR is authorized by the E-Biz point of contact in the System for Award Management. The AOR is listed in item 21 on the SF-424.



**Consolidated Plan** is a document developed by states and local jurisdictions. This plan is completed by engaging in a participatory process to assess their affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions, and to make data-driven, place-based investment decisions with funding from formula grant programs. (See [24 CFR part 91](#) for HUD's requirements regarding the Consolidated Plan and related Action Plan).

**Contract** means, for the purpose of Federal financial assistance, a legal instrument by which a recipient or subrecipient purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a federal award. For additional information on contractor and subrecipient determinations, see [2 CFR 200.331](#).

**Contractor** means an entity that receives a contract as defined above and in [2 CFR 200.1](#).

**Deficiency** is information missing or omitted within a submitted application. Examples of deficiencies include missing documents, information on a form, or some other type of unsatisfied information requirement. Depending on specific criteria, deficiencies may be either Curable or Non-Curable.

- *Curable Deficiencies* may be corrected by the applicant with timely action. To be curable the deficiency must:
- Not be a threshold requirement, except for documentation of applicant eligibility;
- Not influence how an applicant is ranked or scored versus other applicants; and
- Be remedied within the time frame specified in the notice of deficiency.

**Non-Curable Deficiencies** cannot be corrected by an applicant after the submission deadline. Non-curable deficiencies are deficiencies that, if corrected, would change an applicant's score or rank versus other applicants. Non-curable deficiencies may result in an application being marked ineligible, or otherwise adversely affect an application's score and final determination.

**Environmental Justice** is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Fair treatment means that no population bears a disproportionate share of negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or from the execution of federal, state, and local laws; regulations; and policies. Meaningful involvement requires effective access to decision makers for all, and the ability in all communities to make informed decisions and take positive actions to produce environmental justice for themselves.

**DUNS Number** is the nine-digit Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Number System identification number assigned to a business or organization by Dun & Bradstreet and provides a means of identifying business entities on a location-specific basis.

**E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC)** A user registered as an organization applicant who is responsible for the administration and management of grant activities for his or her organization. The E-Biz POC is likely to be an organization's chief financial officer or authorizing official. The E-Biz POC authorizes representatives of their organization to apply on behalf of the organization (see Standard AOR and Expanded AOR). There can only be one E-Biz POC per DUNS Number.

**Eligibility requirements** are mandatory requirements for an application to be eligible for funding.

**Expanded Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)** An AOR is a member of your organization authorized by the EBiz POC to submit applications in Grants.gov on behalf of the organization. An applicant user with the Expanded AOR role is authorized to submit any applications on behalf of the organization and has privileges that allow the user to modify organization-level settings in Grants.gov.

**Federal Financial Assistance** means assistance that entities received or administer in the form of:

1. Grants;
2. Cooperative agreements (which does not include a cooperative research and development agreement pursuant to the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986, as amended (15 U.S.C. 3710a)).
3. Loans;
4. Loan guarantees;
5. Subsidies;
6. Insurance;
7. Food commodities;
8. Direct appropriations;
9. Assessed and voluntary contributions; and
10. Any other financial assistance transaction that authorizes the non-Federal entity's expenditure of Federal funds.
11. Federal financial assistance does not include amounts received as reimbursement for services rendered to individuals as described in section [200.502\(h\)](#) and (i). ([2 CFR 200.1](#))

**Federal award**, has the meaning, depending on the context, in either paragraph (i) or (ii) of this definition:

1. (i) The Federal financial assistance that a recipient receives directly from a Federal awarding agency or a subrecipient receives indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in [2 CFR §200.101](#); or
  - ii. The cost-reimbursement contract under the Federal Acquisition Regulations that a non-Federal entity receives directly from a federal awarding agency or indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in [2 CFR §200.101](#).
2. The instrument setting forth the terms and conditions. The instrument is the grant agreement, cooperative agreement, other agreement for assistance covered in paragraph (2) of the definitions of Federal financial assistance in [2 CFR §200.1](#), and this NOFO, or the cost-reimbursement contract awarded under the Federal Acquisition Regulations.
3. Federal award does not include other contracts that a Federal agency uses to buy goods or services from a contractor or a contract to operate Federal Government owned, contractor operated facilities (GOCOs).
4. See also definitions of Federal financial assistance, grant agreement, and cooperative agreement in [2 CFR 200.1](#).

**Grants.gov** is the website serving as the Federal government’s central portal for searching and applying for Federal financial assistance throughout the Federal government. Registration on Grants.gov is required for submission of applications to prospective agencies unless otherwise specified in this NOFO.

**Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)** The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, defines an HBCU as: “...any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary of Education to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training offered or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation.” HBCUs offer all students, regardless of race, an opportunity to develop their skills and talents.

**Non-Federal Entity (NFE)** means a state, local government, Indian tribe, Institution of Higher Education (IHE), or non-profit organization that carries out a federal award as a recipient or subrecipient.

**Point of Contact (POC)** is the person who may be contacted with questions about the application submitted by the AOR. The POC is listed in item 8F on the SF-424.

**Recipient** means an entity, usually but not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a federal award directly from HUD. The term recipient does not include subrecipients or individuals that are beneficiaries of the award.

**Small business** is defined as a privately-owned corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship that has fewer employees and less annual revenue than a corporation or regular-sized business. The definition of “small”—in terms of being able to apply for government support and qualify for preferential tax policy—varies by country and industry. The U.S. Small Business Administration defines a small business according to a set of standards based on specific industries. See [13 CFR Part 121](#).

**Standard Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)** An AOR is a member of your organization authorized by the EBiz POC to submit applications in Grants.gov on behalf of the organization. An applicant user with the Standard AOR role can only submit applications when they are a Participant of that workspace.

**Subaward** means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract.

**Subrecipient** means an entity, usually but not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a federal award but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such award. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other federal awards directly from a federal awarding agency.

**System for Award Management (SAM)** is the Federal Repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Registration with SAM is required for submission of applications via Grants.gov. You can access the website at <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/>. There is no cost to use SAM.

**Threshold Requirements** are an eligibility requirement that must be met for an application to be reviewed. Threshold requirements are not curable, except for documentation of applicant eligibility and are listed in Section III.D Threshold Eligibility Requirements. Similarly, there are eligibility requirements under Section III.E, Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility.

**Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)** means the identifier assigned by SAM to uniquely identify business entities.

- Program Definitions.

### **American West**

American West means the area included in the western region defined by the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, which stretches from “the great plains of Nebraska and Kansas to the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific coast and beyond, from the deserts of Arizona and New Mexico to the arctic tundra of Alaska, and includes Hawaii and the Pacific Island territories.” (See “Western Region,” p. 12, <https://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/documents/strategy/strategy/CSPhaseIIINationalStrategyApr2014.pdf>)

### **Biophysical Factors**

Biophysical factors are biological, physical, and ecological variables that influence wildfire ignitions, wildfire severity, damage caused by wildfire, recovery processes and resilience and adaptation, including such factors as fire-resistant building, bird-safe power lines, fuels build-up and treatments, topography, and weather.

### **Community Study**

A community study investigates a problem within the context of other behavior and attitudes within a community. A community study is an observational method that uses multiple data sources (e.g., documents, household surveys, direct observation, census data products, ecosystem assessments, budgets, etc.) and multiple analytic methods. (Adapted from Arensberg, 1954.)

