



United States Department of Commerce

Economic Development Administration

Fiscal Year 2025

Congressional Budget Request

March 11, 2024

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
Budget Estimates, Fiscal Year 2025
OMB Submission
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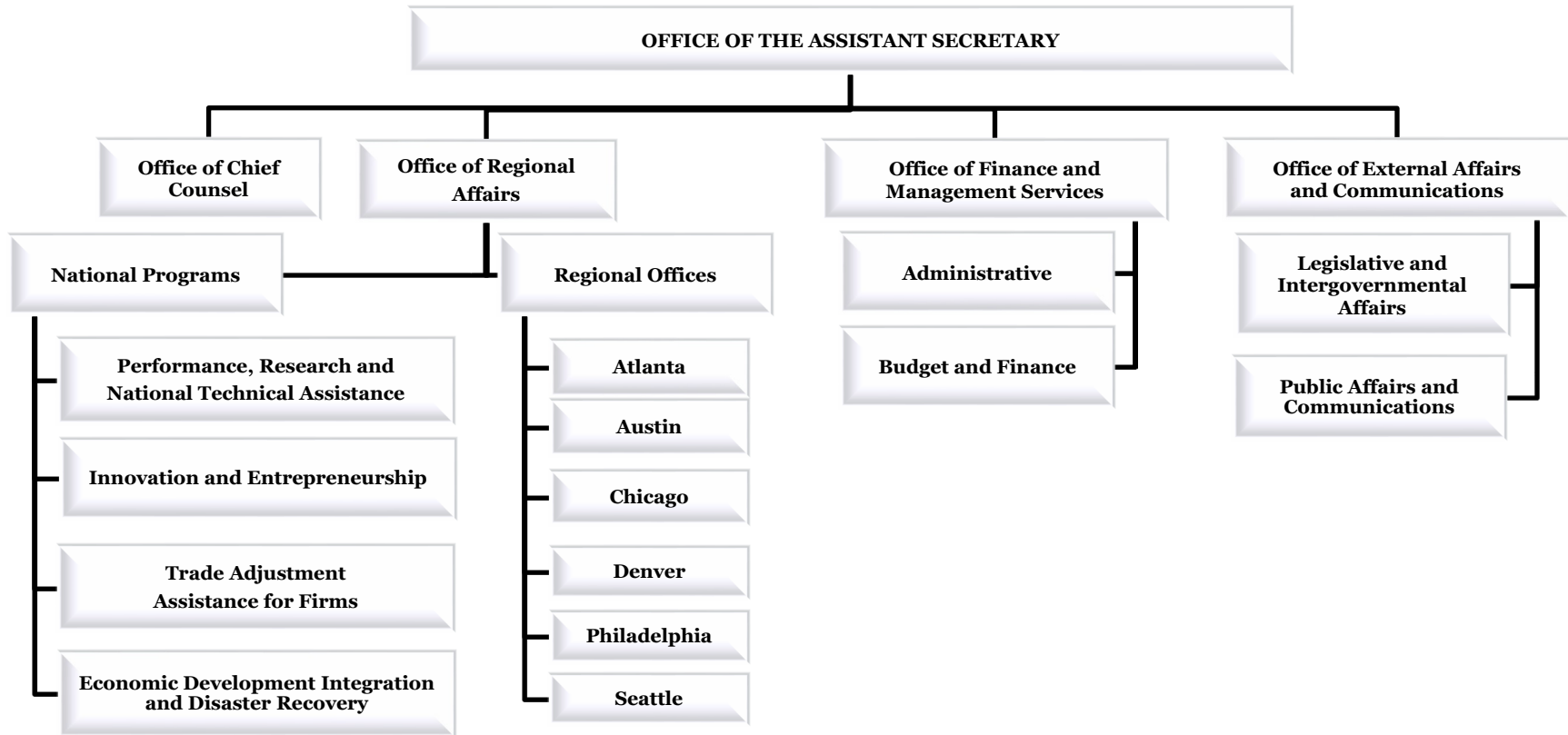
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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration



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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Budget Estimates, Fiscal Year 2025
Executive Summary**

As the only federal government agency focused exclusively on economic development, the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration (EDA) plays a critical role in facilitating regional economic development efforts through its portfolio of flexible investment mechanisms, mission-driven staff, and a network of regionally based partner organizations. As such, EDA is tasked to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy. EDA’s investment approach helps stakeholders build regional economic development capacity to create robust economic ecosystems that contribute to the success of individuals, firms and sectors, and the broader community.

For 2025, EDA is requesting \$522.864 million in discretionary funding to meet its mission objectives: \$437 million for Economic Development Assistance Programs (EDAP) and \$85.864 million for Salaries and Expenses. The increase in salaries and expenses is a critical investment in EDA’s capability to implement new programs, while also enabling EDA to institutionalize the processes, tools, and systems that helped modernize its growing place-based portfolio of investment tools to better serve its customers. The past several years has been a time of incredible growth and change at EDA. EDA effectively responded to increased mandates and scaled up its workforce to meet ever evolving and increasing economic development needs associated with \$200.0 million in growth of annual programs and \$6.8 billion in supplemental funding in the last six years. EDA’s 2025 budget request continues an expansion of EDA’s programmatic toolkit that began in the 2024 request to include not only its traditional, targeted regional investments but now also place-based programs through which EDA makes large, transformational investments in regional economies:

- \$4.041 billion in total funding (including \$41 million in discretionary funding) to continue the Regional Technology and Innovation Hub Program (“Tech Hubs”), which strengthens U.S. economic competitiveness and national security;
- \$41 million to fund the Distressed Area Recompete Pilot Program (“Recompete”), focused on economically distressed communities seeking to reduce structural prime-age employment gaps; and
- \$41 million to fund the Good Jobs Challenge (GJC), a workforce development program established under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021.

To support these programs and the expansion of EDA’s portfolio, the request also includes an increase of \$13.2 million and 58 positions above the base for EDA’s annual salaries and expenses account.

In addition to its discretionary request and as noted above, EDA is requesting \$4 billion in mandatory funding (of which \$1.5 billion would be appropriated in FY 2025) for Tech Hubs (see EDA-97), which enables EDA to make significant progress toward meeting the statutory intent of the Tech Hubs program: to invest \$10 billion—up to \$1 billion in each of 10 or more regions—to accelerate innovation- and technology-centric economic growth in regions all across the United States, enabling more people and communities to participate in and benefit from the innovation economy while simultaneously enhancing U.S. global economic competitiveness and national security.

Funding these programs will ensure EDA continues to evolve to invest most impactfully to catalyze U.S. economic growth and deliver opportunity and benefit to EDA's ultimate customers: the American people. EDA has a long history of developing and implementing new programs that do just that - Assistance to Coal Communities, Build to Scale, and now, Tech Hubs and Recompete. Continuing to grow and scale these innovative new regional, place-based development programs will give more regions more capacity to grow and scale their economies.

FY 2025 will also be a year in which the organization will need to right-size and adjust from the rapid unprecedented growth that occurred under prior COVID-19 supplemental appropriations. These reductions are needed to live within the constraints of the current budget agreements. Recognizing these changes, EDA will prioritize program delivery models that strengthen our competitiveness, resilience, and security and will also seek to incorporate successful models established with supplementals including Communities of Practice to continue to support customer needs. While these will not be as expansive as they were under ARP Act programs, they will continue to provide valuable support to communities and regions most in need of assistance. In addition, neither Tech Hubs nor Recompete supplemental appropriations included funding for Communities of Practice. EDA's FY 2025 requested funds will ensure that EDA is able to create comprehensive, customized communities for Tech Hub Designees and Recompete Finalists to provide continued one-on-one technical assistance, share best practices, increase oversight and monitoring, and create opportunities to convene.

EDA provides significant value to the U.S economy through its investments. Beyond the ARP, Recompete and Tech Hubs national programs:

1. EDA drives innovation and entrepreneurship throughout the country to help U.S. workers and businesses compete globally.

Under the Build to Scale (B2S) program, EDA awards and manages a portfolio of grants that increase regional capacity to equitably and inclusively support diverse technology innovators, entrepreneurs, and startups in specific places and technology areas. These awards enable entrepreneurs to start and grow technology-driven businesses in regions all throughout the United States, creating high-skill, high-wage jobs, and building the industries of the future. With its explicit focus on support for entrepreneurs and access to capital, Build to Scale strongly complements the Tech Hubs program.

2. EDA drives regional technology- and innovation-centric growth by strengthening a region's capacity to manufacture, commercialize, and deploy critical technologies.

EDA can help build rail lines, improve wastewater treatment facilities, construct buildings and roads, and more. EDA invests in the critical infrastructure needed by businesses to locate or expand in the U.S., generating thousands of middle-class jobs in areas of the country that need them most. EDA also makes strategic workforce development investments that equip American workers with the skills needed for new or expanding businesses to be successful.

