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# Strengthening Your Project Submittal



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# What does HUD want to see accomplished?

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## Long-term resilience

- What permanent actions does your project involve?
- How are you making sure your project, once built, is properly maintained and operated?

Applicants must, “fully articulate a resilience-enhancing disaster recovery or revitalization project or program that addresses their identified risks, vulnerabilities, and community development opportunities. HUD only invited an applicant to compete in Phase 2 if it committed to taking a permanent resilience-enhancing action.”

*From Phase 2 HUD factsheet.*

## Not just projects, but changes in long-term policies and practices

- How can you ensure that future developments and projects will be less vulnerable than things built today?
- Can you identify changes to building codes, zoning ordinances, local or state regulations, etc. that would reinforce the results of your capital investments?

Successful Phase 2 applications, “must also include the applicant undertaking supporting actions locally (e.g., building code updates, executive orders, zoning revisions, comprehensive and mitigation plan linkages, interagency partnerships, financing mechanisms, or completing and adopting a forward-looking community-wide resilience assessment and plan) that will better position the Applicant to be more resilient to future threat(s) and hazard(s).” *National Disaster Resiliency Competition, FR-5800-N-29, p.10, Sept. 17, 2014.*

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## Address future vulnerabilities as well as past vulnerabilities

- Does your future risk look different than it did in the past?
- What scientific information did you rely upon to make this determination?
- How does your project take into account future climate change impacts?

*“Grantees are encouraged not to rebuild to meet past needs or threats, but to design recovery projects to create a more vital, resilient community for the present and future, taking into consideration changing threats and hazards, including those due to climate change.” National Disaster Resiliency Competition, FR-5800-N-29, p.7, Sept. 17, 2014.*

## Multiple benefits, not just a single purpose project

- Does your project provide protections against multiple disaster types?
- Besides protection against a natural disaster, what other benefits might be realized by your actions?

*“The best projects will demonstrate how the proposal or project will help the community recover from the effects of the covered disaster, advance community development objectives such as economic revitalization AND improve the community’s ability to absorb or rapidly recover from the effects of a future extreme event, stress, threat, hazard, or other shocks. National Disaster Resiliency Competition, FR-5800-N-29, p.8, Sept. 17, 2014.*

# HUD's Goals for the National Disaster Resilience Competition

When developing your projects, ideas, and your application, keep HUD's own goals in mind.

1. Fairly and effectively allocate the CDBG Disaster Recovery funds.
2. Create multiple examples of modern disaster recovery that apply **science-based** and **forward-looking risk analysis** to address recovery, resilience, and revitalization needs.
3. **Leave a legacy** of institutionalizing the implementation of thoughtful, sound, and resilient approaches to address future risks in state and local decision making and planning.
4. Provide resources to help communities plan and implement disaster recovery that makes them **more resilient to future threats or hazards**, including extreme weather events and climate change, while also **improving quality of life** for existing residents and making communities **more resilient to economic stresses or other shocks**.
5. **Fully engage and inform community stakeholders** about the impacts of climate change and assist in developing pathways to resilience based on sound science.
6. **Leverage investments** from the philanthropic community to help communities define problems, set policy goals, explore options, and craft solutions for local and regional resilient recovery strategies.

# Phase 2 Application Scoring Factors

<b>PHASE 2</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Minimum Threshold</b>
<b>Factor 1 – Capacity</b>	20	14
<b>Subfactor: Past Experience</b>	10	
Subfactor: Management structure	10	
<b>Factor 2- Need</b>	20	
Subfactor: Target area/unmet needs	5	
Subfactor: Resilience need	8	
Subfactor: Best actions	7	
<b>Factor 3 – Soundness of Approach</b>	40	25
Subfactor: Project/frame correspond	10	
Subfactor: Increases resilience to current and future disasters	10	
Subfactor: Model/replicable/holistic	10	
Subfactor: Schedule	5	1
Subfactor: Budget	3	1
Subfactor: Plan consistency	2	
<b>Factor 4 – Leverage</b>	10	
<b>Factor 5 –Long-Term Commitment</b>	10	2
<b>Subtotal Phase 2</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Benefit-Cost Analysis</b>		Benefits reasonably demonstrated to justify Costs

Where applicants can really distinguish their proposals from those of other around the nation are Factor 3 (Soundness of Approach), Factor 4 (Leverage), and Factor 5 (Long Term Commitment).