### **Community**

HUD is not committed to a particular definition. HUD is looking for empirical studies of communities recovering from wildfire that use a conceptual framework suited to the study.

### **Fire-adapted**

According to the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, fire-adapted means “Human populations and infrastructure can withstand a wildfire without loss of life and property.” (See “Chapter 1 – The Vision,” p. 3, <https://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/documents/strategy/strategy/CSPhaseIIINationalStrategyApr2014.pdf>).

## **Long-term**

HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development defines long-term in relation to the post-disaster continuum of immediate response, short-term recovery, and long-term recovery, whereby long-term recovery refers to "efforts ... to re-establish a healthy, functioning community that will sustain itself over time."

([https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Disaster\\_Recovery\\_Disaster\\_Impact\\_Needs\\_Assessment\\_Kit.pdf](https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Disaster_Recovery_Disaster_Impact_Needs_Assessment_Kit.pdf))

## **Low- and Moderate-Income Persons**

"Low- and moderate-income" (LMI) persons are members of families with low- and moderate incomes as defined here:

- "Low-income" person means a member of a family that has an income equal to or less than the Section 8 very low-income limit established by HUD.
- "Moderate-income" person means a member of a family that has an income equal to or less than the Section 8 low-income limit and greater than the Section 8 very low-income limit established by HUD.

HUD's income limits are established for metropolitan areas and non-metropolitan counties. HUD's Low- and Moderate-Income Summary Data (LMISD) and information about these data may be accessed through HUD's website "HUD Exchange" (<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/acs-low-mod-summary-data/>).

In addition to providing direct benefit to LMI persons, CDBG-DR may fund activities that benefit all residents of a primarily residential area where at least 51 percent of the residents are low- and moderate-income persons. This is called low- and moderate-income area (LMA) benefit.

Notice CPD 19-02 explains how to use geographic datasets for compliance purposes for CDBG-DR grants. These data sources also might be useful for research. (The Notice is available at <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5794/notice-cpd1902-low-and-moderate-income-summary-data-updates/>.)

(Applicants should note the possible confusion caused by different uses of these terms across programs, whereby CDBG-DR uses the term "low-income" to refer to what is called "very low-income" in the Section 8 program and CDBG-DR uses the term "moderate-income" to refer to what is called "low-income" in the Section 8 program.)

## **Recent**

Recent wildfire disasters occurred in 2017 or later.

## **Recovery**

For research purposes, recovery should be defined and measured as appropriate to a particular investigation.

## **Resilience**

Resilience can be defined and measured in a variety of ways, while retaining the notion of being able to survive a wildfire disaster without loss of life, property, or other values.

## **Social Factors**

Social factors are the beliefs, attitudes and actions of individuals and groups that influence wildfire ignitions, wildfire severity, damage caused by wildfire, recovery processes, and resilience or adaptation. Examples include insurance coverage, defensible space ordinances, presence of organizations promoting fire-adapted communities, knowledge of wildfire safety and preparedness, perspectives on natural resource management, relations with outside organizations, the social composition of a community and its memories of wildfire, and so on.

## **Wildfire Disaster**

Wildfire disaster means a presidentially declared major disaster caused by wildfire.

### **B. Authority.**

This program is authorized by Sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. §1701z-1 and §1701z-2) and funding is provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260, approved December 27, 2020), which directed HUD to conduct “a study on the effectiveness of disaster recovery funding,” according to the Explanatory Statement for the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, p. H8828, CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE December 21, 2020.

## **II. Award Information.**

### **A. Available Funds**

Funding of approximately **\$600,000** is available through this NOFO.

### **B. Number of Awards.**

HUD expects to make approximately 1 awards from the funds available under this NOFO.

HUD anticipates making one or more awards under this NOFO. The intention is to be open to reviewing proposals for the maximum amount but also for smaller awards, with awards to be made based on highest rating (see Section V.A.1 for Rating Factors).

### **C. Minimum/Maximum Award Information**

Estimated Total Funding:

\$600,000

Minimum Award Amount:

\$200,000

Per Project Period

Maximum Award Amount:  
\$600,000  
Per Project Period

#### **D. Period of Performance**

Estimated Project Start Date:  
09/30/2022

Estimated Project End Date:  
09/30/2024

Length of Project Periods:  
24-month project period and budget period

Length of Periods Explanation of Other:

#### **E. Type of Funding Instrument.**

Funding Instrument Type:  
CA (Cooperative Agreement)

#### **III. Eligibility Information.**

##### **A. Eligible Applicants.**

- 00 (State governments)
- 01 (County governments)
- 02 (City or township governments)
- 04 (Special district governments)
- 06 (Public and State controlled institutions of higher education)
- 07 (Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized))
- 11 (Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments))
- 12 (Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education)
- 13 (Nonprofits without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education)
- 20 (Private institutions of higher education)
- 22 (For profit organizations other than small businesses)
- 23 (Small businesses)

##### **Additional Information on Eligibility**

Tribally Designated Housing Entities as defined by Section 4(22) of NAHASDA and Tribes as defined by Section 4(13) of NAHASDA are eligible to compete for, or receive, awards made under this announcement.

##### **B. Ineligible Applicants.**

Individuals, foreign entities, and sole proprietorship organizations are not eligible to compete for, or receive, awards made under this announcement. HUD will not evaluate applications from

ineligible applicants.

### **C. Cost Sharing or Matching.**

This Program does not require cost sharing or matching.

### **D. Threshold Eligibility Requirements.**

Applicants who fail to meet any of the following threshold eligibility requirements will be deemed ineligible. Applications from ineligible applicants will not be evaluated.

**1. Resolution of Civil Rights Matters.** Outstanding civil rights matters must be resolved before the application deadline. Applicants, who after review are confirmed to have civil rights matters unresolved at the application deadline, will be deemed ineligible. Their applications will receive no further review, will not be rated and ranked, and they will not receive funding.

- a. Applicants having any of the charges, cause determinations, lawsuits, or letters of findings referenced in subparagraphs (1) – (5) that have not been resolved to HUD’s satisfaction before or on the application deadline date are ineligible for funding. Such matters include:
  1. Charges from HUD concerning a systemic violation of the Fair Housing Act or receipt of a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a systemic violation of a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing law proscribing discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or familial status;
  2. Status as a defendant in a Fair Housing Act lawsuit filed by the United States alleging a pattern or practice of discrimination or denial of rights to a group of persons raising an issue of general public importance under 42 U.S.C. 3614(a);
  3. Status as a defendant in any other lawsuit filed or joined by the Department of Justice, or in which the Department of Justice has intervened, or filed an amicus brief or statement of interest, alleging a pattern or practice or systemic violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the Americans with Disabilities Act or a claim under the False Claims Act related to fair housing, non-discrimination, or civil rights generally including an alleged failure to affirmatively further fair housing;
  4. Receipt of a letter of findings identifying systemic non-compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; or the Americans with Disabilities Act; or
  5. Receipt of a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a systemic violation of provisions of a state or local law prohibiting discrimination in housing based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or lawful source of income.
- b. HUD will determine if actions to resolve the charge, cause determination, lawsuit, or letter of findings taken before the application deadline date will resolve the matter. Examples of actions that may be sufficient to resolve the matter include, but are not limited to:



1. Current compliance with a voluntary compliance agreement signed by all the parties;
2. Current compliance with a HUD-approved conciliation agreement signed by all the parties;
3. Current compliance with a conciliation agreement signed by all the parties and approved by the state governmental or local administrative agency with jurisdiction over the matter;
4. Current compliance with a consent order or consent decree;
5. Current compliance with a final judicial ruling or administrative ruling or decision; or
6. Dismissal of charges.

