

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **Federal Agency Name:** Economic Development Administration (EDA), Department of Commerce
- **Federal Funding Opportunity Title:** National Technical Assistance, Training, Research and Evaluation: Economic Development Research Projects
- **Announcement Type:** Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO)
- **Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers:** 11.303, Economic Development—Technical Assistance; 11.312, Economic Development—Research and Evaluation
- **Dates:** To be considered timely, a completed application, regardless of the format in which it is submitted, must be either: (a) received by the EDA representative listed in section VII. of this announcement no later than August 3, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. EST; or (b) transmitted and time-stamped at www.grants.gov no later than August 3, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. EST. Any application received or transmitted, as the case may be, after 5:00 p.m. EST on August 3, 2007 will be considered non-responsive and will not be considered for funding. *See* section IV.B. for information regarding format options for submitted completed applications. By September 5, 2007, EDA expects to notify the applicants selected for investment assistance under this announcement.
- **Application Submission:** Completed applications must be submitted to EDA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. by e-mail, hand-delivery or postal mail, as provided in section VII.B. of this announcement. Applications also may be submitted electronically through www.grants.gov. *See* section IV. of this announcement.
- **Federal Funding Opportunity Description:** Pursuant to the National Technical Assistance, Training, Research and Evaluation program, EDA is soliciting applications for four economic development research projects addressing the areas of rural economic development policy, business incubators, 21st century regionalism and private sector community investment.

FULL ANNOUNCEMENT TEXT

I. Federal Funding Opportunity Description

A. Program Objective

The Economic Development Administration's (EDA) mission is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy. Through its National Technical Assistance, Training, Research and Evaluation program (NTA Program), EDA works towards fulfilling its mission by funding research and technical assistance projects to promote competitiveness and innovation in distressed rural and urban regions throughout the United States and its territories. By working in conjunction with its research partners, EDA will help States, local governments and community-based organizations to achieve their highest economic potential.

B. Project Description

In today's worldwide marketplace, competition no longer comes from just the company or county next door. Increasing competition comes from any person on the globe with a good education, a good idea and a good Internet connection. In order to succeed, U.S. industries will require a comprehensive, holistic approach to economic development and economic leadership.

Recent studies on economic development, including several EDA-funded reports, stress the importance of a regional approach to successful economic development efforts and the importance of fostering innovation and supporting entrepreneurship as key elements in regional economic development. EDA appreciates the importance of the regional perspective and has implemented several strategies designed to foster regional economic development planning and implementation, innovation and entrepreneurship. EDA now wishes to develop credible measures of regional economic impact, innovation and entrepreneurship and the efficacy of these efforts in fostering increased productivity of goods and services, new business formation and economic growth. Pursuant to its NTA Program, EDA is soliciting applications for four economic development research projects addressing the areas of: (1) rural economic development policy; (2) business incubators; (3) 21st century regionalism; and (4) private sector community investment.

1. Project Title: Rural Economic Development Policy

Background Statement:

EDA is soliciting applications to undertake research involving rural economic development policy. Specifically, EDA seeks to build on existing rural economic development research in the areas of rural clusters, regional asset indicators of innovation, entrepreneurship, and infrastructure and economic regionalism. Rural America has seen its share of the U.S.

economy decline over the past decade. EDA is soliciting applications that build upon and extend the knowledge base in this important economic development issue area.

2. Project Title: Business Incubators

Background Statement:

EDA is soliciting applications to undertake research involving business incubators. Business incubators may provide wet lab or office space, and often also offer business support services, such as business planning and marketing assistance. Business incubators of whatever type share a common principle: to nurture the development of entrepreneurial companies. EDA solicits applications from qualified researchers to build on the existing body of knowledge about business incubators, distilling the characteristics and best practices of successful incubation efforts and discussing quantitative and qualitative approaches to measuring incubator success.