3. EDA makes it easier for businesses to start, invest, and grow in the U.S.

EDA's economic development capacity-building investments in planning, technical assistance, and infrastructure support business start-up and expansion to enable communities across the country to build strong, durable, and resilient local economies that produce good-paying, quality jobs for American workers.

4. EDA starts with local business conditions and needs.

To foster grassroots, community-led action, EDA works hand-in-hand with local economic development partners to advance locally developed projects that are linked to the region's long-term, sustainable economic development strategy. Partnering with EDA, these priority projects often can be implemented in a short timeframe.

Through its network of regional and headquarters staff and a portfolio of flexible investment mechanisms, EDA helps hundreds of communities, including those suffering economic distress, take control of their future.

EDA's investment priorities¹ align with the Biden Administration's goals for economic development. These investment priorities provide an overarching framework to ensure its grant investment portfolio – ranging from planning to infrastructure construction – contributes to equitable, locally driven efforts to build, improve, or better leverage economic assets that allow businesses to succeed and regional economies to prosper and become more resilient. Competitive grant applications will be responsive to the evaluation criteria listed under each individual funding announcement, including at least one of the following investment priorities:

1. **Equity:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that advance equity across America through investments that benefit underserved populations and communities, including rural communities.
2. **Recovery & Resilience:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that build economic resilience to and long-term recovery from economic shocks.
3. **Workforce Development:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that support workforce education and skills training activities directly connected to the hiring and skills needs of the business community and that result in well-paying, quality jobs.
4. **Manufacturing:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that encourage job creation, business expansion, technology and capital upgrades, and productivity growth in manufacturing, including efforts that contribute to the competitiveness and growth of domestic suppliers or to the domestic production of innovative, high-value products and production technologies.
5. **Technology-Based Economic Development:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that foster regional knowledge ecosystems that support entrepreneurs and startups, including the commercialization of new technologies that are creating technology-driven businesses and high-skilled, well-paying jobs of the future.
6. **Environmentally Sustainable Development:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that help address the climate crisis including through the development and implementation of green products, processes (including green infrastructure), buildings, and places, (including an emphasis on density in the vicinity of the development).
7. **Exports & Foreign Direct Investment:** Economic development planning or implementation projects that enhance or build community assets to support growth in US exports or increased foreign direct investment.

In support of the Department's agenda, EDA's investment policy is designed to establish a foundation for sustainable job growth and the building of durable regional economies throughout the United States. This foundation builds upon two key economic drivers: innovation and regional collaboration. Innovation is key to global competitiveness, new and better jobs, a resilient economy, and the attainment of national economic goals. Regional collaboration is essential for economic recovery and prosperity because regions that work together to leverage their collective resources and use their strengths to overcome weaknesses will fare better in a global economy than those that do not. This foundation is why EDA encourages its partners around the country to develop new ideas and creative approaches to address rapidly evolving economic conditions and in turn, why it is critical EDA invest in a broader continuum of programs and tools to help communities navigate these economic times. Building on

¹ EDA Investment Priorities: <https://www.eda.gov/funding/investment-priorities>.

lessons and impacts from recent supplemental-funded programs such as EDA's first Indigenous Communities Program and the historic Build Back Better Regional Challenge, new tools such as the Recompete Pilot Program and Tech Hubs allow EDA to expand and grow its place-based investment toolkit, providing a greater continuum of programs to help all communities participate in more transformational economic development.

For EDA to most effectively conduct a variety of program enabling activities, such as research and evaluation, and community of practice activities, it will significantly assist EDA if Congress removes the appropriation language limiting EDA to using program funds for grants only and allow EDA to use other tools provided in its authorization language which allows the use of program funds for contracts and competitions². At times, EDA has very specific needs related to research and evaluation that are most efficiently and effectively met through a contract. The ability to use program funds for not only grants, but also to engage in contracts with private firms that have specialized expertise in research and evaluation will increase EDA's ability to tap into the most cutting-edge research and evaluation capabilities available. Additionally, Community of Practice cohorts benefit from a mix of peer-to-peer learning, issue-specific trainings, and targeted coaching, some of which would be better secured and operated as contracts. Cohort members shape promising practices across the industry, increase their connectedness with peer regions and organizations, and bolster their skills and capacity to advance effective economic development strategies.

Armed with these tools to both more easily identify such areas, and to better understand the causes of and potential solutions to their high levels of economic distress, EDA staff and our partner organizations will be better equipped to target assistance to persistent poverty counties, high-poverty areas, and other impoverished communities within available salary and expense resources.

Performance:

For current GPRA targets please see the FY 2025/2023 Annual Performance Plan and Report.

Adjustments:

Inflationary Adjustments

EDA's 2025 Base includes a total of \$4,770,000 to fully fund required inflationary adjustments to current EDA activities.

² JUSTIFICATION OF PROPOSED LANGUAGE CHANGES (Exhibit 32, page EDA-89)

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
FY 2025 PROGRAM INCREASES / DECREASES / TERMINATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)
(By Appropriation, Largest to Smallest)

Increases

Page No in CJ	Appropriation	Budget Program	Title of Increase	Positions	Budget Authority
EDA-101	EDAP	Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Mandatory)	Grants	0	1,455,000
EDA-101	S&E	Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Mandatory)	Mission Support/Administrative	0	45,000
EDA-25	EDAP	Good Jobs Challenge		0	41,000
EDA-131	S&E	Operations and Administration		58	13,227
EDA-59	EDAP	Assistance to Indigenous Communities		0	5,000
Subtotal, Increases				58	1,559,227

Decreases

Page No in CJ	Appropriation	Budget Program	Title of Decrease	Positions	Budget Authority
EDA-65	EDAP	Assistance to Energy Transition Communities	Coal Communities	0	(23,000)
EDA-31	EDAP	Public Works		0	(16,000)
Subtotal, Decreases				0	(39,000)

Terminations

Page No in CJ	Appropriation	Budget Program	Title of Termination	Positions	Budget Authority
None					
Subtotal, Terminations				0	0

Total, Increases, Decreases and Terminations				0	1,579,454
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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs (Discretionary)³
SUMMARY OF RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

	Positions	FTE	Budget Authority	Direct Obligations
Appropriation Available, 2024	0	0	430,000	1,610,620
2025 Adjustments to base:				
<i>Less: Estimated recoveries, 2025</i>			0	10,000
2025 Base	0	0	430,000	1,600,620
<i>Plus: 2025 Program changes</i>	0	0	7,000	(1,169,620)
2025 Estimate	0	0	437,000	431,000

Comparison by activity / subactivity with totals by activity		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease		
		Actual		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		over 2025 Base		
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	
EDA-23	Good Jobs Challenge	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	41,000	0	41,000	
		FTE/Obl.	0	0	0	0	0	0	41,000	0	41,000	
EDA-29	Public Works	Pos./BA	0	121,500	0	121,500	0	121,500	0	105,500	0	(16,000)
		FTE/Obl.	0	127,214	0	127,000	0	127,000	0	105,500	0	(21,500)
EDA-35	Partnership Planning	Pos./BA	0	36,000	0	36,000	0	36,000	0	36,000	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	33,859	0	43,000	0	43,000	0	36,000	0	(7,000)
EDA-39	Technical Assistance	Pos./BA	0	14,000	0	14,000	0	14,000	0	14,000	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	13,417	0	17,561	0	17,561	0	14,000	0	(3,561)
EDA-45	Research and Evaluation	Pos./BA	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	0
EDA-49	Trade Adjustment Assistance	Pos./BA	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	0

³ This table excludes American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) amounts. ARP funds are presented in separate exhibits beginning on page EDA-129 of this document.

