

## Economic Development– CDBG - UNIVERSAL REQUEST FOR APPLICATION (RFA)

The City of Tampa's Housing and Community Development Division has partnered with the Economic Opportunity Department to open an universal request for applications (RFAs) for economic development initiatives for the fiscal year 2025. The purpose of the Economic Development funds is to stimulate economic revitalization that will create jobs for low-income persons, provide access to credit for community development that promotes long term economic and social viability, and empower economically disadvantaged persons to achieve self-sufficiency. Total funding available for Economic Development Activities is approximately \$400,000.00.

### What funding is available?

#### Microenterprises:

**Technical assistance**, advice, and business services to owners of microenterprises and persons developing microenterprises, such as startup support, developing accelerators/incubators and increase early-stage funding opportunities.

- **Microenterprise Start Up Incubator:** the applicant must provide entrepreneurs/ founders with early-stage board exposure to financing, marketing, operations, funding, networking, governance and business management among other business disciplines. The methods should include subject matter mentor-based cohorts and should run for fixed terms, not to exceed three months. This grant will be provided to a qualified business technical assistance organization(s) to provide services to forty (40) microenterprises.
- **Microenterprise Technical assistance:** services must be offered in packaged services that include moderate consulting time (typically at least 20 hours per client) delivered by subject-matter experts that provide a combination of mid-level business management, technical assistance services including business planning (for operations and financing), marketing, pricing, financial projections, industry-specific assistance, and similar services. This grant will be awarded to a qualified business technical assistance organization to provide services to fifty (50) microenterprises.
- **Eligibility**
  - Microenterprises only - cannot have more than 5 employees (including the owner)
  - Microenterprise owner or person developing a new microenterprise will need to be Low to Moderate Income (LMI) or live within an eligible area.
  - Established Microenterprises will need to be located within Tampa city limits
  - Persons developing a Microenterprise will need to reside within Tampa city limits

**Reimbursement:**

- Reimbursement schedule for awarded entities:
  - Monthly if award is at or above \$100,000.00
  - Quarterly if award is less than \$100,000.00
- A rate per service based on the criteria will be set during the post-award meeting.  
*Example - \$1,000.00 per client up to the amount of the award. **Rates must be approved by City of Tampa prior to contract award.***

**Resources:**

- [Map of Eligible Census Tracts, where at least 70% of residents are LMI](#)
- [FY24 HUD Income Limits for Tampa - St. Petersburg - Clearwater MSA](#)

**Where to Apply?**

Applications **must** be submitted online through **Neighborly** using the following link: <https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/TAMPAFL/Participant#>. Incomplete, hand-delivered, emailed, mailed, faxed, or late applications will be deemed ineligible. The City will begin accepting applications on May 22, 2024. The deadline for submissions will be May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 4 p.m. EST.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact: Javier Marin, Director- Economic Opportunity.

[Javier Marin](#), Director

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