**2. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.** With some exceptions for federally recognized Indian tribes and their instrumentalities, the application must discuss how the applicant will carry out the proposed activities in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing in compliance with the Fair Housing Act and its implementing regulations. Applicants may propose activities that are consistent with their jurisdiction's Analysis of Impediments (AI), an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), or other means of fair housing planning that meaningfully supports their AFFH certification.

If the applicant will carry out proposed activities in a jurisdiction with an accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), the proposed activities should be consistent with the AFH's fair housing goals and with fair housing strategies specified in the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan or Public Housing Agency Plan."

**3. Timely Submission of Applications.** Applications submitted after the deadline stated within this NOFO that do not meet the requirements of the grace period policy will be marked late. Late applications are ineligible and will not be considered for funding. See Section IV. D. Application Submission Dates and Times.

3. Proposals must be complete as required under IV.B. "Content and Form of Application Submission"

4. Proposals must include submitted Abstract as required under IV.B.1 that conveys that the proposal is for research on recovery after wildfire.

## **E. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility.**

### **Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD's Grants Programs**

The following requirements affect applicant eligibility. Detailed information on each requirement is posted on [HUD's Funding Opportunities Page](#).

- Active Prime and Sub Recipient registration with SAM.gov
- Outstanding Delinquent Federal Debts
- Debarments or Suspensions, or both
- Pre-selection Review of Performance
- Sufficiency of Financial Management System
- False Statements
- Mandatory Disclosure Requirement
- Prohibition Against Lobbying Activities
- In addition, each applicant under this NOFO must have the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the Award Term in Appendix A of [24 CFR part 170](#)

if the applicant receives an award, unless an exception applies as provided in [2 CFR 170.110](#).

**F. Program-Specific Requirements.**

None.

**G. Criteria for Beneficiaries.**

None.

**IV. Application and Submission Information.**

**A. Obtaining an Application Package.**

**Instructions for Applicants.**

You must download both the Application Instructions and the Application Package from Grants.gov. You must verify that the Assistance Listing Number and Assistance Listing Description on the first page of the Application Package, and the Funding Opportunity Title and the Funding Opportunity Number match the Program and NOFO to which you are applying.

The Application Package contains the portable document forms (PDFs) available on Grants.gov, such as the SF-424 Family. The Instruction Download contains official copies of the NOFO and forms necessary for a complete application. The Instruction Download may include Microsoft Word files, Microsoft Excel files, and additional documents.

An applicant demonstrating good cause may request a waiver from the requirement for electronic submission, for example, a lack of available Internet access in the geographic area in which your business offices are located. Lack of SAM registration or valid DUNS/UEI is not good cause. If you cannot submit your application electronically, you must ask in writing for a waiver of the electronic grant submission requirements. HUD will not grant a waiver if the Applicant fails to submit to HUD in writing or via email a request for a waiver at least 15 calendar days before the application deadline. If HUD grants a waiver, a paper application must be received before the deadline for this NOFO. To request a waiver, you must contact:

Name:

Katina L. Jordan

Email:

Katina.L.Jordan@hud.gov

HUD Organization:

PD&R

Street:

451 Seventh Street SW Room 8226

City:

Washington

State:

DC DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Zip:

20410

Katina Jordan ([Katina.L.Jordan@hud.gov](mailto:Katina.L.Jordan@hud.gov))

**B. Content and Form of Application Submission.**

You must verify that boxes 11, 12, and 13 on the SF-424 match the NOFO for which you are applying. If they do not match, you have downloaded the wrong Application Instruction and Application Package.

Submission of an application that is otherwise sufficient, under the wrong Assistance Listing and Funding Opportunity Number is Non-Curable unless otherwise stated under the Threshold requirements section.

**1. Content.**

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
HUD Applicant Recipient Disclosure Report (HUD) 2880 Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report	Submission is required for all applicants by the application due date.	
Application for Federal Assistance (SF424)	Submission is required for all applicants by the application due date.	Required for all applications.
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SFLLL), if applicable	HUD will provide instructions to grantees on how the form is to be submitted.	If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the applicant shall complete and submit the SF-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Applicants must furnish an executed copy of the Certification Regarding Lobbying prior to award.

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
Grant Application Detailed Budget Worksheet SF424CBW	Submission is required for all applicants by the application due date.	Required for all applications.

Additionally, your complete application must include the following narratives and non-form attachments.

- Narrative statement addressing the rating factors of up to 28 pages formatted to fit an 8 ½ by 11-inch page, double-spaced, with one-inch margins, using standard Times New Roman 12-point font (you get the whole 28 pages, albeit double-spaced, to address the rating factors; the other items in this list do not count against the page limit)
- Abstract of up to one page in length (with the same formatting requirements as for the narrative), that summarizes the proposal and includes the total dollar amount requested
- Appendix containing up to 5 resumes of key personnel
- Appendix listing names and contact information for each organization included as part of the primary research team for this proposal (i.e., grantee **and** subgrantees if there are any) and a brief statement of each entity's qualifications
- Budget submission, including Form HUD424CBW and narrative budget justification
- Code of Conduct. Applicants selected for funding will be required to provide HUD with their written Code of Conduct if they have not previously done so and it is not recorded on the HUD website at:  
<http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/codeofconduct/cconduct.cfm>

**2. Format and Form.**

Narratives and other attachments to your application must follow the following format guidelines.

28 Pages maximum length of narratives

Double spaced 12-point (minimum) Times Roman font on letter sized paper (8 1/2 x 11 inches) with at least 1-inch margins on all sides

**C. System for Award Management (SAM) and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number.**

**1. SAM Registration Requirement.**

Applicants must be registered with <https://www.sam.gov/> before submitting their application. Applicants must maintain current information in SAM on immediate and highest-level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all predecessors that have been awarded a federal contract or grant within the last three years, if applicable. Information in SAM must be current for all times during which the applicant has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by HUD.

## **2. UEI/DUNS Number Requirement.**

Applicants must provide a valid UEI/DUNS number, registered and active at [www.sam.gov/](http://www.sam.gov/) in the application.

The DUNS number remains the official identifier for doing business with the U.S. Government only until April 4, 2022. As of April 4, 2022, entities doing business with the federal government must use the Unique Entity Identifier created in SAM.gov.

## **3. Requirement to Register with Grants.gov.**

Anyone planning to submit applications on behalf of an organization must register at grants.gov and be approved by the E-Biz POC in SAM to submit applications for the organization. Registration for SAM and grants.gov is a multi-step process and can take four (4) weeks or longer to complete if data issues arise. Applicants without a valid registration cannot apply through grants.gov. Complete registration instructions and guidance are provided on grants.gov.

## **D. Application Submission Dates and Times.**

### **Application Due Date Explanation**

The application deadline is 11:59:59 PM Eastern Standard time on

07/19/2022

Submit your application to Grants.gov unless a waiver has been issued allowing you to submit a paper application. Instructions for submitting your paper application will be contained in the waiver of electronic submission.

"Received by Grants.gov" means the applicant received a confirmation of receipt and an application tracking number from Grants.gov. Grants.gov then assigns an application tracking number and date-and-timestamp each application upon successful receipt by the Grants.gov system. A submission attempt not resulting in confirmation of receipt and an application tracking number is not considered received by Grants.gov.