Comparison by activity / subactivity with totals by activity			2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
			Actual		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		over 2025 Base	
			Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
EDA-53	Economic Adjustment Assistance	Pos./BA	0	39,500	0	39,500	0	39,500	0	39,500	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	34,873	0	37,000	0	37,000	0	33,500	0	(3,500)
EDA-57	Assistance to Indigenous Communities	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	5,000
		FTE/Obl.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	5,000
EDA-63	Assistance to Energy Transition Communities	Pos./BA	0	69,000	0	69,000	0	69,000	0	46,000	0	(23,000)
		FTE/Obl.	0	53,466	0	48,000	0	48,000	0	46,000	0	(2,000)
EDA-69	Regional Innovation	Pos./BA	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	53,624	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0
EDA-73	STEM Apprenticeship Program	Pos./BA	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	4,456	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	0
EDA-77	Distressed Area Recompete Pilot Program	Pos./BA	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	0	0	82,000	0	82,000	0	41,000	0	(41,000)
EDA-81	Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs	Pos./BA	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	0	0	82,000	0	82,000	0	41,000	0	(41,000)
	Disaster Assistance Prior to 2018	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	991	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Disaster Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2018	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	4,570	0	15,755	0	15,755	0	0	0	(15,755)
	Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	25,418	0	7,986	0	7,986	0	0	0	(7,986)
	Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023	Pos./BA	0	1,118,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	0	35,682	0	1,082,318	0	1,082,318	0	0	0	(1,082,318)
Total ¹		Pos./BA	0	1,548,000	0	430,000	0	430,000	0	437,000	0	7,000
		FTE/Obl.	0	403,070	0	1,610,620	0	1,610,620	0	431,000	0	(1,179,620)

Adjustments for					
Recoveries ^{/1}	(55,481)	(55,000)	(55,000)	(10,000)	45,000
Unobligated balance, start of year ^{/2}					1,147
	(74,725)	(1,223,936)	(1,223,936)	(76,316)	,620
Unobligated balance transferred					(6,000)
	5,660	6,000	6,000	0	0)
Unobligated balance, end of year ^{/2}					(20,000)
	1,223,936	76,316	76,316	56,316	00)
Rescission or cancellation of unobligated balances ^{/3}	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000	20,000
Unobligated balance expiring	0	0	0	0	0
Financing from transfers:					
Transfer from other accounts (-)	0	0	0	0	0
Transfer to other accounts (+) ^{/2}	35,540	6,000	6,000	6,000	0
Appropriation	1,548,000	430,000	430,000	437,000	7,000

/1 Columns may not add due to rounding

/2 Amounts include both disaster and non-disaster funding.

/3 Rescission or proposed cancellation amounts are non-disaster funding only.

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
SUMMARY OF FINANCING**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	2023 Actuals	2024 Annualized CR	2025 Base	2025 Estimate	Increase/Decrease over 2025 Base
Total Obligations	403,070	1,610,620	1,610,620	431,000	(1,179,620)
Offsetting collections from:					
Federal funds	0	0	0	0	0
Trust funds	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Federal sources	0	0	0	0	0
Recoveries ^{/1}	(55,481)	(55,000)	(55,000)	(10,000)	45,000
Unobligated balance, start of year ^{/1}	(74,725)	(1,223,936)	(1,223,936)	(76,316)	1,147,620
Unobligated balance, transferred	5,660	6,000	6,000	0	(6,000)
Unobligated balance, end of year ^{/1}	1,223,936	76,316	76,316	56,316	(20,000)
Rescission or cancellation of unobligated balances ^{/2}	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000	20,000
Budget Authority	1,512,460	424,000	424,000	431,000	7,000
Financing:					
Transfer from other accounts (-)	0	0	0	0	0
Transfer to other accounts (+) ^{/1}	35,540	6,000	6,000	6,000	0
Appropriation	1,548,000	430,000	430,000	437,000	7,000

/1 Amounts include both disaster and non-disaster funding.

/2 Rescission or cancellation amounts are non-disaster funding only.

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Good Jobs Challenge

Line Item	2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
	Actuals		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		over 2025 Base	
	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	41,000	0	41,000
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	0	0	0	41,000	0	41,000
Total	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	41,000	0	41,000
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	0	0	0	41,000	0	41,000

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Good Jobs Challenge

Goal Statement

A job seeker needs the guarantee that workforce training will lead to employment, and an employer needs the guarantee that a job seeker has the skills to do the job. EDA's Good Jobs Challenge (GJC) program addresses both of those needs. GJC is a job skills and placement program that directly links the workforce needs of the private sector with training programs across the country. After training, program participants are matched into roles that meet the Departments of Commerce and Labor Good Job Principles. These principles include family-sustaining wages and benefits, stable and predictable pay, safe working conditions, and potential for skills and career advancement. GJC also supports and enables sectors critical to our post-pandemic economic recovery and future economic competitiveness in key industries such as healthcare, construction, energy, and childcare. The program supports the Department's goal of promoting sustainable job and economic growth by making strategic investments that equip American workers with the skills businesses need to be successful. Specifically, this program makes investments in high-quality, locally led workforce systems to transform America's communities. With a focus on equity, the program expands career opportunities for more Americans to reach their full potential and secure good-paying jobs while producing a skilled workforce to ensure the United States is prepared to innovate, compete, and succeed in a 21st Century global economy.

Base Program

The GJC recognizes that workforce development is key to accelerating local economic growth and rebuilding regional economies, so they are more resilient to future challenges, while providing good job opportunities for American workers to achieve economic mobility and security. This program builds on EDA's core strength of place-based investment to supercharge economically distressed communities through substantial investments in regional partnerships and leverages lessons learned from the GJC American Rescue Plan funded partnerships. Funding to regularly implement employer-driven economic and workforce development projects is a highly effective approach that can allow additional regions to pursue growth in high-value industries and to create pathways to higher wages for American workers. GJC requires grantees to implement industry partnerships that bridge the gap between workforce training providers that design curriculum and lead instruction and employers who hire and manage employees. These partnerships, along with employer commitments to hire program completers, aim to reduce the considerable uncertainty that job seekers and employers face when finding labor matches. Further, GJC requires grantees to target underserved and underemployed populations and design programs that respond to their unique barriers to persisting through training to career. The GJC, funded through the American Rescue Plan of 2021 (ARP), awarded funding to grantees that are expected to collectively place over 50,000 American workers into good, high-quality jobs.

The program's authorizing statute is the Public Works and Economic Development Act (PWEDA) of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3121 *et seq.*).

Statement of Objectives

To enable communities across the country to invest in innovative approaches to workforce development that will secure job opportunities for more Americans.

Explanation and Justification

This program continues the work that began under ARP to achieve transformative place-based economic revitalization. By providing funds for partner-based economic development projects in the GJC, EDA will address the tremendous demand it received for the GJC. The high demand for this program was demonstrated under the ARP Act, during which the GJC was able to fund less than 6% of total applicants, supporting 32 awardees across 31 states and Puerto Rico with the \$500 million provided under ARP.

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM CHANGES FOR 2025**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Good Jobs	Pos./BA	0	0	0	41,000	0	41,000
Challenge	FTE/Obl.	0	0	0	41,000	0	41,000

EDA requests \$41.0 million in grant funding to establish an annual program that builds off the work begun under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 through the Good Jobs Challenge (GJC). Under ARP, the \$500 million GJC received \$6.4 billion in funding requests from 509 applicants, showing the large unmet demand for this Program. With additional funding, EDA could continue to support skills training and job placements in some of the communities hardest hit by decades of systemic underinvestment and economic distress.

Under this Program, projects will establish or strengthen regional systems to train workers with in-demand skills in critical industries in need of skilled labor. Specifically, grantees would establish or expand a regional system of key stakeholders to deliver employer-driven training models with job placement commitments from local employers.

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Public Works

Line Item	2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease		
	Actuals		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		over 2025 Base		
	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	121,500	0	121,500	0	121,500	0	105,500	0	(16,000)
	FTE/Obl	0	127,214	0	127,000	0	127,000	0	105,500	0	(21,500)
Total	Pos./BA	0	121,500	0	121,500	0	121,500	0	105,500	0	(16,000)
	FTE/Obl	0	127,214	0	127,000	0	127,000	0	105,500	0	(21,500)

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: [Public Works⁴](#)

Goal Statement

EDA's Public Works program supports the Department's goal of promoting economic growth by fostering market development and commercialization through infrastructure development. Specifically, this Program helps the Department achieve its objective of promoting the competitiveness of disadvantaged and distressed communities and businesses.

Base Program

Through the Public Works program, EDA makes strategic co-investments to help communities build or expand access to the infrastructure assets that are the building blocks of an economy. These assets support the growth and economic development of distressed regions. EDA's Public Works program invests in traditional infrastructure including water and sewer system improvements, industrial parks, business incubator facilities, expansion of port and harbor facilities, skill-training facilities, and the redevelopment of brownfields. In addition, EDA provides investments to help facilitate the transition of distressed communities to become competitive in the worldwide economy. This is accomplished through the development of key public infrastructure such as technology-based facilities; broadband infrastructure; research and development commercialization centers; facilities for workforce development; wet labs; multi-tenant manufacturing facilities; research, business, and science parks; and telecommunications infrastructure and development facilities.

The program's authorizing statute is the Public Works and Economic Development Act (PWEDA) of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3121 *et seq.*).

Statement of Objectives

EDA's Public Works program helps distressed communities revitalize, expand, and upgrade their physical infrastructure. This program enables communities to attract new industry, encourage business expansion, diversify local economies, generate local investment, and create or retain long-term jobs through land acquisition, development, and infrastructure improvement projects that establish or expand industrial or commercial enterprises.

Public Works program investments help facilitate the transition of communities from being distressed to becoming competitive by developing key public infrastructure.

⁴ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/public-works>.

Explanation and Justification

EDA's Public Works program helps distressed communities revitalize, expand, and upgrade their physical infrastructure as key regional economic assets. This program enables communities to create or improve key regional infrastructure assets that allow businesses to establish or grow; diversify local economies; revitalize brownfields; and generate or retain long-term, private-sector jobs and investment through the acquisition or development of land and infrastructure improvements needed for the successful establishment or expansion of industrial or commercial enterprises.

