

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Community Development Partnership Program?

LCRA awards grants of up to \$50,000 to worthy community projects in the LCRA wholesale power, water and transmission service territory through the Community Development Partnership Program, or CDPP. The program supports communities and economic growth by helping fund projects for community planning, education, employment, health care, public safety, recreation, training and volunteer fire departments. CDPP grants encourage economic diversification in local communities; contribute to the health, safety and development of a community; or improve the quality or quantity of services essential for the development of viable communities and economic growth.



2. What groups are eligible to apply for a grant?

CDPP provides grants to nonprofit organizations, such as:

- Volunteer fire departments.
- Emergency responders.
- Cities and counties.
- Schools.
- Libraries.
- Civic groups.
- Museums.

3. What kinds of projects does CDPP fund?

CDPP grants fund a variety of capital improvement projects to enhance local communities. Examples of recent awards include funding for emergency equipment for first responders; improvements to fire stations, parks, libraries and community centers; energy-efficient lighting and electrical upgrades for museums and community sports fields; air conditioning units in convention centers; rainwater catchment systems; and roof repairs and handicapped-accessible ramps for local museums and community halls.

The CDPP program places emphasis on projects for volunteer fire departments, and projects that address needs caused by wildfires or drought conditions, or include water conservation, energy conservation or educational components.

4. What are the eligibility requirements for a CDPP grant?



- Projects must meet a need in one of the following areas: education, transportation, public safety, recreation, health care, training, community planning or employment.
- Projects must have physical addresses located within LCRA's wholesale electric service area or water service area, or areas in which LCRA's Transmission Services Corporation provides transmission services.

- Projects must benefit or be available to an entire community.
- Projects must be completed within 12 months of the date the grant is received. Failure to complete the project on schedule or to abide by the terms of the agreement may result in LCRA requiring the recipient to return the grant.
- An applicant must not have received a CDPP grant within 24 months.

5. What groups are not eligible to apply for a grant?

The grants are not available to individuals, for-profit entities, professional associations, social service projects or limited-use facilities.

6. What kinds of projects are not eligible for CDPP funding?

Social service projects and limited use facilities such as food pantries, transitional housing and substance abuse facilities are not eligible. CDPP grants may not be used for planning or consultants, or training, workshops or seminars (with the exception of public firefighting organizations, including volunteer fire departments). Other ineligible projects include those that already are completed; in fundraising mode; religious sanctuaries or church-sponsored facilities that can be used only by members; land acquisition; debt-reduction campaigns; capital campaigns; program operating costs; administrative and/or indirect costs, such as personnel and overhead expenses, as well as grant writing and/or consulting fees; computer and/or video equipment or software; furniture; appliances; office equipment; or batteries.

7. How much money is awarded in CDPP grants every year?

More than a million dollars is awarded in CDPP grants every year.

8. Besides the amount, what is the difference in grants up to \$25,000, and grants between \$25,001 and \$50,000?

Under CDPP rules, 70 percent of the funds available in any given grant cycle must be awarded for grants of \$25,000 or less. The remaining 30 percent may be awarded to large projects of up to \$50,000. The larger grants are intended for projects with a far-reaching impact on a broad community. Applications in this category should be for particularly impressive and noteworthy projects.

9. How does my group apply for a grant?

Applications must be submitted online via lcra.org/cdpp. If you have trouble submitting your application, please contact LCRA at 512-578-3140 for assistance.

10. How long will it take to complete the application?

Applicants usually take several hours to compile the required documents and complete the online application. LCRA encourages applicants not to wait until the deadline is near before beginning the application process, as the deadline for submission is firm and will not be extended.

11. What documentation is required in the grant application?

Applicants must submit:

- A detailed description of the proposed project.
- An IRS form 990 or IRS 501(c)(3) determination, if applicable.
- A detailed budget summary, including itemized costs and funding sources.
- A current financial or bank statement.
- Vendor quotes or estimates.
- A list of key staff and members of the Board of Directors.
- Photos of the project, if applicable.



12. What other information do I need for the application?

The application requires:

- Basic information about the applicant organization, including legal name, address, contact information and mission statement.
- A detailed description of the project and the project need.
- Information about other funding sources, including whether matching funds are already in hand.
- Information about the project's benefits to the community or region, including any economic impact.

13. I missed the deadline. May I apply late?

No. Applications must be submitted by the deadline in order to be considered in that grant cycle.

14. When are grants awarded?

Grants are awarded twice a year. Applications are due by midnight on Jan. 31 and July 31. The review process can take up to eight weeks after the deadline has passed.

15. How can I tell if my organization is in LCRA's service territory?

You can check to see if you are in the LCRA service territory by viewing [this map of eligible counties](#).

16. Are matching funds required for every grant? How much does the match have to be?

Grants of more than \$5,000 require a match of at least 20 percent of the total project cost. The matching funds must be documented in the grant application by providing financial or bank statements and/or letters of credit or monetary support. A [budget summary example](#) and template are provided in the application to assist with itemizing the funding sources and project costs. In-kind volunteer labor and/or donations of materials may be used as matching contributions.

17. My organization was awarded a grant last year. When may we apply for another grant?

Organizations must wait 24 months after grant funds are received and complete the prior grant-funded project before becoming eligible to apply for another grant. Completing a project includes returning the notarized [Completion Report](#) and photos of the project and the permanent signage acknowledging the grant.

18. Is it possible I may receive a grant in a different amount than requested?

Yes. Because of limited funds, the CDDP Review Committee may occasionally award a smaller grant than requested.

19. How can I get more information?

Visit lcra.org/cdpp or contact us at 512-578-3140 or grants@lcra.org.

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