Applications received by Grants.gov must be validated by Grants.gov to be received by HUD.

"Validated by Grants.gov" means the application has been accepted and was not rejected with errors. You can track the status of your application by logging into Grants.gov, selecting "Applicants" from the top navigation, and selecting "Track my application" from the dropdown list. If the application status is "rejected with errors," you must correct the error(s) and resubmit the application before the 24-hour grace period ends. Applications in "rejected with errors" status after the 24-hour grace period expires will not be received by HUD. Visit Grants.gov for a complete description of processing steps after applying.

HUD strongly recommends you submit your applications at least **48 hours before the deadline** and during regular business hours to allow enough time to correct errors or overcome other problems.

**Grants.gov Customer Support.** Grants.gov provides customer support information on its website at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html>. Applicants having difficulty accessing the application and instructions or having technical problems can receive customer support from Grants.gov by calling (800) 518-GRANTS (this is a toll-free number) or by

sending an email to [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov). The customer support center is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week, except Federal holidays. The phone number above may also be reached by individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech disabilities, through the Federal Relay Service's teletype service at (800)-877-8339.

You can verify the contents of your submitted application to confirm Grants.gov received everything you intended to submit. To verify the contents of your submitted application:

- Log in to Grants.gov.
- Click the Check Application Status link, which appears under the Grant Applications heading in the Applicant Center page. This will take you to the Check Application Status page.
- Enter search criteria and a date range to narrow your search results.
- Click the Search button. To review your search results in Microsoft Excel, click the Export Data button.
- Review the Status column, to view more detailed submission information, click the Details link in the Actions column.
- To download the submitted application, click the Download link in the Actions column.

Please make note of the Grants.gov tracking number, it will be needed by the Grants.gov Help Desk if you seek their assistance.

HUD may extend the application deadline for any program if Grants.gov is offline or not available to applicants for at least 24 hours immediately prior to the deadline date, or the system is down for 24 hours or longer and impacts the ability of applicants to cure a submission deficiency within the grace period.

HUD may also extend the application deadline upon request if there is a presidentially declared disaster in the applicant's area.

If these events occur, HUD will post a notice on its website establishing the new, extended deadline for the affected applicants. HUD will also include the fact of the extension in the program's NOFO required to be published in the Federal Register.

In determining whether to grant a request for an extension based on a presidentially declared disaster, HUD will consider the totality of the circumstances including the date of an applicant's extension request (how closely it followed the basis for the extension), whether other applicants in the geographic area are similarly affected by the disaster, and how quickly power or services are restored to enable the applicant to submit its application.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Busy servers, slow processing, large file sizes, improper registration or password issues are not valid circumstances to extend the deadline dates or the grace period.

1. Amending or resubmitting an application.

Before the submission deadline, you may amend a validated application through Grants.gov by resubmitting a revised application containing the new or changed material. The resubmitted application must be received and validated by Grants.gov by the applicable deadline.

If HUD receives an original and a revised application for a single proposal, HUD will evaluate only the last submission received by Grants.gov before the deadline.

## 2. Grace Period for Grants.gov Submissions.

If your application is received by Grants.gov before the deadline, but is rejected with errors, you have a grace period of 24 hours after the application deadline to submit a corrected, received, and validated application through Grants.gov. The date and time stamp on the Grants.gov system determines the application receipt time. Any application submitted during the grace period not received and validated by Grants.gov will not be considered for funding. There is no grace period for paper applications.

## 3. Late Applications.

An application received after the NOFO deadline date that does not meet the Grace Period requirements will be marked late and will not be reviewed by HUD for funding consideration. Improper or expired registration and password issues are not sufficient cause to allow HUD to accept applications after the deadline date.

## 4. Corrections to Deficient Applications.

HUD will not consider information from applicants after the application deadline except for curable deficiencies.

HUD will uniformly notify applicants of each curable deficiency. See curable deficiency in the definitions section (Section I.A). Examples of curable (correctable) deficiencies include inconsistencies in the funding request and failure to submit required certifications. These examples are non-exhaustive.

When HUD identifies a curable deficiency, HUD will notify the authorized organization representative identified on the SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance via email. This email is the official notification of a curable deficiency.

Applicants must email corrections of Curable Deficiencies to [applicationsupport@hud.gov](mailto:applicationsupport@hud.gov) within the time limits specified in the notification. The time allowed to correct deficiencies will be no less than 48 hours and no more than 14 calendar days from the date of the email notification. The start of the cure period will be the date stamp on the email sent from HUD. If the deficiency cure deadline date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, Federal holiday, or on a day when HUD's Headquarters are closed, then the applicant's correction must be received on the next business day HUD Headquarters offices in Washington, DC are open.

The subject line of the email sent to [applicationsupport@hud.gov](mailto:applicationsupport@hud.gov) must state: Technical Cure and include the Grants.gov application tracking number or the GrantSolutions application number (e.g., Subject: Technical Cure - GRANT123456 or Technical Cure - XXXXXXXXXXXXX). If this information is not included, HUD cannot match the response with the application under review and the application may be rejected due to the deficiency.

Corrections to a paper application must be sent in accordance with and to the address indicated in the notification of deficiency. HUD will treat a paper application submitted in accordance with a waiver of electronic application containing the wrong UEI/DUNS number as having a curable deficiency. Failure to correct the deficiency and meet the requirement to have a UEI/DUNS number and active registration in SAM will render the application ineligible for funding.

## 5. **Authoritative Versions of HUD NOFOs.** The version of these NOFOs as posted on Grants.gov are the official documents HUD uses to solicit applications.

6. **Exemptions.** Parties that believe the requirements of the NOFO would impose a substantial burden on the exercise of their religion should seek an exemption under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA).

#### **E. Intergovernmental Review.**

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

#### **F. Funding Restrictions.**

An organization may not evaluate itself. HUD will determine if salary rates are reasonable, customary for the skill set provided and the tasks to be conducted, and in accordance with federal legal requirements.

#### **Indirect Cost Rate.**

Normal indirect cost rules under [2 CFR part 200, subpart E](#) apply. If you intend to charge indirect costs to your award, your application must clearly state the rate and distribution base you intend to use. If you have a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must also include a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the approved rate. Successful applicants whose rate changes after the application deadline must submit the new rate and documentation to assure the award agreement incorporates the applicable rate.

Applicants other than state and local governments. If you have a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must clearly state the approved rate and distribution base and must include a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the approved rate. If your organization does not have a current negotiated rate (including provisional) rate and elects to use the de minimis rate, your application must clearly state you intend to use the de minimis rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC). As described in [2 CFR 200.403](#), costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. Once elected, the de minimis rate must be applied consistently for all Federal awards until the organization chooses to negotiate a rate, which the organization may apply to do at any time. Documentation of the decision to use the de minimis rate must be retained on file for audit.

State and local governments. If your department or agency unit has a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must include that rate, the applicable distribution base, and a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the negotiated rate. If your department or agency unit receives more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year, you may not claim indirect costs until you receive a negotiated rate from your cognizant agency for indirect costs as provided in Appendix VII to [2 CFR Part 200](#).

If your department or agency unit receives no more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year and your department or agency unit has developed and maintains an indirect cost rate proposal and supporting documentation for audit in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII, you may use the rate and distribution base specified in that indirect cost rate proposal. Alternatively, if your department or agency unit receives no more than \$35 million in direct



Federal funding per year and does not have a current negotiated rate (including provisional) rate, you may elect to use the de minimis rate of 10% of MTDC. As described in [2 CFR 200.403](#), costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. Once elected, the de minimis rate must be applied consistently for all Federal awards until your department or agency chooses to negotiate for a rate, which you may apply to do at any time. Documentation of the decision to use the de minimis rate must be retained on file for audit.