To compete in the 21st century economy, communities need both hard and soft infrastructure that is tied to a larger strategic regional innovation plan. EDA's Public Works program provides investments that assist distressed communities to become more competitive in the worldwide economy through the development of key infrastructure such as technology-based facilities; research and development commercialization centers; facilities for workforce development; wet labs; multi-tenant manufacturing facilities; research, business and science parks with fiber optic cable and telecommunications infrastructure; and development facilities. In addition, EDA invests in infrastructure that is directly tied to job creation, including skill-training facilities, water and sewer system improvements, roads, and thoroughfares as part of the development or re-development of industrial parks, creation of business incubators, expansion of port and harbor facilities, and the redevelopment of brownfields.

The Public Works program invests in developing regional assets that are needed by the private sector to start or grow businesses, particularly in rural areas, and are required to support the growth and economic development of distressed regions. EDA's investment priorities reward applicants that seek such infrastructure tied to a clear, sustainable regional economic strategy, thus accelerating the positive impacts of EDA's investments.

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM CHANGES FOR 2025**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Public Works	Pos./BA	0	121,500	0	105,500	0	(16,000)
	FTE/Obl.	0	127,000	0	105,500	0	(21,500)

EDA requests a \$16.0 million, or 13%, decrease from the FY 2025 base level, for a total of \$105.5 million for the Public Works program. This decrease is part of the rightsizing and tradeoff decisions EDA made to fund its new suite of place-based economic development programs. The decrease leaves \$105.5 million, in recognition of the vital role infrastructure plays in economic recovery, resiliency and growth. EDA also has other programs that fund construction and serve as a source for infrastructure requirements. Those programs are Economic Adjustment Assistance, Assistance to Energy Transition Communities, Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs, and the Distressed Area Recompete Pilot Program.

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Partnership Planning

Line Item		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		Actuals		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		over 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	36,000	0	36,000	0	36,000	0	36,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	33,859	0	43,000	0	43,000	0	36,000	0	(7,000)
Total	Pos./BA	0	36,000	0	36,000	0	36,000	0	36,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	33,859	0	43,000	0	43,000	0	36,000	0	(7,000)

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: [Partnership Planning](#)⁵

Goal Statement

EDA's Partnership Planning program supports the Department's goal of promoting economic growth through collaborative short and long-term local and regional economic development planning efforts. Specifically, this Program helps achieve the Department's objective of building the capacity and competitiveness of disadvantaged and distressed communities and businesses.

Base Program

Successful economic development starts with deliberate economic development planning. The Partnership Planning program supports planning projects that help a community establish strategies to identify, build and improve regional assets with the goal of creating an environment in which businesses are able to start and grow. EDA's Partnership Planning program provides the resources to help communities develop the bottom-up strategies that guide the identification and prioritization of future economic development decisions. EDA's Partnership Planning program helps support local organizations (Economic Development Districts (EDD), Indian Tribes, and other eligible entities) with their long-term planning efforts, outreach to the communities they serve, and development of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS).

The CEDS is designed to bring together public and private sector stakeholders in the creation of a regional economic roadmap to diversify and strengthen regional economies. The CEDS serves as a plan for how to build the capacity for economic development. The CEDS analyzes the regional economy, identifies regional assets (including challenges and opportunities), establishes regional goals and objectives, develops a regional plan of action by identifying priorities, responsible parties, and funding sources, and determines measure of success. Public and private sector partnerships are critical to the implementation of the integrated elements of a CEDS. As an asset-based plan, the CEDS serves a critical role in a region's efforts to build resilience against economic disruptions, including economic dislocations due to trade impacts, natural disasters, loss of major employers and other events that would result in the loss of jobs and private investment.

The Program's authorizing statute is the Public Works and Economic Development Act (PWEDA) of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3121 *et seq.*).

Statement of Operating Objectives

EDA's FY 2025 Planning Partnership program helps provide communities with comprehensive, market-based, local and regional planning, which is an essential component of successful economic development. Effective planning creates a road map for community growth and development with

⁵ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/planning>.

a focus on creating higher-skill, higher-wage jobs. The Partnership Planning Program provides a foundation and blueprint for economic development investments to stimulate economic growth in distressed regions. The planning process supports an assessment of the region's economic conditions and the development of a CEDS to guide resource allocation and project development. The key value of this process is that it is locally determined and involves participation from all the diverse interests in the community.

Explanation and Justification

EDA's Partnership Planning Program helps support regional organizations' (EDDs, Indian Tribes, and other eligible recipients) economic development capacity-building efforts through foundational, long-term economic development strategic planning. As part of this planning process, the regional organizations encourage individuals, local governments, institutes of learning, and private industry to engage in a meaningful conversation about what capacity building efforts would best serve economic development in the region. These organizations also communicate EDA's program and policies and provide technical assistance to economically distressed communities.

Specifically, EDA Partnership Planning funds support the preparation and implementation of CEDS which are strategy-driven plans for regional economic development. A CEDS is the result of a regionally owned planning process designed to build capacity and guide the economic prosperity and resiliency of an area or region. In addition, the CEDS enable better and more strategic use of EDA's full suite of investment programs, serving as a blueprint for economic development projects. Sound regional planning also attracts and encourages the integration of other federal, state, and local funds plus private sector investments to implement long-term development strategies. In this way, EDA's Partnership Planning program plays a foundational role in helping communities develop important strategies that inform future economic development decisions.

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Technical Assistance

Line Item		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	14,000	0	14,000	0	14,000	0	14,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	13,417	0	17,561	0	17,561	0	14,000	0	(3,561)
Total	Pos./BA	0	14,000	0	14,000	0	14,000	0	14,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	13,417	0	17,561	0	17,561	0	14,000	0	(3,561)

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: [Technical Assistance](#)⁶

Goal Statement

EDA's Technical Assistance program provides services and informational tools to help communities develop and implement economic development plans, strategies and studies designed to build the capacity and knowledge necessary for economic prosperity and resiliency in the 21st century.

Base Program

EDA oversees three technical assistance sub-programs that promote economic development aimed at alleviating unemployment, underemployment, and out-migration in distressed regions:

The University Center (UC) sub-program is specifically designed to marshal the resources located within colleges and universities to support job creation and economic growth in regions experiencing economic distress. UCs are required to devote most of their funding to responding to technical assistance requests originating from communities and organizations located in the economically distressed areas of their service regions.

The Local Technical Assistance (TA) sub-program is commonly used to analyze the feasibility of a potential economic development project, such as an industrial park or a high-technology business incubator. Economically distressed communities often have a pre-disposition towards the same types of industries that have historically been employers in the area, while market forces may be moving in another direction. Feasibility studies help determine whether the market would support a particular activity or site.

The National Technical Assistance (TA) sub-program assists economic development organizations by creating data and informational tools that equip practitioners with the knowledge needed for successful economic development efforts. This includes timely information on best practices in economic development, critical to practitioners' efforts to alleviate economic distress and promote economic development. EDA also conducts demonstrations of promising economic development tools and techniques and disseminates them to state and local organizations, including urban, rural, and Tribal communities. This Program identifies and funds the collection and dissemination of new knowledge, analysis, and technical information to help communities assess their economic development opportunities. The National TA sub-program also supports the dissemination and implementation of research and information to economic development policymakers and practitioners.

The Program's authorizing statute is the Public Works and Economic Development Act (PWEDA) of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3121 *et seq.*).

⁶ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/local-technical-assistance>.

Statement of Operating Objectives

These programs provide funds to:

- Invest in institutions of higher education to establish and operate University Centers to provide technical assistance to public and private sector organizations with the goal of enhancing local economic development;
- Support innovative approaches to stimulate economic development in distressed regions;
- Disseminate information and studies of economic development issues of national significance; and
- Finance local feasibility studies, planning efforts and other projects leading to local economic development.

Explanation and Justification

The EDA-supported University Center (UC) sub-program is specifically designed to marshal the resources located within colleges and universities to support job creation and economic growth in regions experiencing economic distress. UCs, which EDA considers long-term partners in economic development, are required to devote the majority of their funding to respond to technical assistance requests originating from communities and organizations located in the economically distressed areas of their service regions.