3. Project Title: 21st Century Regionalism

Background Statement:

EDA is soliciting applications to undertake research involving 21st century regionalism. The importance of a regional perspective to the success of economic development is well established, is being embraced by economic development practitioners and contributes to the success of new economic development activities. The dynamics of an increasingly inter-connected world marketplace create the need to look ahead, building on the current concepts of economic regionalism and incorporating our best information to create a vision of the next steps in the evolution of the regionalism concept.

4. Project Title: Private Sector Community Investment

Background Statement:

EDA is soliciting applications to undertake research examining private sector community investment, specifically the critical role private sector investment plays in community and economic development. Academics and practitioners now understand that government dollars alone – regardless of the amount – cannot create livable communities and economic opportunity to support high and rising wages. The most successful examples of community and economic development are characterized by an active and engaged private sector. This research project will investigate the proper role of the private sector in shaping successful development strategies designed to create more livable communities with higher-skill, higher-wage jobs.

Deliverables:

The purpose of these four projects is the creation of practitioner-accessible tools that can be used to bring the best current thinking to bear on specific problems. Therefore, the scope of work for each project consists of the following elements:

1. A practitioner-accessible report of the findings in the subject area. The report should be presented in a visually-appealing brochure summarizing key elements and findings. Approximately 500 brochures should be provided to EDA, with each brochure containing a compact disk (CD) version of the report in searchable Adobe (PDF) format. The CD should contain a full topical and subject index of the materials such that a practitioner seeking specific information can quickly locate the desired information and, utilizing intra-report links, quickly locate allied or associated information that may be necessary or useful for the completion of the task. A method by which practitioners may access updated data encapsulated in the final report without charge is desirable.
2. A presentation to senior EDA officials at the close of the study that outlines research methods in plain, non-technical language and summarizes the report's conclusions in a manner suitable for dissemination to the public.
3. Participation with EDA in conferences and meetings to discuss the results of the research. The location of the conferences and meetings is not known at this time. EDA anticipates inviting the recipient to five events likely to be at locations convenient to EDA regional offices in Austin, Texas; Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago, Illinois; Denver, Colorado; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Seattle, Washington; or the Headquarters office in the District of Columbia.

Any information disseminated to the public under this announcement is subject to the Information Quality Act (Pub. L. No. 106-554). Applicants are required to comply with the Information Quality Guidelines issued by EDA pursuant to the Information Quality Act, which are designed to ensure and maximize the quality, objectivity, utility and integrity of information disseminated by EDA. These guidelines can be found at EDA's website at www.eda.gov.

Completion Deadlines:

Typically, EDA gives a recipient one year from the award date to complete the scope of work, which consists of research, composing the resulting report and presenting the report to EDA senior management. A typical research project period begins with an initial meeting between the recipient and EDA staff to ensure that all parties are in agreement as to project terms. After the initial meeting, the recipient generally submits a final work plan to EDA staff for review and approval. Throughout the project period there will be regular contact between EDA staff and the recipient for updates on project progress. Also, interim progress reports are required throughout the project period. The schedule of interim progress reports will be determined subsequent to award. Typically, the recipient submits a draft research report to EDA at least 90 days before the end of the project period for EDA's review. If the draft research report is approved, EDA will approve publication of a final research report, and the recipient will brief EDA senior management on research methods and report results. After the project period has ended, it is possible that the recipient will need to remain available to present research findings at select meetings and conferences. This schedule may be determined after EDA has received the final research report. However, any such meetings and conferences will be scheduled in consultation with the recipient, and the recipient will have ample time to prepare.

C. Program Authority

The authority for the NTA Program is section 207 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. § 3147), as amended (PWEDA), and 13 C.F.R. part 306, subpart A.

EDA published final regulations (codified at 13 C.F.R. chapter III) in the *Federal Register* on September 27, 2006 (71 FR 56658). The final regulations became effective upon publication and reflect changes made to PWEDA by the Economic Development Administration Reauthorization Act of 2004 (Pub. L. No. 108-373, 118 Stat. 1756 (2004)). These regulations will govern an award made under this announcement. The final regulations and PWEDA are accessible on EDA's Internet website at www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Lawsreg.xml.