## **G. Other Submission Requirements.**

### **Application, Assurances, Certifications and Disclosures.**

**Standard Form 424 (SF-424) Application for Federal Assistance** is the government-wide form required to apply for Federal assistance programs, discretionary Federal grants, and other forms of financial assistance programs. Applicants for this Federal assistance program must submit all required forms in the SF-424 Family of forms, including SF-424B (Assurances of Non construction Programs) or SF-424D (Assurances for Construction Programs). Applications receiving funds for both non-construction programs and construction programs must submit both the SF-424B and SF-424D.

By signing the forms in the SF-424 either through electronic submission or in paper copy submission (for those granted a waiver), the applicant and the signing authorized organization representative affirm that they have reviewed the certifications and assurances associated with the application for Federal assistance and (1) are aware the submission of the SF-424 is an assertion that the relevant certifications and assurances are established and (2) acknowledge that the truthfulness of the certifications and assurances are material representations upon which HUD will rely when making an award to the applicant. If it is later determined the signing authorized organization representative to the application made a false certification or assurance, caused the submission of a false certification or assurance, or did not have the authority to make a legally binding commitment for the applicant, the applicant and the individual who signed the application may be subject to administrative, civil, or criminal action. Additionally, HUD may terminate the award to the applicant organization or pursue other available remedies. Each applicant is responsible for including the correct certifications and assurances with its application submission, including those applicable to all applicants, those applicable only to Federally recognized Indian tribes, or Alaskan native villages and those applicable to applicants other than federally recognized Indian tribes or Alaskan native villages.

#### **Assurances.**

By submitting your application, you provide assurances that, if selected to receive an award, you will comply with U.S. statutory and other requirements, including, but not limited to civil rights requirements. Upon receipt of an award, you, and any recipients and subrecipients of the award are also required to submit assurances of compliance with federal civil rights requirements. *See, e.g.,* Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; *see also* [24 C.F.R. §§ 1.5; 3.115; 8.50; and 146.25](#). HUD accepts these assurances in the form of the SF-424B and SF-424D, which also require compliance with all general federal nondiscrimination requirements in the administration of the grant.

#### **Applicant Disclosure Report form 2880.**

Required for each applicant applying for assistance within the jurisdiction of HUD to any housing project subject to Section 102(d). Assistance is provided directly by HUD to any person or entity, but not to subrecipients. It includes assistance for the acquisition, rehabilitation, operation conversion, modernization, renovation, or demolition of any property containing five or more dwelling units that is to be used primarily for residential purposes. It includes assistance to independent group residences, board and care facilities, group homes and transitional housing but does not include primarily nonresidential facilities such as intermediate care facilities, nursing homes and hospitals. It also includes any change requested by a recipient in the amount of assistance previously provided, except changes resulting from annual adjustments in Section 8 rents under Section 8(c)(2)(A) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 ([42 U.S.C. 1437f](#)). [See HUD Reform Act regulation for additional information.](#)

## **V. Application Review Information.**

### **A. Review Criteria.**

#### **1. Rating Factors.**

The maximum number of points from the rating factors that can be awarded to any application is 102. The minimum score for an application to be considered for funding is 75 points, excluding preference points.

#### **Rating Factor 1: Need for the Research (15 Points)**

Please explain how the proposed research will advance understanding of the positive, negative, and neutral impacts of activities supported by disaster recovery or mitigation funds on the resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities. That is, tell us how this research will build on what we know and produce new, useful knowledge. Please explain the value of the study's approach to including both biophysical and social factors that affect resilience to wildfire and of the study's approach to selecting a community or communities. (Recall that your project must include at least one community that received CDBG-DR or CDBG-MIT grants.) Don't describe methods in detail here. Under this factor we want you to explain the contribution and significance of your proposal; methods should be explained under "Soundness of Approach."

#### **Rating Factor 2: Organizational Capacity and Experience and Key Personnel (35 Points)**

To be funded, proposals must receive at least 20 points for this rating factor.

##### *A. Organizational Capacity and Experience (15 Points)*

Organizational capacity and experience will be evaluated based on comparable projects completed within the past five years. Please describe past projects that demonstrate the capacity of the organization or organizations included in this proposal to conduct the proposed research. HUD will place high value on demonstrated successful completion of the following types of projects:

- Studies of community recovery after disaster, with highest value for recovery from wildfire disaster using a community studies approach (Note: "disaster" need not be presidentially declared for past projects under this rating factor)

- Research on sources and uses of disaster assistance funding in recovery after natural disaster (Note: “disaster” need not be presidentially declared for past projects under this rating factor)
- Research on factors that may enhance resilience to wildfire, with highest value for including both biophysical and social factors, and individual and collective actions (Note: all types of factors don’t need to be in the same past project.)

HUD anticipates that successful completion of this project may require participation by multiple organizations that in combination provide a diversity of necessary experience and knowledge.

To provide evidence of organizational capacity and experience, please briefly describe no more than five appropriate past projects, including the following information:

1. The project’s objective
2. The research activities in that project that are relevant to this proposal
3. Final product or products (please include links or full citations if possible)
4. Synopsis of project scope, including number of sites and sample sizes, time frame, number of staff
5. Project budget
6. Applicant organization’s role in the project and share of the budget
7. Key personnel on the past project and their roles in both the past and proposed projects
8. Name and contact information for an individual at a funding organization who oversaw the work; if you list research done for an academic thesis, please provide contact information for your academic advisors

HUD may verify past performance.

### *B. Key Personnel (20 Points)*

“Key personnel” means in-house staff, staff of subgrantees, and consultants who are part of the primary research team included in your proposal, who will perform essential management or technical functions on the proposed project and who could not easily be replaced.

You must identify key personnel (up to 5 key personnel) for the proposed project, explain their role, and demonstrate that they have the education, skills, and experience required to successfully complete the project. (Note: Be brief and to the point in the narrative—consider that you must also submit in an appendix a resume or CV for up to 5 key personnel and that the appendix does not count against the narrative page limit).

HUD anticipates that successful completion of the project will require key personnel and other individuals who will provide, independently or in combination with others, expertise in some or all of the areas listed below. It is anticipated that some personnel will have multiple areas of expertise and skills.

- Community recovery from wildfire
- Public sources and uses of disaster recovery and mitigation funding in wildfire-affected areas (e.g. HUD CDBG grants, US Forest Service mitigation grants, and any other kind

of grant or subsidy provided by a city, county, state or the federal government to assist with disaster recovery and mitigation)

- Private sources and uses of disaster recovery and mitigation funding (e.g., insurance, philanthropic, utility lawsuits, informal social networks)
- HUD’s disaster assistance funding, including CDBG-DR and/or CDBG-MIT grants
- Biophysical factors that influence resilience to wildfire
- Social factors, including individual and collective actions, that influence resilience to wildfire
- Social science data collection and analysis methods, including quantitative and qualitative methods
- Community studies methods applied to low- and moderate-income communities
- Excellent writing skills

HUD recognizes that your proposal may require expertise not listed above. If your proposal requires areas of expertise not listed here, please explain what is needed and demonstrate your team’s expertise in those areas.