EDA has prioritized enhancing America's capacity to commercialize research at our universities. The UC sub-program can be an effective vehicle to accelerate U.S. innovation systems when university research is translated to local technical assistance. Some UCs focus efforts on assisting units of local governments and non-profit organizations in planning and implementing economic development programs and projects. Typical activities carried out by these UCs include conducting preliminary feasibility studies, analyzing data, and convening customized seminars and workshops on topics such as strategic planning and capital budgeting. Other UCs focus their efforts on helping private sector firms with technology transfer and commercialization assistance. UCs also support the identification of appropriate off-the-shelf technology to solve specific problems encountered by firms and recommending efficiencies in current operating procedures to improve production processes, reduce energy usage, and decrease the volume of raw materials lost in the production process. The UC sub-program currently supports approximately 67 UCs throughout the United States, including the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

In connection with its Equity Investment Priority, EDA has intensified its outreach efforts to Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) to ensure their awareness of opportunities to apply to become a UC. In addition to outreach conducted on the ground by regional EDA staff, this included a March 2022 EDA Roundtable Discussion and Informational Seminar on "EDA University Centers and Minority Serving Institutions." In the 2022 UC competition for EDA's Atlanta and Seattle regions, nearly one-third of the applications selected for funding were MSIs. Due to EDA's enhanced outreach efforts, 17 of EDA's 67 University Centers – or about one quarter – are MSIs. EDA will continue such outreach to further engage MSIs on UC opportunities.

The Local Technical Assistance (TA) sub-program, one of EDA's smallest programs in terms of funding, is an extremely flexible and useful economic development tool. The most common purpose of a Local TA project has been to analyze the feasibility of a potential economic development project, such as an industrial park or a high-technology business incubator. Feasibility studies are an effective tool for determining whether the market will support a particular activity or site. While Local TA investments are typically small in size and scope, they can prevent

costly mistakes and misguided investments. Economically distressed communities often have a pre-disposition towards the same types of industries that have historically been employers in the area, while market forces may be moving in another direction. Costly infrastructure investments to support obsolete industries are neither an effective nor efficient use of public resources, and they will not support the long-term economic interests of local communities. Targeted market feasibility studies can help communities overcome these hurdles and identify tomorrow's higher-skill, higher-wage employers. As a result of these feasibility studies, many communities have later received funding under EDA's Economic Adjustment Assistance and Public Works programs or other federal or state funded programs to implement those projects. The Local TA sub-program also provides resources to support flexible technical assistance at the regional level.

The National Technical Assistance (TA) sub-program assists economic development organizations by creating data and informational tools that equip practitioners with the knowledge needed for successful economic development efforts. This includes timely information on best practices in economic development critical to practitioners' efforts to alleviate economic distress and promote economic development. This process is accomplished, in some instances, through cooperative agreements with national organizations. EDA also funds promising economic development tools and techniques and disseminates them to state and local organizations, including urban, rural, and Native American communities. This program identifies and funds the collection and dissemination of new knowledge, analysis, and technical information which helps communities assess their economic development opportunities and supports the overall EDA strategy of enhancing regional cooperation, fostering innovation, increasing productivity, and supporting strong regional ecosystems that support industry.

The National TA sub-program funds projects that provide technical assistance with a national scope and support best practices among communities trying to solve problems related to economic development goals. This program supports activities that are beneficial to the economic development community nationwide and includes, but is not limited to, outreach, training, and information dissemination as well as implementation of economic development best practices and proven techniques. For example, EDA partnered with Smart Growth America, the National Association of Development Organizations, the Nuclear Decommissioning Collaborative, and the Center for Creative Land Recycling to provide technical assistance to Nuclear Closure Communities to increase issue awareness, build local capacity, and better prepare these communities and economies for a post-nuclear power plant future.

Additionally, EDA's NTA sub-program funded the Center for Rural Innovation to support the Rural Innovation Initiative (RII), in which communities receive intensive technical assistance as they execute an innovation hub strategy: an economic development model that works to educate and train residents in digital skills, employ them in new economy jobs, and empower them to launch the startups that will drive their digital economy. More details about the National TA sub-program can be found at: <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/research-and-national-technical-assistance/national-technical-assistance>.

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS
 (Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Research and Evaluation

Line Item		2023 Actual		2024 Annualized CR		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease over 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	0
Total	Pos./BA	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	0

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: [Research and Evaluation](#)⁷

Goal Statement

The Program funds research and evaluation projects that inform competitiveness and innovation strategies in distressed rural and urban regions throughout the United States and its territories. Such projects support the advancement of innovation and job growth with a specific focus on enhancing equity in economic development for traditionally underserved geographies and populations, workforce development, economic recovery and resilience to natural disasters, manufacturing, technology-based economic development, sustainable economic growth, and increasing exports and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). The Program also funds the research and evaluation needed to inform EDA's and the Department's Learning Agendas and Evaluation Plans.

For EDA to most effectively conduct research and evaluation activities, it will significantly assist EDA if Congress removes the appropriation language limiting EDA to using program funds for grants only and allow EDA to use other tools provided in its authorization language which allows the use of program funds for contracts and competitions⁸. At times, EDA has very specific needs related to research and evaluation that are most efficiently and effectively met through a contract. The ability to use program funds for not only grants, but also to engage in contracts with private firms that have specialized expertise in research and evaluation will increase EDA's ability to tap into the most cutting-edge research and evaluation capabilities available.

Base Program

EDA's Research and Evaluation program supports the development of tools, recommendations, and resources to help shape investment decisions at the regional and local levels and to inform policymakers. Research and Evaluation program investments provide cutting-edge economic development research evaluation of EDA's programs, and the identification of best practices that are disseminated to regional, state, and local practitioners.

In accordance with Congressional direction in the explanatory statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328), EDA provides its plans to develop and implement efforts/measures for increasing investments in persistent poverty counties (PPC), high-poverty areas, and other impoverished communities. At allocated funding levels, EDA will work toward more targeting of such communities to both make them aware of EDA funding opportunities and to provide assistance to them throughout the application process but anticipates limited ability to achieve more hands-on assistance beyond the research and identification work.

⁷ <https://www.eda.gov/taxonomy/term/89290>.

⁸ JUSTIFICATION OF PROPOSED LANGUAGE CHANGES (Exhibit 32, page EDA-89)

In order to strengthen such targeting efforts, EDA is engaged in extensive research to facilitate the understanding of precisely where these areas exist, as well as to better understand the causes of, and proposed solutions to, entrenched poverty in concentrated areas. This research includes a partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau's Social, Economic, and Housing Statistics Division, which conducted a PPC Validation Study that resulted in an independent, verified, and validated version of EDA's internal PPC analysis. This Census validated list of PPCs, using the latest Census data, is now part of the [EDA-Census Poverty Status Viewer](#)⁹ mapping tool located on the Census Bureau's website.

Additionally, EDA has partnered with The Economic Innovation Group (EIG) to produce an in-depth assessment of the state and needs of persistent-poverty communities, taking into account expansive areas of persistent poverty within counties that are often too populous and economically diverse to register as persistently poor. This report advocates for measuring persistent poverty at the census tract level, which is part of EDA's ongoing work with Census, in addition to the county level to create a more complete map and create a more inclusive measure of persistent poverty.

Statement of Operating Objectives

EDA's Research and Evaluation investments are designed to identify and disseminate the best thinking and best practices in economic development in the 21st century. Methodologically sound program evaluations help to identify the most effective ways to increase the return on taxpayer investment, increase private capital investment, and create higher-skill, higher-wage jobs. The program's authorizing statute is the Public Works and Economic Development Act (PWEDA) of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3121 *et seq.*).

Explanation and Justification

Understanding how core and emerging concepts in economic development can support regional economic growth is predicated upon solid research. The Research and Evaluation program provides data that inform national funding priorities, EDA's and the Department's Learning Agendas and Evaluation Plans, and creates tools that support local decision-making, making it critical to the success of all of EDA's other programs. For example, EDA funded and is currently engaged in a Research and Evaluation project with The Urban Institute to examine EDA's grant programs, the agency's history and goals, the attributes of communities receiving EDA investments, and the extent to which EDA investments spur local economic growth.

⁹ <https://mtgis-portal.geo.census.gov/arcgis/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=ad8ad0751e474f938fc98345462cdfbf>.

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS
Economic Development Assistance Programs
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

Activity: Trade Adjustment Assistance

Line Item		2023 Actuals		2024 Annualized CR		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease over 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	0
Total	Pos./BA	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	13,500	0	0

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: [Trade Adjustment Assistance](#)¹⁰

Goal Statement

The goal of the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms (TAAF) program is to help import-impacted U.S. firms regain competitiveness in the global marketplace, thereby helping to retain and create U.S. jobs.

Base Program

The TAAF program provides cost-shared direct technical assistance in the development of business recovery plans, which are known as Adjustment Proposals (APs) under Section 252 of the Trade Act, as well as federal matching funds to implement projects outlined in the proposals to help import-impacted firms expand markets, strengthen operations, and increase competitiveness. Firms contribute a matching share to create and implement their recovery plans.