II. Award Information

A. Funding Availability

EDA may use funds appropriated under the Revised Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2007 (Pub. L. No. 110-5, February 15, 2007) to make awards under the NTA Program authorized by PWEDA. Approximately \$2,700,000 is available, and shall remain available until expended, for funding awards under the NTA Program. This FFO announcement is the second of three FFO announcements under the NTA Program. EDA anticipates spending approximately \$1,000,000 of available NTA Program funds to fund all four research projects under this announcement. Based on recent past awards for projects similar to the projects solicited under this announcement, the range of funding awards has been from \$150,000 to \$350,000 for each project. The project period will be one year from the date the award is made, but the recipient may be required to remain available to present research findings at select meetings and conferences approximately six to twelve months beyond the project period. Although the schedule for such meetings and conferences will likely not be known until EDA has received the final research report, they will be scheduled in consultation with the recipient, and the recipient will have ample time to prepare.

B. Type of Funding Instrument

Awards under this announcement will be in the form of grants.

III. Eligibility Information

A. Eligible Applicants and Eligible Recipients

Pursuant to PWEDA, eligible applicants for and eligible recipients of EDA investment assistance include a District Organization; an Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes; a State; a city or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium

of political subdivisions; an institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; a public or private non-profit organization or association; and as provided in section 207 of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3147) for the NTA Program, a private individual or a for-profit organization. See section 3 of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3122) and 13 C.F.R. § 300.3.

An applicant may apply for one or more projects under this announcement, but may submit only one application for each project. If an applicant submits more than one application for a project, EDA will evaluate only the first application received and will consider subsequent applications non-responsive.

B. Cost Sharing or Matching Share Requirement

Generally, the amount of the EDA grant may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the project. However, a project may receive an additional amount that shall not exceed 30 percent, based on the relative needs of the region in which the project will be located, as determined by EDA. See section 204(a) of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3144(a)) and 13 C.F.R. § 301.4(b)(1). Under this announcement, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development (Assistant Secretary) also has the discretion to establish a maximum EDA investment rate of up to 100 percent where the project: (1) merits and is not otherwise feasible without an increase to the EDA investment rate; or (2) will be of no or only incidental benefit to the recipient. See section 204(c)(3) of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3144) and 13 C.F.R. § 301.4(b)(4).

While cash cost sharing contributions are preferred, in-kind contributions, consisting of assumptions of debt or contributions of space, equipment and services, may provide the non-federal share requirement of the total project cost. See section 204(b) of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3144). EDA will fairly evaluate all in-kind contributions, which must be eligible project costs and meet applicable federal cost principles and uniform administrative requirements. Funds from other federal financial assistance awards are considered matching share funds only if authorized by statute that allows such use, which may be determined by EDA's reasonable interpretation of the statute. See 13 C.F.R. § 300.3. The applicant must show that the matching share is committed to the project, available as needed and not conditioned or encumbered in any way that precludes its use consistent with the requirements of EDA investment assistance. See 13 C.F.R. § 301.5.

IV. Application and Submission Information

A. Application Packages

Applications may be submitted electronically as discussed in sections IV.B.1 and IV.C.1 of this announcement. Paper application packages may be obtained by contacting the EDA representative identified in section VII.A.

The application package consists of the following three forms:

- (1) Form ED-900A, *Application for Investment Assistance* (OMB Control No. 0610-0094);

- (2) Form ED-900A's program-specific component, *National Technical Assistance, Training, and Research and Evaluation Program Requirements* (OMB Control No. 0610-0094); and
- (3) Form SF-424, *Application for Federal Assistance* (OMB Control No. 4040-0004).

Applicants should note that, despite references to Form ED-900P (*Pre-Application for Investment Assistance*) in the instructions for completing Form ED-900A, a pre-application is not required under this announcement.