Proposed research teams that include expertise in both biophysical and social factors that affect resilience to wildfire will receive more points than teams that are one sided in this regard. Proposed research teams that can demonstrate experience with a wide range of disaster assistance resources will receive more points than teams that have only narrow knowledge of one type of disaster assistance.

Reminder: Include resumes or CVs for up to 5 key personnel in an appendix.

### **Rating Factor 3: Soundness of Approach (35 Points)**

To be funded, proposals must receive at least 25 points for this rating factor. HUD will consider both retrospective and prospective studies for funding.

Please do not repeat the information provided under “Need for the Research.”

#### *A. Research Design (30 Points)*

Please describe how your study will answer this NOFO’s guiding research questions by explaining key concepts, research design, data collection and analysis approaches, and anticipated content of the final research report. The research design will be evaluated based on the extent to which it provides a feasible and sound methodological approach to answering the NOFO’s guiding research questions. The proposal must meet standards of scientific integrity. In addition, special attention will be paid to the following aspects:

1. Proposed community studies approach and its suitability for meeting NOFO objectives
2. The suitability of the presidentially declared wildfire disaster(s) and community or communities selected (including timeframes and whether the study will be retrospective or prospective) for answering the research questions; the research design must include one community that received CDBG-DR or CDBG-MIT funding

3. How the study will examine both biophysical and social factors, including individual and collective actions, that influence resilience to wildfire
4. The comprehensiveness and feasibility of the proposed approach to producing a full picture of disaster recovery resources and disaster assistance in the selected study site(s)
5. How you propose to document and make sense of community prioritization of resilience in the recovery process, including feasibility of plan to gain access to the field site(s) and to engage key informants and residents
6. The proposed approach to assess the influence of disaster assistance spending on the resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons or communities
7. Inclusion of diverse perspectives from affected persons, as appropriate to the studied sites

*B. Expert Panel (5 Points)*

To earn points under this factor, you must describe the composition and activities of the expert panel you will create—you don't need to have the actual experts on board yet, because the final selection will be made in consultation with HUD after the grant is awarded. The proposed expert panel must include at least one of each of the following: physical or biological scientist, social scientist, practitioner. The expert panel should be chosen to ensure the group has productive cross-disciplinary conversations on (1) using biophysical and social factors (including individual and collective actions) to enhance the resilience to wildfire of low- and moderate-income persons and communities and (2) how to use disaster assistance to achieve this goal. Your proposal for the expert panel will be evaluated on the following:

1. Multi-disciplinarity: Inclusion of least one physical or biological scientist, one social scientist, and one practitioner—this is required to get points under this factor
2. The case you make for having chosen the right types of experts for their tasks
3. The feasibility of your plan to engage these experts in advising the study and contributing to the policy brief directed at a wide audience

**Rating Factor 4: Management and Work Plan, Budget, and Quality of Writing (15 Points)**

Provide a concise draft Management and Work Plan that describes a clear, practical path for completing the proposed project. The plan must include the following:

1. Brief narrative describing how you will manage the overall project, assignment of staff, communication with HUD and the expert panel, major project milestones, interdependencies among tasks, and quality control procedures
2. Schedule of tasks and deliverables with start and completion dates
3. Allocation of resources, including staffing and labor hours, by task
4. Adequate allocation of funds to the expert panel
5. Total budget and cost by task, and *very brief* budget narrative

Please note: In addition to information provided in the narrative response to rating factors, you are required to submit an appendix that includes the FORM HUD424CBW with a budget that estimates all applicable direct and indirect costs and includes a narrative justification; the appendix will not count against your 28-page limit on the narrative response.

Finally, the clarity of writing and presentation throughout the proposal and the consistency of the

proposal across its parts (e.g., budget information in the Management and Work Plan should match the budget submitted in the Form HUD424CBW) will be evaluated under this factor.

Recall that the narrative must be formatted to fit an 8 ½ by 11-inch page, double-spaced, with one-inch margins, using standard Times New Roman 12-point font and that it is limited to 28 pages.

**Rating Factors Score Summary Chart:**

<b>Wildfire Fire Recovery and Resilience Score Summary Chart by Point Value</b>			
<b>Rating Factor 1</b>	Need for the Research	15	15 max
<b>Rating Factor 2</b>	Organizational Capacity and Experience and Key Personnel		35 max
	A. Organizational Capacity and Experience	15	
	B. Key Personnel	20	
<b>Rating Factor 3</b>	Soundness of Approach		35 max
	A. Research Design	30	
	B. Expert Panel	5	
<b>Rating Factor 4</b>	Management and Work Plan, Budget, and Quality of Writing	15	15 max
<b>Total</b>			<b>100 max</b>
NOFO Preference Points	a. Historically Black Colleges and Universities	2	2 max
	<b>Total Points Possible</b>	<b>102 max</b>	

**Maximum Points: 100**

**2. Other Factors.**

This program does not offer points for Section 3.

**Preference Points**

**HBCU.**

An applicant partnering with a Historically Black College or University (HBCU) will receive up to two (2) Preference Points when the application includes a Letter of Commitment certifying that an HBCU Partnership is in place and signed by an authorizing official of the HBCU and documentation of the college or university's status as an HBCU. [Click here to view the list of accredited HBCU's](#)

**Promise Zones**

This program does not offer Promise Zone preference points.

## **B. Review and Selection Process.**

### **1. Past Performance**

In evaluating applications for funding, HUD will consider an applicant's past performance in managing funds. Items HUD will consider include, but are not limited to:

The ability to account for funds in compliance with applicable reporting and recordkeeping requirements;

Timely use of funds received from HUD;

Timely submission and quality of reports submitted to HUD;

Meeting program requirements;

Meeting performance targets as established in the grant agreement;

The applicant's organizational capacity, including staffing structures and capabilities;

Timely completion of activities and receipt and expenditure of promised matching or leveraged funds;

HUD will evaluate applicant organizations' (including the grantee and, if applicable, proposed subgrantees) past performance based on research projects completed within the past 5 years. HUD will place high value on demonstrated successful completion of the following types of research projects: studies of community recovery after wildfire disaster, studies of sources and uses of disaster assistance funding in recovery after wildfire disaster or other natural disasters, and studies on factors that may enhance resilience to wildfire.

HUD may reduce scores based on the past performance review, as specified under V.A. Review Criteria. Whenever possible, HUD will obtain past performance information. If this review results in an adverse finding related to integrity of performance, HUD reserves the right to take any of the remedies provided in Section III E., Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility, "[Pre-selection Review of Performance](#)".

### **2. Assessing Applicant Risk.**

In evaluating risks posed by applicants, HUD may use a risk-based approach and may consider any items such as the following:

- Financial stability;
- Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in this part;
- History of performance. The applicant's record in managing Federal awards, if it is a prior recipient of Federal awards, including timeliness of compliance with applicable reporting requirements, failing to make significant progress in a timely manner, failing to meet planned activities in a timely manner, conformance to the terms and conditions of previous Federal awards, and if applicable, the extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards;
- Reports and findings from audits performed under Subpart F—Audit Requirements of this part or the reports and findings of any other available audits; and
- The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities.

Two types of reviews will be conducted:

1. A threshold review to determine an applicant's eligibility; and
2. A technical review for all applications that pass the threshold review, to rate and rank the application based on the "Rating Factors" listed in Section V.A.

Only those applications that pass the threshold review will receive a technical review and be rated and ranked. Applicants will be selected based on highest score.

