Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for Rural Texas

The primary objective of the Community Development Block Grant program is to develop viable communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities principally for persons of low- to moderate-income.

Eligible Applicants:  Non-entitlement cities and counties whose populations are less than 50,000 and 200,000 respectively, and that are not designated as eligible for the entitlement portion of the federal Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG).

Community Development Fund

Application Deadline: February 2021  
Max Award: $275,000 - $800,000 (varies by region)

The Community Development Fund is the largest fund category in the TxCDBG Program. This fund is available through a competition in each of the 24 state planning regions. Although most funds are used for Public Facilities (water/wastewater infrastructure, street and drainage improvements and housing activities), there are numerous other activities for which these funds may be used.

Texas Capital Fund

Supports rural business development, retention, and expansion.

Infrastructure / Real Estate Development Programs

Applications due February, May, August & November 2019  
Max Award: $1,000,000

Provides grants or zero-interest loans for infrastructure and building improvements to create or retain permanent jobs.

Main Street / Downtown Revitalization Programs

Application Deadline: October 2019  
Max Award: $350,000

Provides grant funds for public infrastructure to eliminate deteriorated conditions and foster economic development in historic main street areas and rural downtown areas.

Fire, Ambulance, and Service Truck (FAST) Fund

Application Deadline: June 2019  
Max Award: $500,000

Provides funds for eligible vehicles to provide emergency response and special services to LMI rural communities.
Planning and Capacity Building Fund
Application Deadline: March 2019  Max Award: $55,000
An annual competitive grant program for local public facility and housing planning activities. Localities apply for financial assistance to prepare a “comprehensive plan” or any of its components.

Disaster Relief Fund
Application Deadline: 1 Year from Event  Max Award: $350,000
The Disaster Relief Fund addresses emergency situations that have received an official state or federal disaster declaration. Funds can be used to restore infrastructure damaged by natural disasters to pre-disaster condition in design, function, and capacity. In a drought situation, the DR fund may also be used to install new facilities that resolve a primary drinking water supply shortage.

Colonia Funds
Funds available to eligible county applicants for projects in severely distressed unincorporated areas. The term “colonia” generally means an identifiable unincorporated community that is within 150 miles of the border between the United States and Mexico.

Colonia Planning Fund
Application Deadline: August 2019  Max Award: $100,000
Assistance for the completion of planning activities to prepare colonia areas for water, sewer and housing improvements.

Colonia Construction Fund
Application Deadline: August 2019  Max Award: $500,000
Assistance to fund water and wastewater improvements, housing rehabilitation, and other improvements in colonia areas.

Colonia Economically Distressed Areas Program
Application Deadline: As Needed  Max Award: $1,000,000
Assistance to colonia areas to connect to a water and sewer system project funded by other state and federal funds.