



State of Florida

Community Services Block Grant

Model State Plan

October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025

Community Services Block Grant Program
Draft FFY 2024 State Plan

Executive Summary

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program Model State Plan for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024, serves as Florida's application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for CSBG funding and as a guide for the allocation of approximately \$22 million in program funds. These funds will assist more than 450,000 individuals across the state, leveraging funds from federal, state, local, and private funding sources. The CSBG program is administered by FloridaCommerce, which has primary responsibility for the state's community assistance programs. FloridaCommerce is uniquely positioned to deliver eligible activities under the program in coordination with other state and local partners. FloridaCommerce will distribute all CSBG funding for FFY 2024, in accordance with this Model State Plan. Awarded CSBG funding is allocated to Subrecipients each year in conjunction with the State's authorized budget authority for each State Fiscal Year, which runs from July 1st through June 30th of the following calendar year.

The purpose of the CSBG program is to provide a wide variety of services designed at the local level to meet specific community needs. These funds provide emergency financial assistance for education, nutrition, housing, health care, and employment. The funds are also used to provide long-term strategies for the state's disadvantaged citizens and low-income communities to achieve higher levels of self-sufficiency and may offer supportive services such as payments for tuition, books, literacy classes, job readiness preparation, child day care, transportation assistance, job counseling, job placement, and training services. The program may help elderly citizens continue to live in their homes by providing meals, housekeeping services, rent, mortgage assistance, medicine, and transportation assistance.

Through a network of designated local governments and nonprofit CSBG eligible entities called Community Action Agencies (CAA), low-income Floridians are provided assistance to become more self-sufficient, achieve their potential through stronger family and other supportive services, contribute to their communities, and improve the conditions in which they live.

The CSBG program contributes to the state's economy and to the well-being of low-income residents. By alleviating causes and conditions of poverty, individuals and families are enabled to create healthy, thriving communities. In partnership with the network of eligible entities that deliver program services, FloridaCommerce will ensure that these communities continue through the FFY 2024 program year. During times of natural disaster recovery, CSBG funding can be used to alleviate the effects of the disaster to assist with temporary housing, emergency food, and utility restoration.

This year's Model State Plan continues to focus its efforts in achieving its targeted goals and objectives. One of the goals is to continue with the creation and implementation of an interactive module that will allow ongoing monitoring interaction between the contract manager(s) and their assigned CSBG entities to provide technical assistance and encourage continued compliance of the eligible entities. The purpose of the CSBG Ongoing Monitoring Module is to proactively safeguard taxpayers' dollars, comply with federal requirements for monitoring CSBG entities, and provide accountability for CSBG eligible entities to perform appropriately within their organizational capacity, including financial, administrative, and other areas of unique importance to community action initiatives. Effective monitoring will be achieved by requiring CSBG eligible entities to provide information on a set schedule for the contract manager to review and provide training and technical assistance, as needed. This change will institute an ongoing process that maintains compliance throughout the year and reduces the amount of time spent

monitoring, allowing more time for the contract manager to focus on other community action initiatives deployed by the CSBG entity. This monitoring module will also allow the state to conduct remote monitoring of CSBG entities during exceptional circumstances.

DRAFT



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Community Services

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) State Plan

CSBG Cover Page (SF-424M)

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THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13): Through this information collection, ACF is gathering information about planned activities related to and funded by CSBG for the upcoming fiscal year. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 31 hours per grantee, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and reviewing the collection of information. This is a mandatory collection of information (Sec. 676, Pub. L. 105-285, 112 Stat. 2735 (42 U.S.C. § 9908)). An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB # is 0970-0382 and the expiration date is XX/XX/XXXX. If you have any comments on this collection of information, please contact M. Monique Alcantara at melania.alcantara@acf.hhs.gov.

SECTION 1: CSBG Administrative Information

1.1. Identify whether this is a one-year or a two-year plan. One-Year Two-Year

1.1a. Provide the federal fiscal years this plan covers: Year One 2024 Year Two _____

1.2. **Lead Agency and Authorized Official:** Update the following information in relation to the lead agency and authorized official designated to administer CSBG in the state, as required by Section 676(a) of the CSBG Act. Information should reflect the responses provided in the Application for Federal Assistance, SF-424M.

Has information regarding the state lead agency and authorized official changed since the last submission of the State Plan? Yes No

If yes, select the fields that have changed. [Check all that apply]

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lead Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Department Type | <input type="checkbox"/> Department Name |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Authorized Official | <input type="checkbox"/> Street Address | <input type="checkbox"/> City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zip Code | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Number | <input type="checkbox"/> Fax Number |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Website | |

1.2a. Lead agency: Florida Department of Commerce

1.2b. Cabinet or administrative department of this lead agency [Check one and provide a narrative where applicable]

- Community Affairs Department
- Community Services Department
- Governor's Office
- Health Department
- Housing Department
- Human Services Department
- Social Services Department
- Other, describe:] Secretary of the Florida Department of Commerce

1.2c. **Cabinet or Administrative Department Name:** Provide the name of the cabinet or administrative department of the CSBG authorized: Secretary of the Florida Department of Commerce

1.2d. Authorized Official of the Lead Agency: The authorized official could be the director, secretary, commissioner etc. as assigned in the designation letter (attached under item 1.3.). The authorized official is the person indicated as the authorized representative on the SF-424M and the official recipient of the Notice of Award per Office of Grant Management requirements. [Narrative, 50 characters each]

Name J. Alex Kelly Title Secretary

1.2e. Street Address: 107 East Madison Street, MSC-400

1.2f. City: Tallahassee

1.2g. State: Florida

1.2h. Zip Code: 32399

1.2i. Telephone Number: (850) 245-7153

1.2j. Fax Number: (850) 488-2488

1.2k. Email Address: Alex.Kelly@commerce.fl.gov

1.2l. Lead Agency Website http://www.FloridaJobs.org

Note: Item 1.2. pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item A.1.

1.3. Designation Letter: Attach the state's official CSBG designation letter. A new designation letter is required if the chief executive officer of the state and/or designated agency has changed. [Attach a document.]

1.4. CSBG Point of Contact: Provide the following information in relation to the designated state CSBG point of contact. The state CSBG point of contact should be the person that will be the main point of contact for CSBG within the state.

Has information regarding the state point of contact changed since the last submission of the State Plan? Yes No

If yes, select the fields that have changed. [Check all that apply]

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agency Name | <input type="checkbox"/> Point of Contact | <input type="checkbox"/> Street Address | <input type="checkbox"/> City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State | <input type="checkbox"/> Zip Code | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Number | <input type="checkbox"/> Fax Number |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Website | | |

1.4a. Agency Name: Florida Department of Commerce

- 1.4b.** Point of Contact Name
Name: Frankie Hernandez Title: Deputy Bureau Chief
- 1.4c.** Street Address: 107 East Madison Street, MSC-400
- 1.4d.** City: Tallahassee
- 1.4e.** State: Florida
- 1.4f.** Zip Code: 32399
- 1.4g.** Telephone Number: (850) 717-8458
- 1.4h.** Fax Number: (850) 488-2488
- 1.4i.** Email Address: Frankie.Hernandez@commerce.fl.gov
- 1.4j.** Agency Website: http://www.FloridaJobs.org

1.5. Provide the following information in relation to the State Community Action Association.

There is currently a state Community Action Association within the state. Yes No

Has information regarding the state Community Action Association changed since the last submission of the State Plan? Yes No

If yes, select the fields that have changed. [Check all the apply]

- Agency Name Executive Director Street Address City
- State Zip Code Office Number Fax Number
- Email Address Website RPIC Lead

- 1.5a.** Agency name: Florida Association for Community Action (FACA), Inc.
- 1.5b.** Executive Director or Point of Contact [Narrative, 50 characters each]
Name: Nacole Guyton Title Executive Director
- 1.5c.** Street Address: 40 East Adams Street, 1st Floor, Suite 125
- 1.5d.** City: Jacksonville
- 1.5e.** State: Florida
- 1.5f.** Zip Code: 32202
- 1.5g.** Telephone Number: (904) 770-6120
- 1.5h.** Fax Number: N/A
- 1.5i.** Email Address: Nacole@FACA.org
- 1.5j.** State Association Website: www.FACA.org
- 1.5k.** State Association currently serves as the Regional Performance Innovation Consortia (RPIC) lead Yes No

SECTION 2: State Legislation and Regulation

- 2.1. CSBG State Legislation:** State has a statute authorizing CSBG. Yes No
- 2.2. CSBG State Regulation:** State has regulations for CSBG. Yes No
- 2.3. Legislation/Regulation Document:** Attach the legislation and/or regulations or provide a hyperlink(s) to the documents indicated under Items 2.1. and/or Item 2.2. [Attach a document and/or provide a link, 1500 characters]
- 2.4. State Authority:** Select a response for each of the following items about the state statute and/or regulations authorizing CSBG:
- 2.4a. Authorizing Legislation:** State legislature enacted authorizing legislation or amendments to an existing authorizing statute last federal fiscal year. Yes No
- 2.4b. Regulation Amendments:** State established or amended regulations for CSBG last federal fiscal year. Yes No

SECTION 3: State Plan Development and Statewide Goals

3.1. **CSBG Lead Agency Mission and Responsibilities:** Briefly describe the mission and responsibilities of the state agency that serves as the CSBG lead agency.

The Florida Department of Commerce is responsible for administering the Florida Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program in accordance with Public Law 97-35, as amended. In collaboration with its partners, FloridaCommerce assists the governor in advancing Florida's economy by championing the state's economic development vision and administering state and federal programs and initiatives to help visitors, residents, businesses, and communities. As the designated lead agency to administer the CSBG program, it is FloridaCommerce's responsibility to do so in accordance with Public Law 97- 35, as amended. FloridaCommerce's administrative responsibility for the CSBG program is assigned to the Bureau of Economic Self-Sufficiency within the Division of Community Development.