The authorization for the TAAF program sunset on June 30, 2022. On July 1, 2021, the first stage of the sunset occurred and the TAAF program reverted to a more limited form (P.L. 114-27, § 406(a)). The two biggest reversions were to narrow the definition of an eligible “firm” to exclude service-sector firms and to reduce eligibility look-back periods. On July 1, 2022, the second stage of the sunset occurred and assistance could no longer be provided to new firms under the TAAF program, but could continue for firms that had already submitted a petition under the TAAF program (P.L. 114-27, § 406(a)(7)). The cumulative effect of these changes to the TAAF program was that firm eligibility narrowed as of July 1, 2021, and only firms that had previously submitted a petition were able to be served under the TAAF program as of July 1, 2022. Bills to reauthorize the TAAF program are pending in Congress. Until such time as the TAAF Program is reauthorized, the program may only continue to serve firms that submitted a petition by June 30, 2022. EDA expects a need for continued appropriations through FY 2029 to serve firms that submitted petitions by the sunset date.

EDA’s TAAF program is authorized under chapters 3 and 5 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. § 2341 *et seq.*).

Statement of Operating Objectives

The TAAF program provides technical assistance to help U.S. firms experiencing a decline in sales and employment due to increases in imports of similar or directly competitive articles become more competitive in the global marketplace.

¹⁰ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/trade-adjustment-assistance-for-firms>.

Explanation and Justification

The TAAF program is a trade remedy mechanism that, rather than relying on tariffs, quotas, or duties, supports free trade by helping import-impacted firms regain their economic competitiveness. EDA funds and works in partnership with a national network of 11 Trade Adjustment Assistance Centers (TAACs). EDA's partnership with the TAACs allows firms to receive customized assistance from industry experts knowledgeable about the unique needs, challenges and opportunities facing industries in their respective regions.

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Economic Adjustment Assistance

Line Item		2023 Actuals		2024 Annualized CR		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease over 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	39,500	0	39,500	0	39,500	0	39,500	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	34,873	0	37,000	0	37,000	0	33,500	0	(3,500)
Total	Pos./BA	0	39,500	0	39,500	0	39,500	0	39,500	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	34,873	0	37,000	0	37,000	0	33,500	0	(3,500)

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: [Economic Adjustment Assistance](#)¹¹

Goal Statement

Through the Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) program, EDA helps local communities design and implement strategies to address evolving economic conditions that are causing or threaten to cause serious structural damage to the underlying economic base of the community or region or are undermining locally-developed economic development goals.

Base Program

The EAA program provides a robust array of resources that can be brought to bear including construction, technical assistance, and financing projects that help distressed communities become more competitive and prosperous. Specifically, the EAA program provides resources to address the needs of communities impacted by globalization or severe economic shocks, especially communities that needed to develop and implement collaborative regional strategies to transform and diversify their economies and position them competitively.

A particular focus of EDA's EAA funding is to assist communities to diversify and strengthen their regional economy, assist communities that lack basic infrastructure such as broadband, and assist communities in high-poverty areas and persistent poverty counties. EAA funds can be used to support such activities as designing a transition strategy, constructing or upgrading public infrastructure, conducting feasibility or environmental studies, supporting construction and operations of incubators and business accelerators, and capitalizing locally or regionally administered [Revolving Loan Funds](#)¹² (RLFs).

The Program's authorizing statute is the Public Works and Economic Development Act (PWEDA) of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3121 *et seq.*).

Statement of Operating Objectives

The EAA program provides strategic investments to spearhead economic recovery in regions affected by natural disasters, natural resource depletion, mass layoffs, and other severe economic disruptions; to assist communities in restructuring and diversifying regional economies buffeted by steep declines in traditional sources of employment such as manufacturing, agriculture, fishing, or logging; and to aid communities suffering from chronic unemployment and underinvestment.

¹¹ <https://www.eda.gov/economic-adjustment-assistance>.

¹² <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/revolving-loan-fund>.

Explanation and Justification

As EDA's most flexible program, EAA is well positioned to implement the place-based activities necessary to help realize bottom-up strategies to catalyze regional economic development and prosperity. EAA provides EDA with the ability to quickly and proactively assist communities experiencing or anticipating economic dislocations to plan and implement innovative solutions that access their regional economic advantages. EAA's unique mechanisms provide a streamlined process that reduces grantees' administrative burdens because EDA can fund a planning or feasibility study, and related implementation or construction with only one application. EAA is EDA's most flexible economic development tool, providing ready access to appropriate funding for everything from disaster recovery to business accelerators and incubators.

EAA continues to be an integral part of EDA's portfolio. The Bureau's FY 2025 budget request is designed to provide the most effective mix of investments to respond to the needs of distressed communities.

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Assistance to Indigenous Communities

Line Item		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		Actuals		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		over 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	5,000
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	5,000
Total	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	5,000
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	5,000

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

Activity: Assistance to Indigenous Communities (AIC)

Goal Statement

This Program competitively awards grants to support regionally-driven economic development and workforce development organizations anchored in Indigenous communities.

Base Program

This Program provides a flexible set of resources for the benefit of Indigenous communities seeking to fund construction, technical assistance, and financing projects that help some of the Nation's most distressed communities become more competitive and prosperous. Specifically, AIC will provide resources to address a long unmet need within Indigenous communities that have historically suffered from a lack of investment in core economic development needs. This includes enabling infrastructure, widely available in other jurisdictions but missing in many Indigenous communities, to help create the conditions that support future economic development investments.

A particular focus of EDA's AIC funding will be to assist communities seeking to diversify and strengthen their regional economy, assist communities that lack basic infrastructure such as broadband, and assist communities in high-poverty areas and persistent poverty counties. AIC funds will be used to support such activities as designing a transition strategy, constructing, or upgrading public infrastructure, conducting feasibility or environmental studies, supporting construction and operations of incubators and business accelerators, and capitalizing locally or regionally administered Revolving Loan Funds (RLFs).

The Program's authorizing statute is the Public Works and Economic Development Act (PWEDA) of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3121 et seq.).

Statement of Operating Objectives

These grants enable communities to take deliberate and measured steps to build economic resilience and industry diversification and promote new job creation opportunities.

Explanation and Justification

The AIC program will provide strategic investments to spearhead economic recovery in regions affected by natural disasters, natural resource depletion, mass layoffs, and other severe economic shocks; to assist communities in restructuring and diversifying regional economies buffeted by

steep declines in traditional sources of employment such as manufacturing, agriculture, fishing, or logging; and to aid communities suffering from chronic unemployment and underinvestment.

Under AIC, EDA will undertake its traditional construction and non-construction grant work but with Indigenous communities including recognized Tribes or a consortium of Tribes as defined in 13 C.F.R. § 300.3, Indian corporations wholly owned by and operated for the benefit of Indian Tribes or Alaska Native Villages, and public or private non-profit organizations or associations serving Indian Tribes, Native Hawaiians, or Native Pacific Islanders of Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau. EDA expects to competitively award grants between \$100,000 and \$1 million with no local match requirement to assist Indigenous communities that have struggled as a result of long-term economic deterioration. Through this program, EDA can support both the development of economic recovery strategies and the implementation of recovery projects identified with those strategies, including infrastructure improvements and capitalization of revolving loan funds (RLFs). These resources will help meet the growing demand for economic development projects from Indigenous communities; for example, EDA recently provided \$489 million to projects serving Indigenous communities across its six ARP programs and received four times the demand for the \$100 million in funding specifically allotted to the ARP Indigenous Communities program.

Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM CHANGES FOR 2025
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
		Assistance to Indigenous Communities	Pos./BA	0	0	0	5,000
	FTE/Obl.	0	0	0	5,000	0	5,000

For 2025, EDA is requesting \$5.0 million funding for this Program, a net increase of \$5 million from the 2025 base amount.

This funding increase would allow EDA to provide more direct support for Indigenous communities. The lack of targeted investments places Indigenous communities at a disadvantage compared to other communities when applying for competitive grants due to limited or nonexistent comprehensive economic development plans and strategies. This Program also supports the high demand for this program as demonstrated by over subscription in ARP Act grant applications targeted to Indigenous communities. EDA recently provided \$489 million to projects serving Indigenous communities across its six ARP programs and received four times the demand for the \$100 million in funding specifically allotted to the ARP Indigenous Communities program.

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Assistance to Energy Transition Communities

Line Item		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	69,000	0	69,000	0	69,000	0	46,000	0	(23,000)
	FTE/Obl	0	53,466	0	48,000	0	48,000	0	46,000	0	(2,000)
Total	Pos./BA	0	69,000	0	69,000	0	69,000	0	46,000	0	(23,000)
	FTE/Obl	0	53,466	0	48,000	0	48,000	0	46,000	0	(2,000)

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Assistance to Energy Transition Communities

To align with Congressional action, EDA has consolidated the Assistance to Coal Communities, (EDA-47), Assistance to Nuclear Closure Communities (EDA-51), and Assistance to Biomass Power Plant Closure Communities, into this program. Congress created this program line in the 2022 appropriation act and provided funding in 2022 and 2023.