## **VI. Award Administration Information.**

### **A. Award Notices.**

Following the evaluation process, HUD will notify successful applicants of their selection for funding. HUD will also notify other applicants, whose applications were received by the deadline, but have not been chosen for award. Notifications will be sent by email to the person listed as the AOR in item 21 of the SF-424.

**Final Grant.** After HUD has made selections, HUD will finalize specific terms of the award and budget in consultation with the selected applicant. If HUD and the selected applicant do not finalize the terms and conditions of the award in a timely manner, or the selected applicant fails to provide requested information, an award will not be made to that applicant. In this case, HUD may select another eligible applicant.

HUD may impose specific conditions on an award as provided under [2 CFR 200.208](#):

- Based on HUD's review of the applicant's risk under [2 CFR 200.206](#);
- When the applicant or recipient has a history of failure to comply with the general or specific terms and conditions of a Federal award;
- When the applicant or recipient fails to meet expected performance goals contained in a federal award; or
- When the applicant or recipient is not otherwise responsible.

**Adjustments to Funding.** To ensure the fair distribution of funds and enable the purposes or requirements of a specific program to be met, HUD reserves the right to fund less than the amount requested in an application.

a. HUD will fund no portion of an application that:

- (1) Is not eligible for funding under applicable statutory or regulatory requirements;
- (2) Does not meet the requirements of this notice; or
- (3) Duplicates other funded programs or activities from prior year awards or other selected applicants.

b. If funds are available after funding the highest-ranking application, HUD may fund all or part of another eligible fundable application. If an applicant turns down an award offer, or if HUD and an applicant do not finalize the terms and conditions of the award in a timely manner, HUD may withdraw the award offer and make an offer of funding to another eligible application.

c. If funds remain after all selections have been made, remaining funds may be made available within the current FY for other competitions within the program area, or be held for future competitions, or be used as otherwise provided by authorizing statute or appropriation.



d. If, after announcement of awards made under the current NOFO, additional funds become available either through the current appropriations, a supplemental appropriation, other appropriations or recapture of funds, HUD may use the additional funds to provide additional funding to an applicant awarded less than the requested amount of funds to make the full award, and/or to fund additional applicants that were eligible to receive an award but for which there were no funds available.

**Funding Errors.** If HUD commits an error that when corrected would cause selection of an applicant during the funding round of a Program NOFO, HUD may select that applicant for funding, subject to the availability of funds. If funding is not available to award in the current fiscal year, HUD may make an award to this applicant during the next fiscal year, if funding is available.

## **B. Administrative, National and Department Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Recipients Financial Assistance Awards**

For this NOFO, the following [Administrative, National and Department Policy Requirements and Terms for HUD Financial Assistance Awards](#) apply.

1. Unless otherwise specified, these non-discrimination and equal opportunity authorities and other requirements apply to all NOFOs. Please read the following requirements carefully as the requirements are different among HUD's programs.
  - Compliance with Fair Housing and Civil Rights Laws, Which Encompass the Fair Housing Act and Related Authorities (see cf. 24 CFR 5.105(a) <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-24/subtitle-A/part-5/subpart-A/section-5.105>).
  - Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (<https://www.hud.gov/AFFH>).
  - Economic Opportunities for Low-and Very Low-income Persons (Section 3). See 24 CFR part 75 (<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-24/subtitle-A/part-75>).
  - Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) See [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/fair\\_housing\\_equal\\_opp/limited\\_english\\_proficiency](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/limited_english_proficiency).
  - Accessible Technology. See <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/OCIO/documents/s508103017.pdf>
2. Equal Access Requirements. [See 24 CFR 5.105\(a\)\(2\)](#)
3. Ensuring the Participation of Small Disadvantaged Business, and Women-Owned Business.
4. Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations in HUD Programs and Activities.
5. Uniform Relocation Act – Real Property Acquisition and Relocation Requirements. See [49 CFR part 24](#).
6. Participation in HUD-Sponsored Program Evaluation.
7. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.
8. Drug-Free Workplace.
9. Safeguarding Resident/Client Files.
10. Compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L.109-282) (Transparency Act), as amended.
11. Eminent Domain.
12. Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities. See [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/fair\\_housing\\_equal\\_opp/disability\\_overview](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/disability_overview)
13. Violence Against Women Act. See [24 CFR part 5](#), subpart L and applicable program

regulations.

14. Conducting Business in Accordance with Ethical Standards/Code of Conduct.

15. Environmental Requirements, which include compliance with environmental justice requirements under Executive Order 12898 and 14008.

### **Environmental Review**

In accordance with 24 CFR 50.19(b)(1) activities funded under this NOFO are exempt or categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321) and not subject to environmental review under related laws and authorities.

### **Prohibition on Surveillance**

[2 CFR 200.216](#) Prohibition on Certain Telecommunication and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment

### **Remedies for Noncompliance**

[2 CFR 200.340](#) *Termination* A Federal award may be terminated in whole or in part if the grantee fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the award or if HUD determines the award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities.

### **Lead Based Paint Requirements.**

Not Applicable

## **C. Reporting.**

HUD requires recipients to submit performance and financial reports under OMB guidance and program instructions.

**1. Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters.** Applicants should be aware that if the total Federal share of your federal award includes more than \$ 500,000 over the period of performance, the award will be subject to post award reporting requirements reflected in Appendix XII to Part 200 Award Terms and Conditions for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters.

**2. Race, Ethnicity and Other Data Reporting.** HUD requires recipients that provide HUD-funded program benefits to individuals or families to report data on the race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and family characteristics of persons and households who are applicants for, participants in, or beneficiaries or potential beneficiaries of HUD programs in order to carry out the Department's responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act, Executive Order 11063, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Section 562 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987.

**3. Compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109-282) as amended (FFATA).** FFATA requires information on federal awards be made available to the public via a single, searchable website, which is [www.USASpending.gov](http://www.USASpending.gov). Accordingly, each award HUD makes under this NOFO will be subject to the requirements provided by the Award Term in Appendix A to [2 CFR Part 170](#), "REPORTINGSUBAWARD AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION INFORMATION," unless the Federal funding for the award (including funding that may be added through amendments) is not expected to equal or

exceed \$30,000. Requirements under this Award Term include filing subaward information in the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Sub-award Reporting System (FSRS.gov) by the end of the month following the month in which the recipient awards any sub-grant equal to or greater than \$30,000.

#### **4. Program-Specific Reporting Requirements**

PD&R's HUDRD Cooperative Agreements require certain deliverables as part of the project management system, including the following: (1) Opening meeting with HUD, (2) Management and Work Plan with a detailed allocation of grant resources and timelines, (3) Quality Control Plan, and (4) Quarterly Progress Reports. Project deliverables are described in I.A. Program Description and some of the deliverables are reports.

#### **D. Debriefing.**

For a period of at least 120 days, beginning 30 days after the public announcement of awards under this NOFO, HUD will provide a debriefing related to their application to requesting applicants. A request for debriefing must be made in writing or by email by the authorized organization representative whose signature appears on the SF-424 or by his or her successor in office and be submitted to the POC in Section VII Agency Contact(s), below. Information provided during a debriefing may include the final score the applicant received for each rating factor, final evaluator comments for each rating factor, and the final assessment indicating the basis upon which funding was approved or denied.

#### **VII. Agency Contact(s).**

HUD staff will be available to provide clarification on the content of this NOFO. Questions regarding specific program requirements for this NOFO should be directed to the POC listed below.