The Bureau of Economic Self-Sufficiency administers CSBG, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the Low-Income Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP), and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP).3.2. **State Plan Goals:** Describe the state's CSBG-specific goals for state administration of CSBG under this State Plan.

Goal 1: All of Florida's communities will have access to CSBG program funds and services through a network of CSBG eligible entities.

Goal 2: Coordinate with the Florida Association for Community Action (FACA) to provide training and technical assistance to comply with CSBG program objectives, Result Oriented Management Accountability, and Organizational Standards.

Goal 3: The Florida CSBG office will continue the design and implementation of an interactive module within Subrecipient Enterprise Resource Application (SERA) that will allow ongoing monitoring interaction between the Contract Manager(s) and their assigned CSBG entities to safeguard taxpayer dollars and provide accountability for continued compliance of the eligible entities.

Goal 4: Award and allocate CSBG funding to Subrecipients each year in conjunction with the State's authorized budget authority for each State Fiscal Year, which runs from July 1st through June 30th the following calendar year.

Instructional Note: For examples of "goals," see State Accountability Measure 1Sa(i).

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 1Sa(i) and pre-populates the state's Annual Report, Module 1, Item B.1.

3.3. **State Plan Development:** Indicate the information and input the state accessed to develop this State Plan.

3.3a. **Analysis of state-level tools** [Check all that applies and provide additional information where applicable]

State Performance Indicators and/or National Performance Indicators (NPIs)

- U.S. Census data
- State Performance Management Data (e.g., accountability measures, ACSI survey information, and/or other information from annual reports)
- Monitoring Visits/Assessments
- Tools Not Identified Above (specify): Eligible entities community needs assessment. Comments from eligible entities during Model State Plan workshops.

3.3b. Analysis of local-level tools [Check all that applies and provide additional information where applicable]

- Eligible Entity Community Needs Assessments
- Eligible Entity Community Action Plans
- Public Hearings/Workshops
- Tools Not Identified Above (e.g., state required reports) [specify]

3.3c. Consultation with [Check all that applies and provide additional information where applicable]

- Eligible Entities (e.g., meetings, conferences, webinars; not including the public hearing)
- State Association
- National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP)
- Community Action Partnership (NCAP)
- Community Action Program Legal Services (CAPLAW)
- CSBG Tribal Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) provider
- Regional Performance Innovation Consortium (RPIC)
- Association for Nationally Certified ROMA Trainers (ANCRT)
- Federal CSBG Office
- Organizations not identified above (specify):

3.4. Eligible Entity Involvement

3.4a. State Plan Development: Describe the specific steps the state took in developing the State Plan to involve the eligible entities.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 1Sa(ii) and may pre-populate the state’s annual report form.

By Thursday, August 10, 2023, FloridaCommerce will submit the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024 CSBG Model State Plan to all eligible entities for review and input until close of business on Thursday, August 24, 2023. Eligible entities will have the opportunity to provide suggestions and comments on the Model State Plan, specifically on the statewide goals and training needs of the network. FloridaCommerce will also conduct a public legislative hearing on Thursday, August 17, 2023, to provide the opportunity for members of the public to

provide comments regarding the state of Florida's Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Model State Plan for FFY 2024.

3.4b. Performance Management Adjustment: Describe how the state has adjusted its State Plan development procedures under this State Plan, as compared to previous State Plans, in order to 1) encourage eligible entity participation and 2) ensure the State Plan reflects input from eligible entities? Any adjustment should be based on the state's analysis of past performance in these areas, and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any adjustments, provide further detail.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 1Sb(i) and (ii) and pre-populate the Annual Report, Module 1, Item B.1.

3.5. Eligible Entity Overall Satisfaction: Provide the state's target for eligible entity Overall Satisfaction during the performance period. Year One 75 Year Two N/A

Instructional Note: The state's target score will indicate improvement or maintenance of the states' Overall Satisfaction score from the most recent American Customer Survey Index (ACSI) survey of the state's eligible entities.

Note: Item 3.5 is associated with State Accountability Measure 8S and may pre-populate the state's annual report form.

SECTION 4: CSBG Hearing Requirements

4.1. Public Inspection: Describe the steps taken by the state to disseminate this State Plan to the public for review and comments prior to the public hearing, as required under Section 676(e)(2) of the Act.

Statewide notice of the legislative hearing will be published in the Friday, August 11, 2023, issue of the Florida Administrative Register (FAR). Notices and the draft Model State Plan will be emailed to all eligible entities and other interested parties. Furthermore, the public notice and Model State Plan will be posted on FloridaCommerce’s website for public review and comment.

4.2. Public Notice/Hearing: Describe how the state ensured there was sufficient time and statewide distribution of notice of the public hearing(s) to allow the public to comment on the State Plan, as required under 676(a)(2)(B) of the CSBG Act.

The draft Model State Plan will be provided to eligible entities on Thursday, August 10, 2023, to solicit input and feedback from the CSBG network. In addition, copies of the draft Model State Plan will be made available prior to and during the public legislative hearing scheduled for Thursday, August 17, 2023, in Tallahassee, Florida. There will be availability to dial into or connect to the public legislative hearing. Comments may be submitted orally at the hearing and in writing until close of business on Thursday, August 24, 2023. A summary of comments received during the public legislative hearing and initial Model State Plan discussion will be included.

4.3. Public and Legislative Hearings: In the table below, specify the date(s) and location(s) of the public and legislative hearing(s) held by the designated lead agency for this State Plan, as required under Section 676(a)(2)(B) and Section 676(a)(3) of the Act.

Instructional Note: A public hearing is required for each new submission of the State Plan. The date(s) for the public hearing(s) must have occurred in the year prior to the first federal fiscal year covered by this plan. Legislative hearings are held at least every three years and must have occurred within the last three years prior to the first federal fiscal year covered by this plan.

Date	Location	Type of Hearing <i>[Select an option]</i>	If a Combined Hearing was held confirm that the public was invited.
08/17/2023	State of Florida, Department of Commerce, Tallahassee, Florida	<input type="radio"/> Public <input type="radio"/> Legislative <input checked="" type="radio"/> Combined	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes

4.4. Attach supporting documentation or a hyperlink for the public and legislative hearings. [Attach supporting documentation or provide a hyperlink(s), 500 characters]

SECTION 5: CSBG Eligible Entities

5.1. CSBG Eligible Entities: In the table below, indicate whether each eligible entity in the state is public or private, the type(s) of entity, and the geographical area served by the entity.

CSBG Eligible Entity	Geographical Area Served (by county) [Provide all counties]	Public or Nonprofit	Type of Entity (choose all that apply)
The Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc	Hendry, Highlands, Polk, Glades	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
Brevard County	Brevard	Public	Local Government Agency
Broward County	Broward	Public	Local Government Agency
Capital Area Community Action Agency, Inc.	Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Wakulla	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
Central Florida Community Action Agency, Inc.	Alachua, Levy, Marion	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
Charlotte County	Charlotte	Public	Local Government Agency
Coalition of Florida Farmworker Organization, Inc.	Miami-Dade, Collier, Statewide Farmworker Population	Nonprofit	Migration or Seasonal Farmworker Organization
Community Action Program Committee, Inc.	Escambia	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
Economic Opportunities of Indian River County, Inc.	Indian River	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
Hillsborough County	Hillsborough	Public	Local Government Agency
Lake Community Action Agency, Inc.	Lake	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
Lee County	Lee	Public	Local Government Agency
Miami-Dade County	Miami-Dade	Public	Local Government Agency
Mid Florida Community Services, Inc.	Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Sumter	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
Northeast Florida Community Action Agency, Inc.	Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
Orange County	Orange	Public	Local Government Agency
Osceola County Council on Aging, Inc.	Osceola	Public	Local Government Agency
Palm Beach County	Palm Beach	Public	Local Government Agency

CSBG Eligible Entity	Geographical Area Served (by county) [Provide all counties]	Public or Nonprofit	Type of Entity (choose all that apply)
Pinellas Opportunity Council, Inc.	Pinellas	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
St. Lucie County	St. Lucie, Martin, Okeechobee	Public	Local Government Agency
Sarasota County	Sarasota	Public	Local Government Agency
Seminole County	Seminole	Public	Local Government Agency
Step Up Suncoast	Manatee, Hardee, DeSoto	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.	Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor, Union	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
Tri-County Community Council, Inc.	Bay, Holmes, Jackson, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton, Washington	Nonprofit	Community Action Agency
Volusia County	Volusia	Public	Local Government Agency

Note: Table 5.1. pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Table C.1.

5.2. Total number of CSBG eligible entities: 26 [This will automatically update based on Table 5.1.]

5.3. Changes to Eligible Entities List: Within the tables below, describe any changes that have occurred to the eligible entities within the state since the last federal fiscal Year (FFY), as applicable.

One or more of the following changes were made to the eligible entity list: [Check all that apply].

- Designation and/or Re-Designation
- De-Designations and/or Voluntary Relinquishments
- Mergers
- No Changes to Eligible Entities List

5.3a. Designation and Re-Designation: Identify any new entities that have been designated as eligible entities, as defined under Section 676A of the Act, since the last federal fiscal year. Include any eligible entities designated to serve an area previously not served by CSBG as well as any entities designated to replace another eligible entity that was terminated (de-designated) or that voluntarily relinquished its status as a CSBG eligible entity.

CSBG Eligible Entity	Type	Start Date	Geographical Area Served
n/a			

5.3b. De-Designations and Voluntary Relinquishments: Identify any entities that are no longer receiving CSBG funding. Include any eligible entities have been terminated (de-designated) as defined under Section 676(c) and Section 676C of the Act, or voluntarily relinquished their CSBG eligible entity status since the last federal fiscal year.

CSBG Eligible Entity	Reason
N/A	

5.3c. Mergers: In the table below, provide information about any mergers or other combinations of two or more eligible entities that were individually listed in the prior State Plan.