Goal Statement

This Program competitively awards grants to support regionally-driven economic development and workforce development organizations anchored in energy transition-impacted communities.

Base Program

Eligible activities include helping communities: organize themselves to respond on behalf of affected workers and businesses; strengthen or develop targeted industry clusters; prepare and train the existing workforce for new jobs; and execute coordinated economic and workforce development activities based on communities' strategic plans. These activities lead to more competitive and resilient "pipelines" of skilled workers moving into new job opportunities.

This program line was created by the Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2022 (P.L. 117-103) and is executed through the Economic Adjustment Assistance program authorized by the Public Works and Economic Development Act (PWEDA) of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3121 *et seq.*).

Statement of Operating Objectives

These grants enable communities to take deliberate and measured steps to build economic resilience and industry diversification and promote new job creation opportunities.

Explanation and Justification

The transition from coal, nuclear, and biomass fuel to alternative energy sources throughout the United States has had a significant impact on the economies of impacted communities facing job losses and dramatic reductions to the local tax base. This Program specifically targets these communities. Within the \$46 million proposed for this Program, EDA will allocate the full \$46 million to Coal Communities given the increased demand. EDA believes it can meet biomass and nuclear needs with existing resources as detailed below.

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM CHANGES FOR 2025
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Assistance to Energy Transition Communities	Pos./BA	0	69,000	0	46,000	0	(23,000)
	FTE/Obl.	0	48,000	0	46,000	0	(2,000)

For 2025, EDA is requesting \$46 million funding for this Program, a decrease of \$23 million from the 2025 base amount. In 2022, Congress created this new program line titled “Assistance to Energy Transition Communities” that combines the Assistance to Coal Communities, Assistance to Nuclear Communities, and Assistance to Biomass Power Plant Closure Communities programs into one PPA.

For Assistance to Coal Communities, EDA requests a decrease of \$2.0 million from the FY 2025 base level, for a total of \$46 million. The request supports aid to communities impacted by changes in the coal economy as part of the work of the new Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities. These funds, help deliver on the Administration’s priority to catalyze economic revitalization in hard-hit coal communities by enabling larger-scale investing in job creating infrastructure projects, as well as small business and entrepreneurship support and workforce programs. Larger grants will help overcome the resource challenges in these extremely distressed communities to aid the creation or expansion of new industry clusters and secure quality jobs for energy workers. EDA will also play an important function in allowing these communities to address challenges in infrastructure, climate change, and economic competitiveness, particularly in manufacturing and technology.

EDA is not requesting funding for the Assistance to Nuclear Closure Communities activity in 2025, a \$16.5 million decrease from the 2025 base amount. EDA is proposing to use carryover balances from prior appropriations to support NCC communities. After five years of this activity, the Program is undersubscribed. Demand has not met the full \$16.5 million amount Congress appropriated each year since 2021, resulting in an unobligated balance of \$26.3 million in 2023. EDA projects the undersubscription will continue due to recent policy changes within the nuclear energy industry that have extended the lifespan of numerous nuclear plants around the nation. This will compound EDA’s unobligated balance absent major changes in industry demand. Not providing new appropriations in 2025 allows EDA to use those unobligated balances and meet projected demand in 2025. This provides time for EDA to continue working with nuclear closure communities to cultivate demand for the program and better gauge the funding levels needed in future fiscal years.

EDA is not requesting funding for Assistance to Biomass Power Plant Closure Communities in 2025, a \$4.5 million decrease from the 2025 base amount. As a new program created in 2022, EDA is working with impacted communities to help generate demand for this program. This process may take up to 3 years to mature demand for the program. In the interim, EDA is not able to award the funding already appropriated in 2022 and 2023. EDA has an unobligated balance of \$9 million from prior appropriations. EDA is able to use the carryover balances from prior appropriations to fund grants in 2025 as demand develops for this program. This provides time for EDA to continue working with biomass closure communities to cultivate demand for the program and better gauge the funding levels needed in future fiscal year.

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Regional Innovation

Line Item		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	53,624	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0
Total	Pos./BA	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	53,624	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Regional Innovation

Goal Statement

The Regional Innovation Program (RIP) seeks to increase regional economic competitiveness and prosperity by making investments that enable technology- and innovation-centric entrepreneurs to start high-growth companies and create good jobs.

Base Program

The RIP has two components identified through its authorizing legislation: Regional Innovation Grants and the Regional Innovation Research and Information (RIRI) program. Through the Regional Innovation Grants component, which EDA implements as Build to Scale, EDA makes investments that fund activities relating to the formation and development of regional innovation initiatives. The RIRI program is designed to generate and disseminate research, technical assistance, performance metrics, and data pertaining to regional innovation strategies and clusters. Historically, EDA has not allocated funding to the RIRI program.

Build to Scale (formerly the Regional Innovation Strategies program) has run ten national competitions, soliciting approximately 1,900 proposals from across the country and awarding \$219 million in grants, matched by over \$263 million in community dollars across 375 projects. Collectively, these grants have helped create over 14,200 jobs and driven more than \$1.6 billion in follow on investment capital into startups and new venture funds.

This Program is authorized by section 27 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980, as amended (15 U.S.C. § 3722).

Statement of Operating Objectives

Entrepreneurs, especially technology entrepreneurs, flourish in healthy ecosystems. RIP investments strengthen regional capacity to enable entrepreneurs to start and grow technology-driven businesses in those regions. These businesses create high-skill and high-wage jobs, promote economic opportunity, and form the nexuses of industries of the future throughout the United States. Funding is available to unlock investment capital, accelerate company growth, empower the next generation of entrepreneurs, and otherwise foster these regional ecosystems to increase global competitiveness.

Explanation and Justification

EDA has implemented the [Build to Scale](#)¹³ program through multiple sub-competitions that unlock investment capital, accelerate company growth, and empower the next generation of entrepreneurs, ultimately advancing the growth of connected, innovation-centric economies that enable innovation, accelerate technology commercialization to increase global competitiveness, and create high-skill and high-wage jobs. These competitions have previously included the Venture Challenge and the Capital Challenge and an iteration of the Industry Challenge. EDA will continue to update the program's structure in FY25 to reduce its complexity, increase flexibility, and break down silos between access to capital and other types of technology entrepreneur support.

The [Venture Challenge](#)¹⁴ (formerly known as the “i6 Challenge”) has sought to support technology entrepreneurship and accelerate company growth in communities, regions, or combinations of regions. The Venture Challenge has awarded grants to intermediary organizations like accelerators, universities, community colleges, and non-profits supporting new business ventures that have the potential to scale, challenge the status quo of established markets, commercialize technologies, and further job creation.

The [Capital Challenge](#)¹⁵ (formerly known as the “Seed Fund Support Grant Competition”) has sought to increase access to capital in communities where risk capital is in short supply. The Capital Challenge has provided operational support for the formation, launch, or scale of investment funds that seek to raise equity capital to deploy in scalable startups (e.g., angel, seed, or venture funds); and organizations that expand equity-based capital access and deployment within a community, region, or regional industry (e.g., angel networks or investor training programs).

Through domain-specific [Industry Challenges](#)¹⁶, EDA has partnered with other federal agencies to create and grow entrepreneurial ecosystems that have high potential both to create economic growth and opportunity and to bolster other agencies' science and technology missions by enabling new companies to develop, demonstrate, and deploy new technologies. EDA's most recent Industry Challenge partnership in FY20 with the Department of Energy focused on blue economy technology entrepreneurs. EDA is exploring partnerships focused on agricultural technologies, aerospace, energy, and other critical emerging technologies (e.g., those described in the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act), but does not at this time have a partner agency. The Industry Challenge has awarded grants to organizations that support the commercialization of related technologies by startups; increase connectivity and collaboration among startups, established companies, research institutions, relevant federal science and technology agencies and potential government customers of these technologies, communities, and other stakeholders; and foster innovation and high-skill, high-wage job creation in innovative, high-potential sectors of the economy.

¹³ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/build-to-scale>.

¹⁴ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/build-to-scale/venture-challenge>.

¹⁵ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/build-to-scale/capital-challenge>.

¹⁶ <https://www.eda.gov/oie/buildtoscale/industry/>.

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: STEM Apprenticeship Program

Line Item		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		<u>Actuals</u>		<u>Annualized CR</u>		<u>Base</u>		<u>Estimate</u>		<u>over 2025 Base</u>	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	4,456	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	0
Total	Pos./BA	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	4,456	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	0	0

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: [STEM Apprenticeship Program](#)¹⁷

Goal Statement

To create and implement innovative science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) apprenticeship models that complement their respective regions' innovation economy.

Base Program

EDA's investment priorities—including equity, recovery and resilience, workforce development, and technology-based economic development—strongly align with the need to increase STEM talent development efforts across the nation, especially as it relates to growing regional innovation economies that increasingly need workers with STEM skills. Through management of the Regional Innovation Program's Build to Scale competition, EDA's Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship has found that as communities increase their technology entrepreneurship activity, they struggle to access the skilled workforces they need to grow these businesses and industries of the future. Because more than 50 percent of jobs that require STEM skills do not require a bachelor's degree, nontraditional higher education—such as apprenticeships—will be instrumental in meeting the urgent and growing demand for a STEM-skilled workforce.