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## Factor 3 – Soundness of Approach (40 Points)

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Serves multiple purposes, both in terms of addressing vulnerabilities to natural disasters and making the community more socially and economically resilient.

Articulate why your proposed project was selected, what other options were considered and why those were not selected.

Describe the benefits in similar terms as you evaluate in the Benefit Cost Assessment (Resiliency Value, Environmental Value, Social Value, and Economic Revitalization).

Explain how your project might be scalable or replicable. Don't just say it is, but point out other areas you know of that have a similar problem and why what you do is relevant to others.

Make sure your project is feasible, that you have the capacity to carry it out, and you have identified the funding to build, operate and maintain it.

Ensure that your project can be done within the deadlines for using HUD funding. Non-HUD funds that are identified as leverage in your application do not have to comply with these timelines.

- Funds must be obligated by HUD by September 30, 2017
- Funds must be expended within two years of HUD's obligation (waivers are available)

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## Factor 4 - Leverage

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Bring new resources to bear on the problems you have identified

Real commitments that can be documented in application

- In Phase 1 it was mostly about potential commitments

Financial matching

- broad latitude for using local, state, and other federal dollars
- HUD is very interested in engaging philanthropies, but very very few have shown interest anywhere in the country
- Private investments

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## Factor 4 - Leverage

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Two main types of leverage:

- “Firmly committed” means that the amount of the resource and its dedication is explicit.
  - Endorsements or general letters of support from organizations or vendors alone will not count as resources and should not be included in the application.
  - e.g. “X Agency commits to providing \$100,000 in funds for a technical study to support the CDBG-NDR proposal in XX target area.”
- “Supporting commitment” is funding that your Partners have available for their use to carry out activities that directly support the proposal.
  - e.g. “a university professor who received grant funding to conduct a health study for the target area”
  - e.g. “a state that changes its low-income housing tax credit qualified allocation plan to direct tax credit resources to meet affordable housing unmet needs of the target area.”

# Factor 4 - Leverage

<b>Leveraged Commitments as Percent of Grant Funds Requested (Applications for a Metro Area)</b>	<b>Leveraged Commitments as Percent of Grant Funds Requested (Applications for a Non-metro Area)</b>	<b>Points Awarded</b>
100 percent and above	50 percent and above	6
Between 70.00 and 99.99 percent	Between 35.00 and 49.99 percent	4
Between 40.00 and 69.99 percent	Between 20.00 and 34.99 percent	2
Between 10.00 and 39.99 percent	Between 5.00 and 19.99 percent	1
Below 10 percent	Below 5 percent	0

Up to 4 additional points as follows:

- HUD will rank applications by the amount of confirmed commitments of non-CDBG-DR direct financial assistance. The application with the largest documented commitment of non-CDBG-DR direct financial assistance (e.g. cash leverage), will receive 4 points.
- The next application (ranked 2) will receive 3 points. The next application (ranked 3) will receive 2 points. The next applications (ranked 4) will receive 1 point.

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## Factor 5 – Long-term Commitment and Regional Collaboration

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- Lessons Learned
- Legislative action
- Raising standards, improving regulations, improving enforcement, etc.
- Plan updates and alignment that emphasize resilience
  - Hazard Mitigation Plans
  - CDBG-DR Action Plans
  - Housing
  - Economic Development
  - Climate action plans
- Financing and economic issues
- Talk about how you're working with others across the state, both as part of the State's application and the applications being submitted in the Chicago area.

*GOOD LUCK!*



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