Original CSBG Eligible Entities	Surviving CSBG Eligible Entity	New Name (as applicable)	DUNS No.
N/A			

SECTION 6: Organizational Standards for Eligible Entities

Note: Reference IM 138, *State Establishment of Organizational Standards for CSBG Eligible Entities*, for more information on Organizational Standards. Click [HERE](#) for IM 138.

6.1. Choice of Standards: Confirm whether the state will implement the CSBG Organizational Standards Center of Excellence (COE) organizational standards (as described in IM 138) or an alternative set during the federal fiscal year(s) of this planning period. [Select one]

- COE CSBG Organizational Standards
- Modified Version of COE CSBG Organizational Standards
- Alternative Set of organizational standards

Note: Item 6.1. pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item D.1.

6.1a. Modified Organizational Standards: In the case that the state is requesting to use modified COE-developed organizational standards, provide the proposed modification for the FFY of this planning period including the rationale.

N/A

6.1b. Alternative Organizational Standards: If using an alternative set of organizational standards, attach the complete list of alternative organizational standards. [Attachment (as applicable)]

6.1c. Alternative Organizational Standards: If using an alternative set of organizational standards: 1) provide any changes from the last set provided during the previous State Plan submission; 2) describe the reasons for using alternative standards; and 3) describe how they are at least as rigorous as the COE- developed standards.

There were no changes from the previous State Plan submission

Provide reason for using alternative standards: N/A

Describe rigor compared to COE-developed Standards: N/A

6.2. Implementation: Check the box that best describes how the state officially adopted organizational standards for eligible entities in a manner consistent with the state's administrative procedures act. If "Other" is selected, provide a timeline and additional information, as necessary. [Check all that applies and provide a narrative (as applicable)]

- Regulation
- Policy
- Contracts with Eligible Entities
- Other, describe:

6.3. Organizational Standards Assessment: Describe how the state will assess eligible entities against organizational standards this federal fiscal year(s). [Check all that applies]

- Peer-to-Peer Review (with validation by the state or state-authorized third party)
- Self-Assessment (with validation by the state or state-authorized third party)
- Self-Assessment/Peer Review with State Risk Analysis
- State-Authorized Third-Party Validation
- Regular On-Site CSBG monitoring
- Other

6.3a. Assessment Process: Describe the planned assessment process:

Florida’s CSBG eligible entities (CEEs) will annually submit a Community Action Plan and all supporting documentation for the organizational standards by November 30th of each year. FloridaCommerce will conduct a review of the documentation as it is received and issue one of the following reports annually by January 30th:

- 1) Technical Assistance Plan (TAP) for any CEE not meeting a standard for the second time; or
- 2) A Quality Improvement Plan for any CEE not meeting a standard, which was also not met in the year(s) prior. Any deficiencies will be noted in the monitoring report

6.4. Eligible Entity Exemptions: Will the state make exceptions in applying the organizational standards for certain eligible entities due to special circumstances or organizational characteristics (as described in IM 138)? Yes No

6.4a. Provide the specific eligible entities the state will exempt from meeting organizational standards and provide a description and a justification for each exemption. Total Number of Exempt Entities: [Auto – calculated]

CSBG Eligible Entity	Description/Justification
N/A	

6.5. Performance Target: Provide the percentage of eligible entities that the state expects to meet all the state-adopted organizational standards for the FFY(s) of this planning period. [Insert a percentage] **Year One** 95% **Year Two** N/A

Note: Item 6.5. is associated with State Accountability Measures 6Sa and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Table D.2.

SECTION 7: State Use of Funds

Eligible Entity Allocation (90 Percent Funds) [Section 675C(a) of the CSBG Act]

7.1. Formula: Select the method (formula) that best describes the current practice for allocating CSBG funds to eligible entities. [Check one]

- Historic
- Base + Formula
- Formula Alone
- Formula with Variables
- Hold Harmless + Formula
- Other

7.1a. Formula Description: Describe the current practice for allocating CSBG funds to eligible entities.

The Florida Department of Commerce ensures that CSBG funds are allocated in accordance with Public Law 97-35, as amended. At least 90 percent of the state award will be allocated to eligible entities. The funding for CSBG-eligible entities is allocated to Subrecipients each year in conjunction with the State’s authorized budget authority for each State Fiscal Year, which runs from July 1st through June 30th of the following calendar year.

7.1b. Statute: Does a state statutory or regulatory authority specify the formula for allocating “not less than 90 percent” funds among eligible entities? Yes No

7.2. Planned Allocation: Specify the percentage of your CSBG planned allocation that will be funded to eligible entities and in accordance to the “not less than 90 percent funds” requirement as described under Section 675C(a) of the CSBG Act. In the table, provide the planned allocation for each eligible entity receiving funds for the fiscal year(s) covered by this plan.

Year One 90 %

Year Two N/A %

Planned CSBG 90 Percent Funds – Year One

CSBG Eligible Entity	Funding Amount (\$)
Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc.	\$1,063,067.00
Brevard County Board of County Commissioners	\$375,769.00
Broward County Board of County Commissioners	\$1,574,891.00
Capital Area Community Action Agency, Inc.	\$ 586,851.00
Central Florida Community Action Agency, Inc.	\$727,381.00
Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners	\$120,140.00
Coalition of Florida Farmworker Organizations, Inc.	\$478,439.00
Community Action Program Committee, Inc.	\$382,096.00
Economic Opportunities Council of Indian River County, Inc.	\$196,881.00
Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners	\$1,700,495.00

Lake Community Action Agency	\$297,070.00
Lee County Board of County Commissioners	\$489,233.00
Step Up Suncoast, Inc.	\$494,542.00
Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners	\$3,258,160.00
Northeast Florida Community Action Agency, Inc.	\$1,779,123.00
Orange County Board of County Commissioners	\$1,131,115.00
Osceola County Council on Aging, Inc.	\$285,341.00
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners	\$1,192,923.00
Pinellas Opportunity Council, Inc.	\$869,790.00
St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners	\$413,927.00
Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners	\$230,791.00
Seminole County Government	\$310,725.00
Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.	\$374,410.00
Tri-County Community Council, Inc.	\$670,113.00
Volusia County Board of County Commissioners	\$528,468.00
Mid Florida Community Services, Inc.	\$813,402.00
Total	\$20,345,143.00

Planned CSBG 90 Percent Funds – Year Two

CSBG Eligible Entity	Funding Amount (\$)
N/A	
Total	\$0.00

7.3. Distribution Process: Describe the specific steps in the state’s process for distributing 90 percent funds to the eligible entities and include the number of days each step is expected to take. Please include information about state legislative approval or other types of administrative approval (such as approval by a board or commission).

Step 1: For FFY 2024, the grant period will begin October 1, 2023, with the current FFY grants ending September 30, 2022. The FFY 2024 grant period will be for 12 months, ending on September 30, 2024. The award amount is estimated based on the anticipated FFY 2024 federal award. Awarded CSBG funding is allocated to Subrecipients each year in conjunction with the State’s authorized budget authority for each State Fiscal Year, which runs from July 1st through June 30th of the following calendar year.

Step 2: As quarterly allotments are awarded to the state, FloridaCommerce will release additional funds to each eligible entity through a notice of funding availability, allowing the entities to incur additional costs. The process will ensure funds are regularly made available to eligible entities after the HHS Office of Community Services distributes the quarterly federal award. Awarded CSBG funding is allocated to Subrecipients each year in conjunction with the State’s authorized budget authority for each State Fiscal Year, which runs from July 1st through June 30th of the following calendar year.

Step 3: Upon closing the FFY 2024 grant awards, FloridaCommerce will re-obligate any carryover funding to each eligible entity with de-obligated funds through a notice of funding availability for 60 days.

7.3a. Distribution Method: Select the option below that best describes the distribution method the state uses to issue CSBG funds to eligible entities:

- Reimbursement
- Advance
- Hybrid
- Other [Narrative, 4000 characters]

7.4. Distribution Timeframe: Does the state intend to make funds available to eligible entities no later than 30 calendar days after OCS distributes the federal award?

Yes No

7.4a. Distribution Consistency: If no, describe state procedures to ensure funds are made available to eligible entities consistently and without interruption.

Florida's distribution of funds is set to ensure consistent and uninterrupted availability of funds to all eligible entities (see the Distribution Process, described in Section 7.3).

As the Office of Community Services (OCS) awards quarterly allotments, FloridaCommerce will release additional funds to each eligible entity via a notice of funds availability. Awarded CSBG funding is allocated to Subrecipients each year in conjunction with the State's authorized budget authority for each State Fiscal Year, which runs from July 1st through June 30th of the following calendar year. This process will ensure funds are regularly made available to eligible entities after OCS distributes the quarterly federal award. Florida will continue to make reimbursements on a monthly basis.

Note: Item 7.4 is associated with State Accountability Measure 2Sa and may pre-populate the state's annual report form.

7.5. Distribution of Funds Performance Management Adjustment: Describe the state's strategy for improving grant and/or contract administration procedures under this State Plan as compared to past plans. Any improvements should be based on analysis of past performance and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any improvements, provide further detail.

The Florida CSBG office will create and implement interactive modules that will allow ongoing monitoring interaction between the Contract Manager(s) and their assigned CSBG entities to provide continued compliance. The Florida CSBG office will continue to foster a strong partnership with CSBG entities. The Florida CSBG office would monitor the timely submission of financial activities along with proactively providing guidance to safeguard timely draw of allocated funds based on FloridaCommerce's budget authority given by the legislature and expiration.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 2Sb and may pre-populate the state’s annual report form.

Administrative Funds [Section 675C(b)(2) of the CSBG Act]

7.6. Allocated Funds: Specify the percentage of your CSBG planned allocation for administrative activities for the FFY(s) covered by this State Plan.

Year One 5 % Year Two N/A % [Numeric response, specify %]

Note: This information pre-populates the state’s Annual Report, Module 1, Table E.4.

7.7. State Staff: Provide the number of state staff positions to be funded in whole or in part with CSBG funds for the FFY(s) covered by this State Plan.

