PURPOSE
The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program offers grants to Missouri communities to improve local facilities, address health and safety concerns, and develop a greater capacity for growth. This category provides assistance to communities to establish or improve local water or sewer facilities.

AUTHORIZATION
42 USC § 5301 et seq., 24 C.F.R. Part 570; and Missouri’s “Consolidated Plan” submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS
Missouri cities and counties in non-entitlement areas.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
State CDBG funds are only available to cities and counties in non-entitlement areas. A non-entitlement area is a city with population less than 50,000 and/or a county with population less than 200,000.

PROGRAM BENEFITS/ELIGIBLE USES
Grants may be used for construction that is related to water treatment and distribution, and sewer treatment and collection for publicly owned systems. Operation, maintenance activities and improvements related to fire flow are not eligible.

FUNDING LIMITS
The maximum amount any applicant can apply for is $750,000 or $5,000 per household.

APPLICATION/APPROVAL PROCESS
Applications are open cycle (year-round), but require an invitation after completing the Missouri Water and Wastewater Review Committee (MWWRC) process. The process includes submission of a preliminary proposal and engineering report (with 5 copies) to MWWRC for review and comment. The MWWRC meets monthly and is made up of members from USDA-Rural Development, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and CDBG.

SPECIAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
Applicants must be sure that the project beneficiaries are at least 51% low-to-moderate income persons.

New water or sewer systems or expansion/upgrades of existing systems that have substantiated health concerns are prioritized. Successful applicants must demonstrate that rates will adequately cover operation, maintenance, reserves, emergencies, employee overhead, etc; or, the community must have initiated a graduated rate increase that will provide adequate operating costs over a period of years. Communities applying a regional approach to problem solving will receive priority consideration as well.

CONTACT
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