Name:

Katina Jordan

Phone:

202-402-7577

Email:

Katina.L.Jordan@hud.gov

Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Please note that HUD staff cannot assist applicants in preparing their applications.

#### **VIII. Other Information.**

##### **1. National Environmental Policy Act.**

This NOFO does not direct, provide for assistance or loan and mortgage insurance for, or otherwise govern or regulate, real property acquisition, disposition, leasing (other than tenant-based rental assistance), rehabilitation, demolition, or new construction, or establish revise or provide for standards for construction or construction materials, manufactured housing, or occupancy. Accordingly, under [24 CFR 50.19\(c\)\(1\)](#), this NOFO is categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321).

##### **2. Web Resources.**

- [Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing](#)
- [Code of Conduct list](#)
- [Assistance Listing \(formerly CFDA\)](#)
- [Dun & Bradstreet/Unique Entity Identifier](#)
- [Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations](#)
- [Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System](#)
- [FFATA Subaward Reporting System](#)
- [Grants.gov](#)
- [HBCUs](#)
- [Healthy Homes Strategic Plan](#)
- [Healthy Housing Reference Manual](#)
- [HUD's Strategic Plan](#)
- [HUD Grants](#)
- [Limited English Proficiency](#)
- [NOFO Webcasts](#)
- [Procurement of Recovered Materials](#)
- [Promise Zones](#)
- [Section 3 Business Registry](#)
- [State Point of Contact List](#)
- [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#)
- [Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act of 1970 \(URA\)](#)
- [USA Spending](#)

### 3. Program Relevant Web Resources

<https://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/thestrategy.shtml>

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-dr/>

[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/cdbg-dr](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/cdbg-dr)

## APPENDIX

**Table 1. Presidentially Declared Major Disasters for Wildfires 1991 to 2021 and Emergency Supplemental CDBG-Disaster Recovery and Mitigation Grants**

FEMA Number	Declaration Date	Disaster Name	State	CDBG-DR Grants	CDBG-DR Dollars
919	10/22/1991	OAKLAND HILLS FIRE	CA		
922	11/13/1991	FIRES	WA		
958	8/29/1992	OLD GULCH & FOUNTAIN FIRES	CA		
1005	10/28/1993	FIRES, MUD/LANDSLIDES, FLOODING, SOIL EROSION	CA		

1119	6/7/1996	WILDLAND FIRES	AK		
1132	8/14/1996	HEAVY RAINS, HIGH WINDS, FLOODING, AND SLIDES	WV		
1223	6/18/1998	EXTREME FIRE HAZARD	FL		
1329	5/13/2000	SEVERE FOREST FIRE	NM		
1340	8/30/2000	WILDFIRES	MT		
1341	9/1/2000	WILDFIRES	ID		
1391	9/11/2001	FIRES AND EXPLOSIONS	NY		
1421	6/19/2002	WILDFIRES	CO		
1422	6/25/2002	WILDFIRES	AZ		
1477	7/14/2003	ASPEN FIRE	AZ		
1498 1505, 1529	10/27/2003	WILDFIRES, FLOODING, MUDFLOW AND DEBRIS FLOW DIRECTLY RELATED TO WILDFIRE	CA	B-05-DJ-06-0001	\$10,400,000*
1540	8/26/2004	WILDLAND FIRE	NV		
1623	1/10/2006	EXTREME WILDFIRE THREAT	OK		
1624	1/11/2006	EXTREME WILDFIRE THREAT	TX		
1666	10/27/2006	FIRE	AK		
1731	10/24/2007	WILDFIRES, FLOODING, MUD FLOWS, AND DEBRIS FLOWS	CA		
1810 3287- EM	11/18/2008	WILDFIRES	CA	B-08-DI-06-0001	\$54,500,000
1846	6/19/2009	WILDFIRES	OK		
1999	7/1/2011	WILDFIRES	TX	B-13-DS-48-0001	\$31,300,000
4029	9/9/2011	WILDFIRES	TX	B-13-DS-48-0001 B-12-DT-48-0001	\$5,061,000 \$97,152

4067	6/28/2012	HIGH PARK AND WALDO CANYON WILDFIRES	CO	BS-13-DS-08-0001	Part of \$320,346,000**
4074	8/2/2012	WILDFIRE	MT		
4078	8/22/2012	FREEDOM AND NOBLE WILDFIRES	OK		\$83,100,000***
4134	7/26/2013	BLACK FOREST WILDFIRE	CO	B-13-DS-08-0001	Part of \$320,346,000**
4133	7/26/2013	ROYAL GORGE FIRE	CO		
4145	9/14/2013	Severe storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides	CO		
4142	8/29/2013	WILDFIRE	CA		
4158	12/13/2013	RIM FIRE	CA	NDRC grant	\$70,359,459*****
4188	8/11/2014	WILDFIRES	WA		
4240	9/22/2015	VALLEY FIRE AND BUTTE FIRE	CA		
4243	10/20/2015	WILDFIRES AND MUDSLIDES	WA		
4293	12/15/2016	WILDFIRES	TN		
4344	10/10/2017	WILDFIRES	CA	B-18-DP-06-0001 B-18-DP-06-0002 B-19-DP-06-0001	\$124,155,000 \$38,057,527 \$88,132,309
4353	1/2/2018	WILDFIRES, FLOODING, MUDFLOWS, AND DEBRIS FLOWS	CA		
4373	6/25/2018	WILDFIRES	OK		
4382	8/4/2018	WILDFIRES AND HIGH WINDS	CA	B-19-DV-06-0001 B-19-DV-06-0002	\$491,816,000
4407	11/12/2018	WILDFIRES	CA		\$525,583,000
4558	8/22/2020	WILDFIRES	CA		\$231,203,000

4569	10/16/2020	WILDFIRES	CA		
4584	9/1/2020	Washington Wildfires and Straight-line Winds	WA		
4581	9/6/2020	Colorado Wildfires	CO		
4562	9/15/2020	WILDFIRES AND STRAIGHT-LINE WINDS	OR		\$422,286,000
4634	12/31/2021	Wildfires and Straight-line Winds	CO		
4581	1/15/2021	WILDFIRES	CO		
4584	2/4/2021	WILDFIRES AND STRAIGHT-LINE WINDS	WA		
4610	7/14/2021	California Wildfires	CA		\$14,761,000
4623	8/8/2021	Montana Richard Spring fire	MT		
4619	8/14/2021	California Caldor Fire	CA		

\*This is the total grant amount awarded for more than one declared disaster, with some unknown amount of these funds going to wildfire disaster and the rest for non-fire disasters that occurred around the same time.

\*\*CO received the CDBG-DR allocation for disaster 4145 declared in 2013 (Severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides), but these funds were also made available to help with recovery from three earlier wildfire disasters 4067 (High Park and Waldo Canyon Wildfires), 4134 (Black Forest Wildfire), and 4133 (Royal Gorge Fire) (See the Colorado Action Plan for Disaster Recovery Version 7.8 updated March 25, 2022, available at <https://cdola.colorado.gov/sites/dola/files/documents/Action%20Plan%20Version%207.8%20Final.pdf>) and discussion in Mockrin et al., 2016).

\*\*\*This amount was granted to the State of Oklahoma for nine disasters that occurred between 2011 and 2013, one of which was the Freedom and Noble Wildfires, some portion of which went for recovery from the Freedom and Noble wildfires.

\*\*\*\*Funded the Community and Watershed Resilience Program in California based on tie-back to the Rim Fire of 2013.