Year One 8 Year Two N/A [Numeric response, 0.00 – 99.99]

7.8. State FTEs: Provide the number of state Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) to be funded with CSBG funds for the FFY(s) covered by this State Plan?

Year One 8 Year Two N/A [Numeric response, 0.00 – 99.99]

Use of Remainder/Discretionary Funds [Section 675C(b) of the CSBG Act]

7.9. Remainder/Discretionary Funds Use: Does the state have remainder/discretionary funds as described in Section 675C(b) of the CSBG Act? Yes No

If yes, provide the allocated percentage and describe the use of the remainder/discretionary funds in the table below. Year One 5 % Year Two N/A %

Note: This response will link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.2.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 3Sa and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Table E.7.

Use of Remainder/Discretionary Funds – Year One

Remainder/Discretionary Fund Uses (See 675C(b)(1) of the CSBG Act)	Planned \$	Brief Description of Services and/or Activities
7.9a. Training/Technical Assistance to eligible entities	\$75,000.00	These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Item 8.1
7.9b. Coordination of state-operated programs and/or local programs		These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Section 9, State Linkages and Communication
7.9c. Statewide coordination and communication among eligible entities	\$75,000.00	These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Section 9, State Linkages and Communication
7.9d. Analysis of distribution of CSBG funds to determine if targeting greatest need (Briefly describe under Column 4)		
7.9e. Asset-building programs (Briefly describe under Column 4)		

7.9f. State Charity tax credits (Briefly describe under Column 4)		
7.9g. Other activities (Specify these other activities under Column 4)	\$943,825.00	Funding is set aside to provide additional CSBG support services. Funding is also set aside to provide direct services to Monroe County by a State Farmworker Organization.
Totals	\$1,093,825.00	

Use of Remainder/Discretionary Funds – Year Two

Remainder/Discretionary Fund Uses (See 675C(b)(1) of the CSBG Act)	Planned \$	Brief Description of Services and/or Activities
7.9a. Training/Technical Assistance to eligible entities	N/A	These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Item 8.1
7.9b. Coordination of state-operated programs and/or local programs	N/A	These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Section 9, State Linkages and Communication
7.9c. Statewide coordination and communication among eligible entities	N/A	These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Section 9, State Linkages and Communication
7.9d. Analysis of distribution of CSBG funds to determine if targeting greatest need (Briefly describe under Column 4)	N/A	
7.9e. Asset-building programs (Briefly describe under Column 4)	N/A	
7.9f. Innovation programs/activities by eligible entities or other neighborhood groups (Briefly describe under Column 4)	N/A	
7.9g. State Charity tax credits (Briefly describe under Column 4)	N/A	
7.9h. Other activities (Specify these other activities under Column 4)	N/A	
Totals	N/A	

7.10. Remainder/Discretionary Funds Partnerships: Select the types of organizations, if any, the state intends to work with (by grant or contract using remainder/discretionary funds) to carry out some or all the activities in Table 7.9. [Check all that applies and narrative where applicable]

- The State Directly Carries Out All Activities (No Partnerships)
- The State Partially Carries Out Some Activities
- CSBG Eligible Entities (if checked, include the expected number of CSBG eligible entities to receive funds) 3
- Other Community-based Organizations
- State Community Action Association
- Regional CSBG Technical Assistance Provider(s)
- National Technical Assistance Provider(s)

- Individual Consultant(s)
- Tribes and Tribal Organizations
- Other: State Farmworker Organization

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance in Item 14.2.

7.11. Use of Remainder/Discretionary Funds Performance Management Adjustment:

Describe any adjustments the state will make to the use of remainder/discretionary funds under this State Plan as compared to past State Plans? Any adjustment should be based on the state's analysis of past performance, and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any adjustments, provide further detail.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 3Sb and may pre-populate the state's annual report form.

Florida is adjusting the use of funds for FFY 2024 to provide FACA with additional funds to conduct training and technical assistance to assist eligible entities with reporting on Results Oriented Management Accountability (ROMA) Next Generation.

SECTION 8: State Training and Technical Assistance

8.1. Training and Technical Assistance Plan: Describe the state’s plan for delivering CSBG-funded training and technical assistance to eligible entities under this State Plan by completing the table below. The T/TA plan should include all planned CSBG T/TA activities funded through the administrative or remainder/discretionary funds of this CSBG award (as reported in Section 7). The CSBG T/TA plan should include training and technical assistance conducted directly by the state or through partnerships (as specified in 8.3). Add a row for each activity: indicate the timeframe; whether it is training, technical assistance, or both; and the topic.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 3Sc and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Table F.1.

Training and Technical Assistance – Year One

Planned Timeframe	Training, Technical Assistance, or Both	Topic	Brief Description of “Other”
FY1 Q1	Technical Assistance	Organizational Standards – General	
FY1 Q2	Both	Monitoring	
FY1 Q3	Both	Other	Training conference for eligible entities.
FY1 Q4	Both	Other	Ongoing T&TA, as needed.

Training and Technical Assistance – Year Two

Planned Timeframe	Training, Technical Assistance, or Both	Topic	Brief Description of “Other”
N/A			

8.1a. Training and Technical Assistance Budget: The planned budget for all training and technical assistance:

Year One \$75,000 Year Two N/A

8.1b. Training and Technical Assistance Collaboration: Describe how the state will collaborate with the State Association and other stakeholders in the planning and delivery of training and technical assistance.

FloridaCommerce coordinates with FACA to conduct statewide trainings for CSBG-eligible entities and attend partnership meetings with Florida’s Division of Workforce Services (Workforce Investment Opportunity Act partner), the Interagency Farmworker Focus Group, the Florida Head Start Association, and the Florida Weatherization Assistance Network.

8.2. Organizational Standards Technical Assistance: Does the state have Technical Assistance Plans (TAPs) in place for all eligible entities with unmet organizational standards, if appropriate? Yes No

Note: 8.2 is associated with State Accountability Measure 6Sb. The state should put a TAP in place to support eligible entities with one or more unmet organizational standards.

8.2a. Address Unmet Organizational Standards: Describe the state’s plan to provide T/TA to eligible entities to ensure they address unmet Organizational Standards. The CEE’s TAP or QIP will outline the actions the entity must take as well as the timeframe for correction. The timeframe allowed depends on the standard(s) not met and the type of agency, i.e., county entities may need additional time due to approvals by the board of county commissioners. The Florida CSBG office also conducts organizational standards training with the entities and collaborates with FACA to provide training to entities who did not meet the standards. Onsite Organizations standards training/technical assistance is also provided during onsite monitoring by the contract manager.

8.3. Training and Technical Assistance Organizations: Indicate the types of organizations through which the state intends to provide training and/or technical assistance as described in Item 8.1, and briefly describe their involvement. (Check all that apply.) **[Check all that applies and narrative where applicable]**

- All T/TA is conducted by the state
- CSBG eligible entities (if checked, provide the expected number of CSBG eligible entities to receive funds) [Numeric response, 0 – 100]
- Other community-based organizations
- State Community Action Association
- Regional CSBG technical assistance provider(s)
- National technical assistance provider(s)
- Individual consultant(s)
- Tribes and Tribal Organizations
- Other: Florida CSBG office

8.4. CSBG-Funded T/TA Performance Management Adjustment: Describe adjustments the state made to the training and technical assistance plan under this State Plan as compared to past plans. Any adjustment should be based on the state’s analysis of past performance, and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any adjustments, provide further detail.

N/A

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 3Sd and may pre-populate the state’s annual report form.

SECTION 9: State Linkages and Communication

Note: This section describes activities that the state may support with CSBG remainder/discretionary funds, described under Section 675C(b)(1) of the CSBG Act. The state may indicate planned use of remainder/discretionary funds for linkage/communication activities in Section 7, State Use of Funds, items 7.9(b) and (c).

9.1. State Linkages and Coordination at the State Level: Describe the linkages and coordination at the state level that the state intends to create or maintain to ensure increased access to CSBG services to low-income people and communities under this State Plan and avoid duplication of services (as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(5)). Describe additional information as needed. [Check all that apply from the list below and provide a Narrative, 4000 characters]

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance, Item 14.5. In addition, this information is associated with State Accountability Measure 7Sa and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.1.

- State Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) office
- State Weatherization office
- State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) office
- Head Start State Collaboration offices
- State public health office
- State education department
- State Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) agency
- State budget office
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- State child welfare office
- State housing office
- Other

9.2. State Linkages and Coordination at the Local Level: Describe how the state is encouraging partnerships and collaborations at the state level with public and private sector organizations, to assure the effective delivery and coordination of CSBG services to transform low-income communities and avoid duplication of services

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurances, Items 14.5 and 14.6, and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.2.

Partnerships are fostered at the state level through presentations to and in coordination with the FACA, Head Start, the Interagency Farmworker Focus Group, and CareerSource Florida.

9.3. Eligible Entity Linkages and Coordination

9.3a. State Assurance of Eligible Entity Linkages and Coordination: Describe how the state will assure that eligible entities will partner and collaborate with public and private sector organizations to assure the effective delivery and coordination of

CSBG services to low-income people and communities and avoid duplication of services.

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance, Item 14.5. and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.3a.

The grant award agreement requires eligible entities to show coordination and non- duplication of effort with other programs through the submission of their annual Community Action Plan. CSBG funds may also be used to sustain allowable programs funded by other sources, thus promoting the coordination of efforts. Under the requirements of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, each eligible entity must maintain a Memorandum of Understanding with all local workforce development boards in their service area, detailing cooperative workforce employment, training efforts, and actions that will be taken by both parties to assure the coordination of programs, including participation in the local CareerSource Boards throughout the state. CareerSource Florida is the statewide workforce policy and investment board that helps connect businesses with the workforce and training resources needed to succeed and grow. All CAAs with a comprehensive CareerSource board located in their area of operation are required to enter into an Infrastructure Funding Agreement outlining the level of participation and contribution to the infrastructure costs of the local CareerSource Board.