B. Submitting Application Packages

Applicants have the following three options for submitting a completed application package:

- (1) Full electronic submissions. This option is feasible only for applicants with access to a scanner. Applicants choosing this option first should complete and electronically submit Forms SF-424, SF-424A (*Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs*) and SF-424B (*Assurances—Non-Construction Programs*) in the www.grants.gov application package. You may access this grant opportunity synopsis (and the applicable forms) by following the instructions provided at www.grants.gov/search/basic.do, whereby you can perform a basic search for this grant opportunity by completing the “Keyword Search,” the “Search by Funding Opportunity Number,” or the “Search by CFDA Number” field, and clicking the “Search” button.

Since applicants are unable to electronically save completed versions of Form ED-900A and Form ED-900A's program-specific component (*National Technical Assistance, Training, and Research and Evaluation Program Requirements*), applicants must print copies of these two forms from EDA's website at www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Application.xml, complete all pertinent sections (excluding pages 1-8 of Form ED-900A's program-specific component, since pages 1-8 consist of Forms SF-424A and SF-424B), and then scan, electronically save and attach these two forms and all required additional narratives (per the information set out in section IV.C. of this FFO) to the www.grants.gov application package. Applicants may then submit the entire application package through www.grants.gov. Contrary to the instructions provided in the Form ED-900A, it is not necessary to submit hardcopies of the completed application to EDA.

- (2) Electronic submission of Forms SF-424, SF-424A and SF-424B, followed by paper (hardcopy) submission of Form ED-900A and Form ED-900A's program-specific component via mail. Applicants choosing this option first should complete and electronically submit Forms SF-424, SF-424A and SF-424B in the www.grants.gov application package. You may access this grant opportunity synopsis (and the applicable forms) by following the instructions provided on www.grants.gov/search/basic.do, whereby you can perform a basic search for this grant opportunity by completing the “Keyword Search,” the “Search by Funding

Opportunity Number,” or the “*Search by CFDA Number*” field, and clicking the “*Search*” button. Applicants should then print blank copies of Form ED-900A and Form ED-900A’s program-specific component (*National Technical Assistance, Training, and Research and Evaluation Program Requirements*), both of which can be found on EDA’s website at www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Application.xml, complete all pertinent sections (excluding pages 1-8 of Form ED-900A’s program-specific component, since pages 1-8 consist of Forms SF-424A and SF-424B), attach all required additional narratives (per the information set out in section IV.C. of this FFO), and print or type their DUNS number at the top of Form ED-900A to allow EDA to match each paper (hardcopy) application received with the corresponding electronically-submitted forms. Applicants should then e-mail or otherwise submit the completed Form ED-900A and ED-900A’s program-specific component to EDA Headquarters as provided in section VII.B. of this announcement.

- (3) *Full paper (hardcopy) submissions.* Applicants choosing this option should first download and print Form SF-424. Applicants should then save blank copies of Form ED-900A and Form ED-900A’s program-specific component (*National Technical Assistance, Training, and Research and Evaluation Program Requirements*), complete these forms and attach all required additional narratives (per the information set out in section IV.C. of this FFO); and e-mail or otherwise deliver the completed Form SF-424, Form ED-900A and Form ED-900A’s program-specific component to EDA Headquarters as provided in section VII.B. of this announcement. All forms may be downloaded and printed from EDA’s website at www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Application.xml.

Applications completed in accordance with the instructions set forth in this announcement, regardless of the option chosen for submission, will be considered for EDA funding under this announcement. Non-compliant or incomplete applications will not be considered. EDA will evaluate applications consistent with the information set forth in section V. of this FFO.

C. Content and Form of Application Submissions

To apply for an award under this announcement, an eligible applicant must submit a completed application package in accordance with the information set forth below.

1. Application Format

Applications may be submitted in any one of three formats: (a) full paper (hardcopy) format; (b) partially in paper (hardcopy) format and partially in electronic format; or (c) full electronic format, each in accordance with the procedures provided in section IV.B. of this FFO. EDA will not accept facsimile transmissions of applications.

For applicants submitting full or partial electronic applications through www.grants.gov, the preferred file format for electronic attachments (e.g., the project narrative and additional

exhibits to Form ED-900A and its program-specific component) is portable document format (PDF); however, EDA will accept electronic files in Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, Lotus or Excel formats.

