



**WILLIAMSON COUNTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
PROGRAM GUIDELINES and PRIORITIES**

FUNDING FOR FY2017 (OCT. 1, 2017 – SEPT. 30, 2018)

Williamson County was awarded Entitlement County status by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in August 2003. The County applied for and received funding through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Funds are intended to primarily benefit low- to moderate-income persons in Williamson County. This area is comprised of the unincorporated area of the County and the incorporated cities that have joined the urban County designation. These cities include Cedar Park, Coupland, Georgetown, Granger, Hutto, Jarrell, Leander, Liberty Hill, Taylor, Thrall and Weir.

The following information is designed to provide you with a better understanding of activities which can be funded through the Williamson County CDBG program.

Please contact Sally Bardwell, Williamson County Community Development Administrator, for assistance.
512-943-3757
sbardwell@wilco.org

Applications are due by 5pm on March 8, 2017.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

PROJECTS MUST BE DESIGNED TO MEET AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING NATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

- Benefit low to moderate income persons (see income guidelines below). Abused children, elderly persons, battered spouses, homeless persons, adults meeting Bureau of Census' definition of severely disabled persons, illiterate adults, persons living with AIDS, and migrant farm workers qualify as Limited Clientele.
- Eliminate slums and/or blight.
- Meet an urgent community development need as in disaster relief.

FUNDING PRIORITIES AND GUIDELINES

- High priorities are those activities that will be considered for funding with CDBG funding during the five-year consolidated plan period of 2014 through 2018 prior to low priority projects.
- Low priorities are those activities that will be considered for funding with CDBG funding during the five-year consolidated plan period of 2014 through 2018 following the consideration of high priorities.
- The County will consider providing certification of consistency and supporting applications submitted by other entities for non-County funds for projects not funded with CDBG funding during the five-year consolidated plan period of 2014 through 2018.

Williamson County Funding Priorities for 2014-2018
Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements

- Fund non-housing community development proposals that eliminate a threat to public health and safety to include water/sewer projects, drainage projects, sidewalks, and street improvements.
- Fund public facility improvements that benefit low income households and persons, and persons with special needs to include senior centers, neighborhood facilities, youth centers, homeless facilities, childcare centers, parks and recreational facilities.

Increase Access to Affordable Housing

- Fund activities that expand the supply and improve the condition of housing affordable to lower income households.
- Fund activities that leverage other public and private resources such as Low Income Tax Credit Projects.
- Extend the useful life of existing affordable housing through weatherization, repair, and rehabilitation programs.

Decrease Homelessness

- Provide funds to support shelter operations and transitional housing.
- Provide funding to increase permanent supportive housing opportunities and work to create a stronger network of providers of supportive and mainstream services to homeless clients.

Public Services

- Fund projects that provide supportive services to low and moderate income household as well as persons with special needs.
- Support efforts to develop a regional social service collaborative to coordinate the work of social service organizations, disseminate news and information, and eliminate duplication of effort.

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing

- Support improved access to community resources.
- Continue to operate in compliance with protected class definitions found in federal regulations.

Priority Need Name	Priority Level	Goals Addressing	Population Category
Increase Access to Affordable Housing	High	Rehabilitation of existing units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Extremely Low</i> • <i>Low</i> • <i>Moderate</i> • <i>Elderly</i> • <i>Families with Children</i> • <i>Large Families</i>
		Homeownership Assistance	
		Affordable Rental Housing	
Decrease Homelessness	High	Emergency Shelters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Families with Children</i> • <i>Individuals</i> • <i>Victims of Domestic Violence</i> • <i>Unaccompanied Youth</i>
		Transitional Housing	
		Permanent Supportive Housing	
Public Facilities/ Improvements	High	Neighborhood Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Non-Housing Community Development</i> • <i>Extremely Low</i> • <i>Low</i> • <i>Moderate</i>
		Solid Waste Disposal Improvements	
		Flood Drain Improvements	
		Water/Sewer Improvements	
		Street Improvements	
		Sidewalks	
		Homeless Facilities	
		Youth Centers	
		Childcare Centers	
		Senior Centers	
		Abused and Neglected Children Facilities	
		Handicapped Centers	
Parks, Recreational Facilities			
Public Services	High	Senior Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Extremely Low</i> • <i>Low</i> • <i>Moderate</i> • <i>Non Homeless Special Needs</i> • <i>Persons with Disabilities</i> • <i>Elderly</i> • <i>Victims of Domestic Violence</i> • <i>Homeless</i> • <i>Families with Children</i>
		Handicapped Services	
		Youth Services	
		Transportation Services	
		Battered and Abused Spouses	
		Employment Training	
		Fair Housing Activities	
		Child Care Services	
		Health Services	
		Abused and Neglected Children	
		Mental Health Services	
Affirmatively Further Fair Housing	High	Fair Housing Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Extremely Low</i> • <i>Low</i> • <i>Moderate</i>

SELECTION GUIDELINES

1. The project must meet one or more of the three national objectives.
2. The project must be a Consolidated Plan Priority activity.
3. The project or segment of a phased project must be ready to begin when funds become available on or after October 1, 2015 and be completed within one year or a reasonable amount of time.
4. When required, leveraged funds must be available at start of project.
5. Documentation of income eligibility and other demographic information is required.
6. The project sponsor must be able to meet all Williamson County requirements for insurance coverage.

SECTION 8 INCOME LIMITS

Note: FY2016 Income Limits provided are to be used as a **guide only**.
 FY2017 Income Limits are expected to be available in spring 2017 and will be used in the determination of eligibility.

Austin--San Marcos, TX Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)								
FY 2016								
MFI: 77,800								
	1 PERSON	2 PERSON	3 PERSON	4 PERSON	5 PERSON	6 PERSON	7 PERSON	8 PERSON
30% OF MEDIAN	16,350	18,700	21,050	24,300	28,440	32,580	36,730	40,890
VERY LOW INCOME	27,250	31,150	35,050	38,900	42,050	45,150	48,250	51,350
LOW-INCOME	43,600	49,800	56,050	62,250	67,250	72,250	77,200	82,200

POVERTY INCOME DEFINITIONS

0-30% of Medium Income	Extremely Low Income
31-50% of Medium Income	Very Low Income
51-80% of Medium Income	Low Income