- 9.3b. State Assurance of Eligible Entity Linkages to Fill Service Gaps:** Describe how the eligible entities will develop linkages to fill identified gaps in the services, through the provision of information, referrals, case management, and follow-up consultations, according to the assurance under Section 676(b)(3)(B) of the CSBG Act.

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance, Item 14.3b. and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.3b.

Through the award of CSBG funding, all 26 eligible entities in Florida are required to coordinate with other social service entities in their area, including the local CareerSource Boards. FloridaCommerce also conducts on-site monitoring visits to the eligible entities every two-and-a-half-year cycle, which include a review of client files and case management practices to ensure compliance and provision of services. As a part of their grant award, the eligible entities must develop a workplan that reflects their goals and anticipated outcomes consistent with National Performance Indicators.

- 9.4. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Employment and Training Activities:** Does the state intend to include CSBG employment and training activities as part of a WIOA Combined State Plan, as allowed under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(5) of the CSBG Act)?
- Yes No

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance, Item 14.5.

9.4a. WIOA Combined Plan: If the state selected yes under Item 9.4, provide the CSBG-specific information included in the state’s WIOA Combined Plan. This information includes a description of how the state and the eligible entities will coordinate the provision of employment and training activities through statewide and local WIOA workforce development systems. This information may also include examples of innovative employment and training programs and activities conducted by community action agencies or other neighborhood-based organizations as part of a community antipoverty strategy. [Narrative, 4000 characters]

Eligible entities are required to coordinate with other social service agencies in their area. This includes, but is not limited to, local CareerSource Centers.

Furthermore, FloridaCommerce is the department designated by the State of Florida to work with other agencies to establish partnerships and opportunities for partnerships.

9.4b. Employment and Training Activities: If the state selected no under Item 9.4, describe the coordination of employment and training activities, as defined in Section 3 of WIOA, by the state and by eligible entities providing activities through the WIOA system.

N/A

9.5. Emergency Energy Crisis Intervention: Describe how the State will assure, where appropriate, that emergency energy crisis intervention programs under title XXVI (relating to Low-Income Home Energy Assistance) are conducted in each community in the State, as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(6) of the CSBG Act.

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance, Item 14.6.

CSBG, LIHEAP, LIHWAP, and WAP are located within FloridaCommerce’s Division of Community Development. This enables efficient coordination of services. The coordination requirement is passed to the eligible entities via the grant award agreement. Approximately one-third of the eligible entities funded in Florida are also Head Start Providers. Of the 26 CSBG eligible entities, 21 also provide LIHEAP/LIHWAP services that facilitate the coordination of these programs at the local level.

9.6. Faith-based Organizations, Charitable Groups, and Community Organizations: Describe how the state will assure local eligible entities will coordinate and form partnerships with other organizations, including faith-based organizations, charitable groups, and community organizations, according to the state’s assurance under Section 676(b)(9) of the CSBG Act.

Note: this response will link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.9

FloridaCommerce specifies this assurance in the grant award agreement and in the annual Community Action Plan. Eligible entities are required to report quarterly on the

partnerships established between governmental and other social services programs. In addition, when seeking new provider CSBG eligible entities for unserved areas, FloridaCommerce requires the applicant entities to have an established connection with the community they serve via Head Start, CareerSource Florida, or other such partnerships.

- 9.7. Coordination of Eligible Entity 90 Percent Funds with Public/Private Resources:** Describe how the eligible entities will coordinate CSBG 90 percent funds with other public and private resources, according to the assurance under Section 676(b)(3)(C) of the CSBG Act.

Note: This response will link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.3c.

All eligible entities are required to coordinate with other social service agencies in their area. This information is provided annually in the Community Action Plan.

- 9.8. Coordination among Eligible Entities and State Community Action Association:** Describe state activities for supporting coordination among the eligible entities and the State Community Action Association.

Note: This information will pre-populate the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.5.

Eligible entities may use administrative funds to pay for membership to the FACA, as well as for travel to conferences, meetings, and trainings. The state also partners with FACA to provide training and technical assistance free of charge.

- 9.9. Communication with Eligible Entities and the State Community Action Association:** In the table below, detail how the state intends to communicate with eligible entities, the State Community Action Association, and other partners identified under this State Plan on the topics listed below.

For any topic that is not applicable, select *Not Applicable* under Expected Frequency.

Communication Plan

Subject Matter	Expected Frequency	Format	Brief Description of "Other"
Upcoming Public and/or Legislative Hearings	Annually	Public Notice	
State Plan Development	Annually	Public Notice	
Organizational Standards Progress	Annually	Webinar	

Subject Matter	Expected Frequency	Format	Brief Description of "Other"
State Accountability Measures Progress	Annually	Phone Calls	
Community Needs Assessments/Community Action Plans	Annually	Public Notice	
State Monitoring Plans and Policies	Triennial	Webinar	
Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) Plans	Annually	Webinar	
ROMA and Performance Management	Annually	Meetings/Presentations	
State Interagency Coordination	As needed	Meetings/Presentations	
CSBG Legislative/Programmatic Updates	As needed	Public Notice	
Tripartite Board Requirements	Annually	Webinar	

9.10. Feedback to Eligible Entities and State Community Action Association: Describe how the state will provide information to local entities and State Community Action Associations regarding performance on State Accountability Measures.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 5S(iii) and will pre-populate the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.6.

Florida will provide the necessary information and training to eligible entities regarding the state’s performance under the State Accountability Measures through sharing the CSBG Annual Report. The state also provides the results of Florida’s CSBG Annual Report to the state association for analysis and distribution to the network.

9.11. Communication Plan Performance Management Adjustment: Describe any adjustments the state made to the Communication Plan in this State Plan as compared to past plans. Any adjustment should be based on the state’s analysis of past performance, and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any adjustments, provide further detail.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 7Sb; this response may pre-populate the state’s annual report form.

For FFY 2024, the state of Florida plans to continue providing training and information to eligible entities. Currently the state participates in monthly calls with the CSBG network, provides information memoranda as needed, and hosts one on one meetings. The current communication plan has yielded successful results in informing the network about important policies, procedures, and requirements. Conference calls are also held

for CSBG eligible entities involved with special project initiatives and the contract managers have weekly contacts with their assigned CSBG eligible entities

SECTION 10: Monitoring, Corrective Action, and Fiscal Controls

Monitoring of Eligible Entities (Section 678B(a) of the CSBG Act)

10.1. Specify the proposed schedule for planned monitoring visits including: full on-site reviews; on-site reviews of newly designated entities; follow-up reviews – including return visits to entities that failed to meet state goals, standards, and requirements; and other reviews as appropriate.

This is an estimated schedule to assist states in planning. States may indicate “no review” for entities the state does not plan to monitor in the performance period.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 4Sa(i); this response pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Table H.1.

Monitoring Schedule – Year One

CSBG Eligible Entity	Monitoring Plan	Review Type	Target Quarter	Start Date of Last Full Onsite Review	End Date of Last Full Onsite Review	Brief Description of “Other”
The Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc.	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	09/24/2018	09/28/2018	
Brevard County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q4	03/20/2023	03/24/2023	
Broward County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	4/4/2022	4/8/2022	
Capital Area Community Action Agency, Inc.	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	5/23/2022	5/27/2022	
Central Florida Community Action Agency, Inc.	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	6/13/2022	6/17/2022	
Charlotte County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	6/6/2022	6/10/2022	

Coalition of Florida Farmworker Organizations, Inc.	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q4	7/11/2022	7/15/2022	
Community Action Program Committee, Inc.	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q4	9/19/2022	9/23/2022	
Economic Opportunities Council of Indian River County, Inc.	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	4/25/2022	4/29/2022	
Hillsborough County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	4/18/2022	4/22/2022	
Lake Community Action Agency	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q2	3/21/2022	3/25/2022	
Lee County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	5/23/2022	5/27/2022	
Miami-Dade County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q4	07/25/2022	07/29/2022	
Mid Florida Community Services, Inc.	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q4	01/23/2023	01/27/2023	
Northeast Florida Community Action Agency	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	5/2/2022	5/6/2022	
Orange County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	4/4/2022	4/8/2022	
Osceola County Council on Aging, Inc.	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q4	10/17/2022	10/22/2022	

Palm Beach County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	6/6/2022	6/10/2022	
Pinellas Opportunity Council, Incl	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q4	7/18/2022	7/22/2022	
St. Lucie County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q4	7/11/2022	7/15/2022	
Sarasota County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q4	01/23/2023	01/26/2023	
Seminole County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	12/05/2022	12/09/2022	
Step Up Suncoast, Inc.	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q4	7/11/2022	7/15/2022	
Suwannee River Economic Council, Inc.	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	5/2/2022	5/6/2022	
Tri County Community Council, Inc.	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	4/18/2022	4/22/2022	
Volusia County	Full On-Site	Onsite Review	FY1 Q3	02/20/2023	02/24/2023	

Monitoring Schedule – Year Two

CSBG Eligible Entity	Monitoring Type	Review Type	Target Quarter	Start Date of Last Full Onsite Review	End Date of Last Full Onsite Review	Brief Description of "Other"
N/A						

10.2. Monitoring Policies: Provide a copy of state monitoring policies and procedures by attaching and/or providing a hyperlink.

See the attached copy of FloridaCommerce’s monitoring field manual.

10.3. Initial Monitoring Reports: According to the state’s procedures, by how many calendar days must the state disseminate initial monitoring reports to local entities?

Note: This item is associated with State Accountability Measure 4Sa(ii) and may pre-populate the state’s annual report form.

45 days

Corrective Action, Termination and Reduction of Funding and Assurance Requirements (Section 678C of the Act)

10.4. Closing Findings: Are state procedures for addressing eligible entity findings/deficiencies and the documenting closure of findings included in the state monitoring policies attached under 10.2? Yes No

10.4a. Closing Findings Procedures: If no, describe state procedures for addressing eligible entity findings/deficiencies and the documenting closure of findings.