2. Application Checklist

The content of a completed application package is the same for full or partial electronic submissions and full or partial paper (hardcopy) submissions. Each application package must include the:

- a. Form ED-900A, *Application for Investment Assistance*;
- b. Form ED-900A's program-specific component, *National Technical Assistance, Training, and Research and Evaluation Program Requirements*;
- c. Form SF-424, *Application for Federal Assistance*;
- d. Form SF-424A, *Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs*;
- e. Form SF-424B, *Assurances—Non-Construction Programs*;
- f. Description of how the applicant intends to carry out the scope of work (included in the project narrative requested in Part I of Form ED-900A's program-specific component, which should not exceed ten pages, inclusive of all diagrams, tables and any ancillary materials);
- g. Proposed budget and accompanying explanation, including a detailed explanation of the matching share (i.e., non-federal share) to be contributed by the applicant or the applicant's regional/local partners (as requested as Exhibit II.A. in Part II of Form ED-900A's program-specific component);
- h. Resumes/qualifications of key staff (which should not exceed two pages per individual, with an additional two pages allowed for a single summary description of all organizations or consultants named in the application); and
- i. Proposed schedule for completion of the project.

Applications should be presented in a common typeface having a font size not smaller than 11 point. Paragraphs included within additional documentation required for a complete application, such as project narratives and additional exhibits to Form ED-900A and its program-specific component, should be formatted with at least 1.5 line spacing.

Applicants applying electronically through www.grants.gov should access the following link for assistance in navigating www.grants.gov and for a list of useful resources: www.grants.gov/applicants/applicant_help.jsp. If you do not find an answer to your question under Frequently Asked Questions, try consulting the Applicant's User Guide. If you still cannot find an answer to your question, contact www.grants.gov via email at support@grants.gov or telephone at 1-800-518-4726. The hours of operation for www.grants.gov are Monday-Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. (EST) (except for federal holidays).

3. Submission Deadline

To be considered timely, a completed application, regardless of the format in which it is submitted, must be either: (a) received by the EDA representative listed in section VII. of this announcement no later than August 3, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. EST; or (b) transmitted and time-stamped at www.grants.gov no later than August 3, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. EST. Any application received or transmitted, as the case may be, after 5:00 p.m. EST on August 3, 2007 will be considered non-responsive and will not be considered for funding. The closing date and time are the same for paper submissions as for electronic submissions. By September 5, 2007, EDA expects to notify the applicants selected for investment assistance under this announcement.

EDA will not accept any changes, additions, revisions or deletions to applications after the closing date and time have passed. EDA may contact an applicant for additional clarifications regarding its application after final evaluations by the review panel.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to start early and not to wait until the approaching due date before logging on and reviewing the instructions for submitting an application, either fully or partially, through www.grants.gov. Applicants should save and print written proof of an electronic submission made at www.grants.gov. If problems occur while using www.grants.gov, the applicant is advised to: (a) print any error message received; and (b) call www.grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 for immediate assistance. EDA may allow more time for application submission due to system problems at www.grants.gov that are beyond the control of the applicant.

D. Intergovernmental Review

Applications for funding under this announcement are not subject to the requirements of Executive Order 12372, "*Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.*"

V. Application Review Information

A. Evaluation Criteria and Selection Procedures

To apply for an award under this announcement, an eligible applicant must submit a completed application package to EDA by the deadline specified and in the manner provided in sections IV.C. and VII.B. of this FFO. Applications that do not meet all items required or that exceed application page limitations regarding the project narrative and the resumes/qualifications of key staff set forth in section IV.C. of this announcement will be considered non-responsive and will not be considered by the review panel. A panel comprised of at least three EDA staff members, all of whom will be full-time federal employees, will be formed to review applications for each project. Applications that meet all the requirements will be evaluated by the appropriate review panel. The appropriate review panel will evaluate applications received and rate and rank them using the following criteria of approximate equal weight:

1. Conformance with EDA's statutory and regulatory requirements, including the extent to which the proposed project satisfies the award requirements set out below and as provided in 13 C.F.R. § 306.2:
 - a. Strengthens the capacity of local, State, or national organizations and institutions to undertake and promote effective economic development programs targeted at distressed regions;
 - b. Benefits distressed regions; and
 - c. Demonstrates innovative approaches to stimulate economic development in distressed regions;
2. The degree to which an EDA investment will have strong organizational leadership, relevant project management experience, and a significant commitment of human resources talent to ensure the project's successful execution (*see* 13 C.F.R. § 301.8(b));
3. The ability of the applicant to implement the proposed project successfully (*see* 13 C.F.R. § 301.8);
4. The feasibility of the budget presented; and
5. The cost to the Federal government.

