

Updated to 7(j) criteria for Jobs Accelerator SBA grantees July 2012

In an effort to be as inclusive as possible under the 7(j) program, and to provide greater clarity around eligibility requirements, the SBA has updated its 7(j) eligibility criteria, outlined below. Going forward, please use these updated eligibility criteria **below** when identifying Recipients of assistance under this SBA grant. These criteria **replace** the criteria documented in your NOA. Please note the client need only meet one of the four criteria to be eligible. Please see the attached criteria PDF for new guidance.

Any assistance provided by the recipient must only be provided to small businesses or individuals eligible for assistance under 7(i), 7(j)(10) and 8(a) of the Small Business Act, collectively referred to as "**7(j) eligible**". A small business (as defined in 13 C.F.R. Part 121) or an individual is **7(j) eligible**, and may therefore receive assistance under this program, if such business/individual meets one of the following four criteria:

1. The small business is a participant in SBA's 8(a) Business Development Program; **OR**
2. The small business/individual is located in a HUBZone. Refer to the following link to determine qualifying locations: <http://map.sba.gov/hubzone/maps/>; **OR**
3. The small business/individual is located in an area of high unemployment, meaning that the county's OR metropolitan area's annualized unemployment rate exceeds the national annualized unemployment rate. Refer to the following three Department of Labor data maps to determine qualifying locations:
 - <http://data.bls.gov/map/MapToolServlet?survey=la&map=county&seasonal=u> (locate the county's current annualized unemployment rates)
 - <http://data.bls.gov/map/MapToolServlet?survey=la&map=msa&seasonal=u> (locate the metro area's current annualized unemployment rates)
 - <http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNU04000000> (locate the current national annualized unemployment rate); **OR**
4. The individual is an individual with a low income, or the small business is majority-owned by one or more individuals each with a low income. "Low income" means an individual whose income does not exceed:
For metropolitan areas, \$42,400 and for non-metropolitan areas, \$31,300."