N/A

10.5. Quality Improvement Plans (QIPs): Provide the number of eligible entities currently on QIPs, if applicable.

Note: The QIP information is associated with State Accountability Measures 4Sc.

1

10.6. Reporting of QIPs: Describe the state’s process for reporting eligible entities on QIPs to the Office of Community Services within 30 calendar days of the state approving a QIP?

Note: This item is associated with State Accountability Measure 4Sa(iii)).

If the eligible entity is put on a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP), the state will copy the United States Department of Housing and Human Services, Office of Community Services with the QIP letter and report to ensure notification within the 30-day timeframe.

10.7. Assurance on Funding Reduction or Termination: The state assures that “any eligible entity that received CSBG funding the previous fiscal year will not have its funding terminated or reduced below the proportional share of funding the entity received in the previous fiscal year unless, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the record, the state determines that cause exists for such termination or such reduction, subject to review by the Secretary as provided in Section 678C(b)” per Section 676(b)(8) of the CSBG Act. Yes No

Note: This response will link with the corresponding assurance under item 14.8.

Policies on Eligible Entity Designation, De-designation, and Re-designation

10.8. Eligible Entity Designation: Does the state CSBG statute and/or regulations provide for the designation of new eligible entities? Yes No

10.8a. New Designation Citation: If yes, provide the citation(s) of the law and/or regulation.

See the attached process for designation and re-designation of eligible entities.

10.8b. New Designation Procedures: If no, describe state procedures for the designation of new eligible entities and how the procedures were made available to eligible entities and the public.

10.9. Eligible Entity Termination: Does the state CSBG statute and/or regulations provide for termination of eligible entities? Yes No

10.9a. Termination Citation: If yes, provide the citation(s) of the law and/or regulation.

See the attached process for designation and re-designation of eligible entities.

10.9b. Termination Procedures: If no, describe state procedures for termination of new eligible entities and how the procedures were made available to eligible entities and the public.

10.10. Eligible Entity Re-Designation: Do the state CSBG statute and/or regulations provide for re-designation of an existing eligible entity? Yes No

10.10a. Re-Designation Citation: If yes, provide the citation(s) of the law and/or regulation.

See the attached process for designation and re-designation of eligible entities.

10.10b. Re-Designation Procedures: If no, describe state procedures for re-designation of existing eligible entities and how the procedures were made available to eligible entities and the public. [Narrative, 4000 characters]

Fiscal Controls and Audits and Cooperation Assurance

10.11. Fiscal Controls and Accounting: Describe how the state's fiscal controls and accounting procedures will a) permit preparation of the SF-425 Federal fiscal reports (FFR) and b) permit the tracing of expenditures adequate to ensure funds have been used appropriately under the block grant, as required by Block Grant regulations applicable to CSBG at 45 CFR 96.30(a). [Narrative, 4000 characters]

FloridaCommerce's Chief Financial Officer mandates fiscal control standards and its Division of Finance and Administration implements procedures to comply with these standards. The transition of all CSBG funds is done in accordance with state policies that have appropriate checks and balances. A sample of the eligible entities is monitored on-site each year. The state Auditor General periodically audits the CSBG program and produces a report. The Department of Financial Services requires all executed agreements to be entered into Florida's Accountability Contract Tracking system. FloridaCommerce also complies with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA)

10.12. Single Audit Management Decisions: Describe state procedures for issuing management decisions for eligible entity single audits, as required by Block Grant regulations applicable to CSBG at 45 CFR 75.521.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 4Sd.

Receipt, review, and issuance of management decision letters are the responsibility of FloridaCommerce’s Bureau of Financial Monitoring and Accountability. Upon receipt of an annual single audit, the audit is reviewed by CSBG contract managers who complete a preliminary review checklist.

The completed checklist is returned to FloridaCommerce’s Bureau of Financial Monitoring and Accountability. If it is determined that a management letter is required, staff from the Bureau will work with state CSBG staff to contact the eligible entity regarding the audit and any corrective action needed. FloridaCommerce will issue a management letter requesting a written response from the eligible entity.

10.13. Assurance on Federal Investigations: The state will “permit and cooperate with Federal investigations undertaken in accordance with Section 678D” of the CSBG Act, as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(7) of the CSBG Act. Yes No

Note: This response will link with the corresponding assurance, Item 14.7

10.13a. Federal Investigations Policies: Are state procedures for permitting and cooperating with federal investigations included in the state monitoring policies attached under 10.2? Yes No

10.14. Monitoring Procedures Performance Management Adjustment: Describe any adjustments the state made to monitoring procedures in this State Plan as compared to past plans? Any adjustment should be based on the state’s analysis of past performance, and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any adjustments, provide further detail.

Note: This item is associated with State Accountability Measure 4Sb and may pre-populate the state’s annual report form.

Beginning in 2024, Florida will continue to monitor CSBG eligible entities on a one-and-a-half-year cycle. This adjustment allows for flexibility of monitoring during hurricane season and calls for more desk monitoring prior to the actual on-site visit. The result is a thorough review of documents submitted for the desk review and a shorter duration on-site visit. Feedback is sought from eligible entities to identify the potential areas of improvement to monitoring procedures. The goal is to save time and resources at both levels, while still conducting thorough, full on-site monitoring visits every two and a half years and conducting thorough desk reviews and monitoring regularly to provide a more comprehensive monitoring process.

SECTION 11: Eligible Entity Tripartite Board

11.1. Tripartite Board Verification: Verify which of the following measures are taken to ensure that the state verifies CSBG eligible entities are meeting Tripartite Board requirements under Section 676B(a)(2) of the CSBG Act. [Check all that applies and narrative where applicable]

- Attend Board meetings
- Organizational Standards Assessment
- Monitoring
- Review copies of Board meeting minutes
- Track Board vacancies/composition
- Other [Narrative, 2500 characters]

11.2. Tripartite Board Updates: Provide how often the state requires eligible entities (which are not on TAPs or QIPs) to provide updates regarding their Tripartite Boards. This includes but is not limited to copies of meeting minutes, vacancy alerts, changes to bylaws, low-income member selection process, etc. [Select one and provide a narrative where applicable]

- Annually
- Semiannually
- Quarterly
- Monthly
- As It Occurs
- Other [Narrative, 2500 characters]

11.3. Tripartite Board Representation Assurance: Describe how the states will verify that eligible entities have policies and procedures by which individuals or organizations can petition for adequate representation on an eligible entity's Tripartite Board as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(10) of the CSBG Act.

Note: This response will link with the corresponding assurance, Item 14.10.

CSBG eligible entities are required to have this policy included in their bylaws, even public CSBG Eligible Entity boards who function in an advisory capacity. The bylaws are reviewed annually as a part of the CSBG Organizational Standards. Additionally, the bylaws are reviewed during the monitoring visit, which occurs on a one-and-a-half-year cycle.

11.4. Tripartite Board Alternative Representation: Does the state permit public eligible entities to use, as an alternative to a Tripartite Board, "another mechanism specified by the state to assure decision-making and participation by low-income individuals in the development, planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs" as allowed under Section 676B(b)(2) of the CSBG Act? Yes No

11.4a. If yes, describe the mechanism used by public eligible entities as an alternative to a Tripartite Board.

Public CSBG eligible entities that receive less than \$100,000 in their initial grant award can choose to have a full tripartite board or another mechanism proposed by the public entity and approved by FloridaCommerce. The proposed alternative board structure must ensure decision making and participation by low-income individuals in the development, planning, implementations and evaluation of CSBG-funded activities.

SECTION 12: Individual and Community Income Eligibility Requirements

12.1. Required Income Eligibility: Provide the income eligibility threshold for services in the state. [Select one item below and numeric response where applicable.]

- 125% of the HHS poverty line
- X % of the HHS poverty line (fill in the threshold): 200 %
- Varies by eligible entity [Narrative, 4000 characters]

12.1a. Describe any state policy and/or procedures for income eligibility, such as treatment of income and family/household composition.

The policy for income eligibility is included in the subgrant agreement of all eligible entities. Each entity must certify that each household receiving CSBG-funded services is eligible. The sum of all countable income from all household members must be used in determining eligibility. The total gross household income for FFY 2024 cannot exceed 200 percent of the HHS poverty level, as determined by the federal Office of Management and Budget based on the most recent federal Census data and as revised annually (or more frequently) by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The eligible entity shall use income documentation of all household income sources no more than one year old and maintain the documentation in the client file. In the event that the applicant cannot provide income documentation, the eligible entity shall require the applicant to provide a signed self-declaration of income to attest the applicant's verbal declaration of their total household income. This self-declaration must specify the reasons that no current income documentation can be supplied by the applicant and a statement of how the applicant is providing for his/her basic needs. In calculating the total gross household income, the eligible entity must use the Sources of Allowable Income to determine what is and is not counted as income. A household is defined as any individuals living together as one economic unit.

12.2. Income Eligibility for General/Short Term Services: Describe how the state ensures eligible entities generally verify income eligibility for those services with limited intake procedures (where individual income verification is not possible or practical). An example of these services is emergency food assistance.

During Presidentially declared states of emergency, disaster or crisis-related unemployment may create circumstances where many individuals or families that may not have been eligible for assistance prior to the disaster or crisis may now be eligible. Eligibility requirements are not waived during these emergencies. During a state of emergency, a Client Signature Waiver Form provides for the flexibility for the eligible entity to accept the client's verbal declaration of total household income. Additionally, the Client Signature Waiver allows the eligible entity to document missing information that will need to be gathered once the declared state of emergency has been cleared.

12.3. Community-targeted Services: Describe how the state ensures eligible entities' services target and benefit low-income communities for those services that provide a community-wide benefit (e.g., development of community assets/facilities, building partnerships with other organizations).

The targeted communities should be identified in the eligible entity's community needs assessment as a low-income community.