Also, the addition of research and project data to an existing website or the design of a companion website to disseminate the results of each research study and provide links to data encapsulated in the report free of charge is preferred.

B. Selection Factors

The Assistant Secretary, as the Selecting Official, expects to fund the highest ranking applications for each research project, as recommended by the review panel, submitted under this announcement. However, if EDA does not receive satisfactory applications, the Assistant Secretary may not make any selection. Depending on the quality of the applications received, the Assistant Secretary may select more than one application for one research project and make no selection for another research project. Also, the Assistant Secretary may select an application out of rank order for the following reasons:

- (1) A determination that the selected application better meets the overall objectives of sections 2 and 207 of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. §§ 3121 and 3147);
- (2) The applicant's performance under previous awards; or
- (3) The availability of funding.

VI. Award Administration Information

A. Award Notices

EDA expects to notify applicants selected for investment assistance under this announcement by September 5, 2007. The selected applicants should expect to receive funding for their projects within thirty days of EDA's notice of selection. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by postal mail that their applications were not selected for funding.

The Selecting Official will issue the grant award (Form CD-450), which is the authorizing financial assistance award document. By signing the Form CD-450, the recipient agrees to comply with all award provisions. EDA will send the grant award by postal mail to the appropriate business office of the recipient's organization and it must be signed and returned without modification by the recipient within 30 days of receipt.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Administrative and national policy requirements for all Department of Commerce awards are contained in the Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements, published in the *Federal Register* on December 30, 2004 (69 FR 78389). This notice may be accessed by entering the *Federal Register* volume and page number provided in the previous sentence at the following Internet website:
www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/retrieve.html.

C. Reporting Requirements

All recipients of EDA investment assistance are required to submit financial and performance (technical) reports in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant award. All financial reports must be submitted in triplicate (one original and two copies) to the EDA Program Officer. *See* 13 C.F.R. § 302.16.

VII. Agency Contacts

A. Additional Information

EDA's Internet website at www.eda.gov contains additional information on EDA and its programs. For additional information on the NTA Program or to obtain paper application packages, please contact Dr. William P. Kittredge via e-mail at wkittredge@eda.doc.gov (preferred) or by telephone at (202) 482-5442.

B. Addresses for Application Submissions

Applications submitted pursuant to this announcement may be:

1. E-mailed to Dr. William P. Kittredge, Senior Program Analyst, at wkittredge@eda.doc.gov; or
2. Hand-delivered or mailed to William P. Kittredge, Senior Program Analyst, Economic Development Administration, Room 7009, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230.

Applicants submitting full or partial paper submissions are encouraged to do so by e-mail. Applicants are advised that, due to mail security measures, EDA's receipt of mail sent via the United States Postal Service may be substantially delayed or suspended in delivery. Applicants may wish to use a guaranteed overnight delivery service.

Applicants choosing to submit applications in whole or in part electronically through www.grants.gov should follow the instructions set out in section IV.B. of this announcement.

VIII. Other Information and Requirements

EDA's currently effective regulations and PWEDA are available on its Internet website at www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Lawsreg.xml. Certain EDA, Department of Commerce and other application requirements are noted below.

- A. Projects are expected to be completed in a timely manner consistent with the nature of the project. The completion deadline for each project is specified under section I. of this announcement.
- B. If an application is selected for funding, EDA has no obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with an award. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at EDA's sole discretion.
- C. EDA is committed to a policy of non-discrimination in the administration of all its programs.