SECTION 13: Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) System

- 13.1. Performance Measurement System:** Identify the performance measurement system that the state and all eligible entities use, as required by Section 678E(a) of the CSBG Act and the assurance under Section 676(b)(12) of the CSBG Act.

Note: This response will also link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.12. and will pre-populate the Annual Report, Module 1, Item I.1.

- The Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) System
- Another performance management system that meets the requirements of Section 678E(b) of the CSBG Act
- An alternative system for measuring performance and results

- 13.1a. ROMA Description:** If ROMA was chosen in Item 13.1, describe the state's written policies, procedures, or guidance documents on ROMA.

CSBG eligible entities in Florida have been implementing the principles and practices of the ROMA since October 1997. In developing annual Community Action Plans, all eligible entities are required to incorporate the principles and practices of ROMA in relation to measuring performance and results in promoting self-sufficiency, family stability, and should include information on mission statements, goals, objectives, community engagement, partnerships, and ROMA implementation.

Since 2003, FloridaCommerce has required its eligible entities to remain close to their stated goals and quickly determine if adjustments need to be made based on need, changes in demand, or changes in funding availability. Florida now has 28 ROMA Certified Trainers and 12 Certified Community Action Professionals across the state. Each CSBG eligible entity is required to submit a completed Community Action Plan based on its most recent community needs assessment and will include information on mission statements, goals, objectives, community engagement, partnerships, implementation of ROMA, etc.

- 13.1b. Alternative System Description:** If an alternative system was chosen in Item 13.1, describe the system the state will use for performance measurement.

N/A

- 13.2. Outcome Measures:** Indicate and describe the outcome measures the state will use to measure eligible entity performance in promoting self-sufficiency, family stability, and community revitalization, as required under Section 676(b)(12) of the CSBG Act. [Select one and provide a narrative, 4000 characters]

Note: This response will also link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.12.

- CSBG National Performance Indicators (NPIs)
- NPIs and others
- Others

- 13.3. Eligible Entity Support:** Describe how the state supports the eligible entities in using ROMA or an alternative performance management system.

Note: The activities described under Item 13.3 may include activities listed in “Section 8: Training and Technical Assistance.” If so, mention briefly, and/or cross-reference as needed. This response will also link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.12.

As required by Public Law 97-35, as amended, all eligible entities must submit their completed Florida Community Action Plan that includes information on their most recent community needs assessment, succession planning, mission statement, board policies, community engagement, and customer satisfaction. The Florida Community Action Plan promotes the use of ROMA, assists with the aggregation of CSBG data, improves the state’s ability to show the impact CSBG funds make in communities, assists the state in evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of CSBG activities and helps the state focus on the work on client outcomes instead of program activities alone. The Florida Community Action Plan template will promote the use of ROMA, assist with the aggregation of CSBG data, improve the state’s ability to show the impact CSBG funds make in communities, assists FloridaCommerce in evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of activities, and focus the work on client outcomes instead of program activities at the national level.

- 13.4. Eligible Entity Use of Data:** Describe how the state intends to validate that the eligible entities are using data to improve service delivery.

Note: This response will also link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.12.

During an on-site monitoring visit, FloridaCommerce staff review the eligible entities’ quarterly and annual reports, which include the work plan and performance data. Service delivery targets are reviewed and discussed with staff on-site. In addition, during the review of the CSBG Annual Report, FloridaCommerce staff routinely point out deviations from targeted goals and objectives and ensure services and service delivery targets are improved for the next program year.

Community Action Plans and Needs Assessments

- 13.5. Community Action Plan:** Describe how the state will secure a Community Action Plan from each eligible entity, as a condition of receipt of CSBG funding by each entity, as required by Section 676(b)(11) of the CSBG Act.

Note: This response will link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.11.

Each eligible entity is required to submit the CSBG work plan as a part of their application funding package that ties to their annual Community Action Plan and Needs Assessment.

- 13.6. Community Needs Assessment:** Describe how the state will assure that each eligible entity includes a community needs assessment for the community served (which may be coordinated with community needs assessments conducted by other programs) in each entity’s Community Action Plan, as required by Section 676(b)(11) of the CSBG Act.

Note: This response will link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.11.

The Community Action Plan and the Organizational Standards include sections that require information to be entered from the community needs assessments. These documents are due annually from each eligible entity as a condition of awarding funds.

SECTION 14: CSBG Programmatic Assurance and Information Narrative
(Section 676(b) of the CSBG Act)

14.1. Use of Funds Supporting Local Activities

CSBG Services

14.1a. 676(b)(1)(A) Describe how the state will assure “that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used –

- (A) to support activities that are designed to assist low-income families and individuals, including families and individuals receiving assistance under title IV of the Social Security Act, homeless families and individuals, migrant or seasonal farmworkers, and elderly low-income individuals and families, and a description of how such activities will enable the families and individuals--
 - (i) to remove obstacles and solve problems that block the achievement of self- sufficiency (particularly for families and individuals who are attempting to transition off a State program carried out under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act);
 - (ii) to secure and retain meaningful employment;
 - (iii) to attain an adequate education with particular attention toward improving literacy skills of the low-income families in the community, which may include family literacy initiatives;
 - (iv) to make better use of available income;
 - (v) to obtain and maintain adequate housing and a suitable living environment;
 - (vi) to obtain emergency assistance through loans, grants, or other means to meet immediate and urgent individual and family needs;
 - (vii) to achieve greater participation in the affairs of the communities involved, including the development of public and private grassroots partnerships with local law enforcement agencies, local housing authorities, private foundations, and other public and private partners to –
 - (I) document best practices based on successful grassroots intervention in urban areas, to develop methodologies for widespread replication; and
 - (II) strengthen and improve relationships with local law enforcement agencies, which may include participation in activities such as neighborhood or community policing efforts;

FloridaCommerce specifies the above assurance in the contract award agreement. All Community Action Plans, applications, and work plans are reviewed and approved to ensure that all proposed activities support these assurances. Low-income households and individuals will be provided with education and employment enhancement benefit

opportunities, which may include tuition, fees, books, transportation, and childcare, in addition to emergency assistance benefits that will assist them in overcoming obstacles to achieve self-sufficiency.

Needs of Youth

14.1b. 676(b)(1)(B) Describe how the state will assure “that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used –

- (B) to address the needs of youth in low-income communities through youth development programs that support the primary role of the family, give priority to the prevention of youth problems and crime, and promote increased community coordination and collaboration in meeting the needs of youth, and support development and expansion of innovative community-based youth development programs that have demonstrated success in preventing or reducing youth crime, such as--
 - (i) programs for the establishment of violence-free zones that would involve youth development and intervention models (such as models involving youth mediation, youth mentoring, life skills training, job creation, and entrepreneurship programs); and
 - (ii) after-school childcare programs;

FloridaCommerce specifies the above assurance in the contract award agreement, which allows CSBG funds to be used for food and nutrition for children, after-school activities, and summer youth camp programs, and provides additional administrative dollars for eligible entities that operate a Head Start program.

Coordination of Other Programs

14.1c. 676(b)(1)(C) Describe how the state will assure “that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used –

- (C) to make more effective use of, and to coordinate with, other programs related to the purposes of this subtitle (including State welfare reform efforts)

FloridaCommerce specifies the above assurances in the contract award agreement and requires all eligible entities to complete Module 2, Section B5 in their annual CSBG work plan, which is the indicator for partnerships. FloridaCommerce monitors each entity’s partnership and coordination efforts as part of its monitoring protocol and review partnership efforts as evidenced through the CSBG Organizational Standards.

State Use of Discretionary Funds

14.2. 676(b)(2) Describe “how the State intends to use discretionary funds made available from the remainder of the grant or allotment described in section 675C(b) in accordance with this subtitle, including a description of how the State will support innovative community and neighborhood-based initiatives related to the purposes of this subtitle.”

Note: The State describes this assurance under “State Use of Funds: Remainder/Discretionary,”

items 7.9 and 7.10

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 7.9 and 7.10.]

Eligible Entity Service Delivery, Coordination, and Innovation

14.3. 676(b)(3) “Based on information provided by eligible entities in the State, a description of...”

Eligible Entity Service Delivery System

14.3a. 676(b)(3)(A) Describe “the service delivery system, for services provided or coordinated with funds made available through grants made under 675C(a), targeted to low-income individuals and families in communities within the State;”

FloridaCommerce awards funding for CSBG services to 26 eligible entities. These include nonprofits, local government, and one farmworker organization. As a part of their grant award, eligible entities must develop a work plan that reflects their goals and anticipated outcomes consistent with the National Performance Indicators.

Eligible Entity Linkages – Approach to Filling Service Gaps

14.3b. 676(b)(3)(B) Describe “how linkages will be developed to fill identified gaps in the services, through the provision of information, referrals, case management, and follow-up consultations.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in the State Linkages and Communication section, item 9.3b.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 9.3b.]

Coordination of Eligible Entity Allocation 90 Percent Funds with Public/Private Resources

14.3c. 676(b)(3)(C) Describe how funds made available through grants made under 675C(a) will be coordinated with other public and private resources.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in the State Linkages and Communication section, item 9.7.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 9.7]

Eligible Entity Innovative Community and Neighborhood Initiatives, Including Fatherhood/Parental Responsibility

14.3d. 676(b)(3)(D) Describe “how the local entity will use the funds [made available under 675C(a)] to support innovative community and neighborhood-based initiatives related to the purposes of this subtitle, which may include fatherhood initiatives and other initiatives with the goal of strengthening families and encouraging parenting.”

Note: The description above is about eligible entity use of 90 percent funds to support these initiatives. States may also support these types of activities at the local level using state remainder/discretionary funds, allowable under Section 675C(b)(1)(F). In this State Plan, the state indicates funds allocated for these activities under item 7.9(f).

All eligible entities are required to develop and implement a Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSSP). The FSSP represents a community and neighborhood-based approach to the organization and delivery of locally available social services to help eligible families become self-reliant and independent of all forms of public assistance. The program is designed to identify the needs of participating families and to deliver a comprehensive and coordinated set of services to facilitate the participant's efforts to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency.

Eligible Entity Emergency Food and Nutrition Services

- 14.4. 676(b)(4)** Describe how the state will assure “that eligible entities in the State will provide, on an emergency basis, for the provision of such supplies and services, nutritious foods, and related services, as may be necessary to counteract conditions of starvation and malnutrition among low-income individuals.”

FloridaCommerce specifies that emergency food and nutrition are eligible activities in the grant award agreement. Additionally, eligible entities are permitted to use CSBG funds to support the administration of other programs such as the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) commodity distribution and meal provision for children and the elderly.

State and Eligible Entity Coordination/linkages and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Employment and Training Activities

- 14.5. 676(b)(5)** Describe how the state will assure “that the State and eligible entities in the State will coordinate, and establish linkages between, governmental and other social services programs to assure the effective delivery of such services, and [describe] how the State and the eligible entities will coordinate the provision of employment and training activities, as defined in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, in the State and in communities with entities providing activities through statewide and local workforce development systems under such Act.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 9, State Linkages and Communication, specifically under 9.1 – 9.4b.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under Section 9.1 – 9.4b]

State Coordination/Linkages and Low-income Home Energy Assistance

- 14.6. 676(b)(6)** Provide “an assurance that the State will ensure coordination between antipoverty programs in each community in the State, and ensure, where appropriate, that emergency energy crisis intervention programs under

title XXVI (relating to low- income home energy assistance) are conducted in such community.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 9, State Linkages and Communication section, items 9.2 and 9.5.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 9.2 and 9.5]

Federal Investigations

14.7. 676(b)(7) Provide “an assurance that the State will permit and cooperate with Federal investigations undertaken in accordance with section 678D.”

Note: The state addresses this assurance in Section 10, Fiscal Controls and Monitoring under 10.13.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 10.13]

Funding Reduction or Termination

14.8. 676(b)(8) Provide “an assurance that any eligible entity in the State that received funding in the previous fiscal year through a community services block grant made under this subtitle will not have its funding terminated under this subtitle, or reduced below the proportional share of funding the entity received in the previous fiscal year unless, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the record, the State determines that cause exists for such termination or such reduction, subject to review by the Secretary as provided in section 678C(b).”

Note: The state addresses this assurance in Section 10 Fiscal Controls and Monitoring under 10.7.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 10.7]

Coordination with Faith-based Organizations, Charitable Groups, Community Organizations

14.9. 676(b)(9) Describe how the state will assure “that the State and eligible entities in the State will, to the maximum extent possible, coordinate programs with and form partnerships with other organizations serving low-income residents of the communities and members of the groups served by the State, including religious organizations, charitable groups, and community organizations.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 9 State Linkages and Communication, under 9.6.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 9.6]

Eligible Entity Tripartite Board Representation

14.10. 676(b)(10) Describe how “the State will require each eligible entity in the State to establish procedures under which a low-income individual, community organization, or religious organization, or representative of low-income

individuals that considers its organization, or low-income individuals, to be inadequately represented on the board (or other mechanism) of the eligible entity to petition for adequate representation.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 11 Eligible Entity Tripartite Boards, under 11.3.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 11.3]

Eligible Entity Community Action Plans and Community Needs Assessments

14.11. 676(b)(11) Provide “an assurance that the State will secure from each eligible entity in the State, as a condition to receipt of funding by the entity through a community services block grant made under this subtitle for a program, a community action plan (which shall be submitted to the Secretary, at the request of the Secretary, with the State plan) that includes a community-needs assessment for the community served, which may be coordinated with community-needs assessments conducted for other programs.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 13 ROMA, under 13.5 and 13.6.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 13.5 and 13.6]

State and Eligible Entity Performance Measurement: ROMA or Alternate system

14.12. 676(b)(12) Provide “an assurance that the State and all eligible entities in the State will, not later than fiscal year 2001, participate in the Results Oriented Management and Accountability System, another performance measure system for which the Secretary facilitated development pursuant to section 678E(b), or an alternative system for measuring performance and results that meets the requirements of that section, and [describe] outcome measures to be used to measure eligible entity performance in promoting self-sufficiency, family stability, and community revitalization.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 13 ROMA under 13.1 – 13.4.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 13.1 – 13.4]

Validation for CSBG Eligible Entity Programmatic Narrative Sections

14.13. 676(b)(13) Provide “information describing how the State will carry out the assurances described in this section.”

Note: The state provides information for each of the assurances directly in section 14 or in corresponding items throughout the State Plan, which are included as hyperlinks in section 14.

[No response for this item]

By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is certifying the assurances set out above.

SECTION 15: Federal Certifications

The box after each certification must be checked by the State CSBG authorized official.

15.1. Lobbying

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

- By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.

15.2. Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

This certification is required by the regulations implementing the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988: 45 CFR Part 76, Subpart, F. Sections 76.630(c) and (d)(2) and 76.645 (a)(1) and (b) provide that a Federal agency may designate a central receipt point for STATE-WIDE AND STATE AGENCY-WIDE certifications, and for notification of criminal drug convictions. For the Department of Health and Human Services, the central point is: Division of Grants Management and Oversight, Office of Management and Acquisition, Department of Health and Human Services, Room 517-D, 200 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20201.

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (Instructions for Certification)

- (1) By signing and/or submitting this application or grant agreement, the grantee is providing the certification set out below.
- (2) The certification set out below is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. If it is later determined that the grantee knowingly rendered a false certification, or otherwise violates the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, the agency, in addition to any other remedies available to the Federal Government, may take action authorized under the Drug-Free Workplace Act.
- (3) For grantees other than individuals, Alternate I applies.
- (4) For grantees who are individuals, Alternate II applies.
- (5) Workplaces under grants, for grantees other than individuals, need to be identified on the certification. If known, they may be identified in the grant application. If the grantee does not identify the workplaces at the time of application, or upon award, if there is no application, the grantee must keep the identity of the workplace(s) on file in its office and make the information available for Federal inspection. Failure to identify all known workplaces constitutes a violation of the grantee's drug-free workplace requirements.
- (6) Workplace identifications must include the actual address of buildings (or parts of buildings) or other sites where work under the grant takes place. Categorical descriptions may be used (e.g., all vehicles of a mass transit authority or State highway department while in operation, State employees in each local unemployment office, performers in concert halls or radio studios).
- (7) If the workplace identified to the agency changes during the performance of the grant, the grantee shall inform the agency of the change(s), if it previously identified the workplaces in question (see paragraph five).
- (8) Definitions of terms in the Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment common rule and Drug-Free Workplace common rule apply to this certification. Grantees' attention is called, in particular, to the following definitions from these rules:

Controlled substance means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15);

Conviction means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes;

Criminal drug statute means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance;

Employee means the employee of a grantee directly engaged in the performance of work under a grant, including: (i) All direct charge employees; (ii) All indirect charge employees unless their impact or involvement is insignificant to the performance of the grant; and, (iii) Temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the grant and who are on the grantee's payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the grantee (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the grantee's payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Alternate I. (Grantees Other Than Individuals)

The grantee certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

- (a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
- (b) Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about - -
 - (1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - (2) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - (3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - (4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;
- (c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);
- (d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will - -
 - (1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
 - (2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;
- (e) Notifying the agency in writing, within 10 calendar days after receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;
- (f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted - -
 - (1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
 - (2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;

(g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).

The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant:

Place of Performance (Street address, city, county, state, zip code) [Narrative, 2500 characters]

Check if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here. Alternate II. (Grantees Who Are Individuals)

(a) The grantee certifies that, as a condition of the grant, he or she will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance in conducting any activity with the grant;

(b) If convicted of a criminal drug offense resulting from a violation occurring during the conduct of any grant activity, he or she will report the conviction, in writing, within 10 calendar days of the conviction, to every grant officer or other designee, unless the Federal agency designates a central point for the receipt of such notices. When notice is made to such a central point, it shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant.

[55 FR 21690, 21702, May 25, 1990]

By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.

15.3. Debarment

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters — Primary Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

- (1) By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out below.
- (2) The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective primary participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.
- (3) The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the department or agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective primary participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.
- (4) The prospective primary participant shall provide immediate written notice to the department or agency to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective primary participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- (5) The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the department or agency to which this proposal is being submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
- (6) The prospective primary participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.
- (7) The prospective primary participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusive-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," provided by the department or agency entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

- (8) A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.
- (9) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
- (10) Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters — Primary Covered Transactions

- (1) The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:
 - (a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded by any Federal department or agency;
 - (b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
 - (c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and
 - (d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
- (2) Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion — Lower Tier Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

- (1) By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.
- (2) The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
- (3) The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or had become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- (4) The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meaning set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
- (5) The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.
- (6) The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled “Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction,” without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
- (7) A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.
- (8) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

- (9) Except for transactions authorized under paragraph five of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion — Lower Tier Covered Transactions

- (1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.
- (2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.
- By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.

15.4. Environmental Tobacco Smoke

Public Law 103227, Part C Environmental Tobacco Smoke, also known as the Pro Children Act of 1994, requires that smoking not be permitted in any portion of any indoor routinely owned or leased or contracted for by an entity and used routinely or regularly for provision of health, day care, education, or library services to children under the age of 18, if the services are funded by Federal programs either directly or through State or local governments, by Federal grant, contract, loan, or loan guarantee. The law does not apply to children's services provided in private residences, facilities funded solely by Medicare or Medicaid funds, and portions of facilities used for inpatient drug or alcohol treatment. Failure to comply with the provisions of the law may result in the imposition of a civil monetary penalty of up to \$1000 per day and/or the imposition of an administrative compliance order on the responsible entity by signing and submitting this application the applicant/grantee certifies that it will comply with the requirements of the Act.

The applicant/grantee further agrees that it will require the language of this certification be included in any subawards which contain provisions for the children's services and that all subgrantees shall certify accordingly.

- By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.