This program's authorizing statute is Section 30 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980, as amended (as moved by sec. 10621(a)(1) of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022, Pub. L. 117-167; 15 U.S.C. § 3723).

Statement of Operating Objectives

This national grant competition aims to strengthen regional innovation- and technology-centric economies by building STEM talent training systems and complements EDA's other programs that increase access to and deployment of the programming and capital that drive regional innovation and technology entrepreneurship.

Explanation and Justification

The STEM Talent Challenge seeks to develop or expand regional workforce capacity through iterative work-and-learn training programs with the goal to support high-growth, high-wage entrepreneurial ventures, industries of the future (i.e., industries that develop or leverage emerging

¹⁷ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/stem-challenge>.

technologies), and other innovation-driven businesses that have a high likelihood of accelerating economic competitiveness of and job creation in their respective regions and the United States.

Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Distressed Area Recompete Pilot Program

Line Item		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		Actuals		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		over 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	82,000	0	82,000	0	41,000	0	(41,000)
Total	Pos./BA	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	82,000	0	82,000	0	41,000	0	(41,000)

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Distressed Area [Recompete Pilot Program](#)¹⁸

Goal Statement

The Distressed Area Recompete Pilot Program (“Recompete Pilot Program”) will support economic revitalization in distressed communities across the country. Specifically, this Program targets areas where prime-age (25-54 years) employment significantly trails the national average, with the goal to close this gap through flexible, bottom-up strategy development and implementation investments. The projects funded through this pilot program will focus on supporting these communities to meet local economic development needs, create good-paying American jobs, invest in workers and businesses, connect local residents to opportunities and resources for long-term success, and rebuild communities stronger with lasting opportunity and economic growth.

Base Program

In Phase 1 of the Recompete Pilot Program (launched in summer of 2023), EDA received 565 applications from 49 states and multiple territories across the country –the largest number of applications for any of EDA’s national competitions in history. These applications represented over \$6.6 billion in funding requests. EDA announced 22 Recompete Finalists and 24 strategy development grant recipients on December 20, 2023, and will award 4-8 Finalists implementation grants in summer 2024. With additional funding, EDA will be able to address the root causes of distress in additional communities across the country.

The Recompete Pilot Program’s authorizing statute is sec. 29 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (as enacted by sec. 10621(a)(2) of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022, Pub. L. 117-167; 15 U.S.C. § 3722b).

Statement of Operating Objectives

The Recompete Pilot Program’s national grant competition is aimed to reduce the prime-age employment gap in persistently distressed communities across the country through flexible, locally-driven investments.

Explanation and Justification

¹⁸ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/recompete-pilot-program>.

- **Locally Driven.** The Recompete Pilot Program recognizes that engaging prime-age workers who are not participating in the labor force and/or are unemployed requires interventions targeted to each community's unique needs. Federal funds and guidance are most effective when paired with local knowledge, information, and direction. For some communities, the barrier to growth may be a lack of development-ready sites or poor freight mobility and they could use Recompete grants for infrastructure development. Others may need more workers with skills in growing industries or quality in-demand jobs, so they could use these grants to invest in training and workforce development opportunities as well as job placement and retention resources. Or they may need support for small businesses and entrepreneurs in a growing industry cluster. Communities know their challenges best, and solutions should be locally-driven.
- **Provides flexibility.** Needs vary broadly from one community to another, and communities are facing multiple, complex challenges simultaneously that require a diverse set of solutions. Direct spending on services such as workforce outreach and skills development, infrastructure, job retention programs, and resources for small businesses and entrepreneurs are among the most cost-effective ways to boost lasting employment and wage growth for local workers. Developing and investing in a truly comprehensive economic development approach that addresses economic challenges through a wide range of activities will maximize communities' efforts and investments.
- **Aids persistently distressed communities.** Persistently distressed communities have seen little investment by the private sector and are being left behind by the changing economy as certain sectors decline. For many, these challenges were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. These communities are most in need of jobs, and by investing in these areas, America has the greatest opportunity to expand overall employment, diversify geographic opportunity so that people can work where they live, and boost the national economy.

Assistance under this program is available on a competitive basis to local labor markets with a prime-age employment gap of at least 2.5%, or local communities with a prime-age employment gap of at least 5% and median annual household income of ≤\$75,000 as authorized in the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act. Prime-age employment gap is defined as the difference (expressed as a percentage) between the national five-year prime-age (25–54) employment rate and the five-year prime-age employment rate of the local labor market or local community. The prime-age employment gap identifies local economies that are not generating sufficient economic output to create opportunity for their populations and is associated with persistent, long-term economic distress. In addition to EDA's other program metrics, EDA will track the success of recipient communities at closing the prime-age employment gap.

- **Additive, not duplicative.** This Program offers an opportunity for EDA to make a commitment to local community and local labor market economic development that is not possible through EDA's existing programs. By concentrating a significant amount of resources in a distressed community, the program can address a distressed community's economic development barriers holistically, complementing EDA's project-based approach.
- **Collaborative.** To implement the program effectively and reduce administrative overlap, EDA will leverage its Economic Development Integration practice to coordinate with other federal agencies in the development of guidelines to assist communities in formulating Recompete Plans that leverage the full range of federal economic development programs and expertise. In particular, EDA will work to ensure that Recompete Plans developed through this program align with and mutually reinforce other economic development plans, including EDA-funded Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) and HUD Consolidated Plans.

Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs

Line Item		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		Actuals		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		over 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	82,000	0	82,000	0	41,000	0	(41,000)
Total	Pos./BA	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	41,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	82,000	0	82,000	0	41,000	0	(41,000)

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: [Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs](#)¹⁹

Goal Statement

The Regional Technology and Innovation Hub Program (“Tech Hubs”) seeks to strengthen economic and national security by making investments that enable the industries of the future to start, grow, and remain in regions across the United States.

Base Program

Through Tech Hubs, EDA makes large, coordinated strategic investments in regional workforce, business and entrepreneur, and technology development activities and related infrastructure to accelerate regions’ growth into globally competitive centers of the critical industries and emerging technologies that have significant potential to advance our economic and national security.

This program is authorized by section 28 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. § 3722a), as amended by the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act (Pub. L. 117-167, div. B, tit. 6, sub. C, sec. 10621 (Aug. 9, 2022)).

Statement of Operating Objectives

The Tech Hubs program is a critical pillar of the U.S. strategy to pursue the dual goals of strengthening economic competitiveness and national security while spreading economic prosperity and advancing equity in regions throughout the country. The Administration will implement the Tech Hubs program consistent with the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act.

Explanation and Justification

Bringing new technologies to market catalyzes the creation of good jobs in the industries of the future for American workers at all skill levels and increases the economic competitiveness and prosperity of regional economies and of the country as a whole. The Tech Hubs program invests in these regions to drive technology- and innovation-centric growth, building on existing innovation capacity to enable companies and workers to make, deliver, and deploy the technologies born of that innovation. Tech Hubs investments are large, coordinated, strategic, and concentrated—funded projects simultaneously and cohesively address challenges and leverage existing assets, resources, and opportunities. Additionally, EDA predicates these investments on durable regional governance and institutional commitments—requirements to the realization of long-term, high-impact, innovation-centric economic development, and growth strategies. This combination of large magnitude investments, strong governance, and concrete commitments enables the actors within regional economies—institutions and individuals in the private and public sectors, academia,

¹⁹ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/regional-technology-and-innovation-hubs>.

and other domains—to modernize United States manufacturing and to produce and deliver more—and more innovative—technologies domestically. The United States leads the world in research, development, and innovation, and the Tech Hubs program enables the United States to become or strengthen its position as the global leader in realizing the benefits—to our economy, our security, our resilience, our prosperity—of the technologies that result from our innovation.

Under the program, EDA (1) designates Tech Hubs, (2) awards funding for strategy development (i.e., planning and capacity building), and (3) awards funding for strategy implementation (i.e., projects) (all subject to constraints and targets outlined in detail in the full text of the statute). These designations and investments strive to accelerate regional evolution into global leadership in industries of the future that strengthen the region and U.S. economic and national security. Designation as a Tech Hub is a prerequisite for implementation funding but not for strategy development funding.

Through a highly competitive and rigorous merit-based process, EDA designates Hubs and invests in projects proposed by consortia that comprise a wide array of public, private, academic, and other partners that translate regional innovation capacity into economic growth—new and growing companies, new good jobs, and new technology products and services. EDA actively supports designated Hubs and recipients of Tech Hubs funding as they implement their innovation-based growth strategies, including by identifying and coordinating aligned programs to increase the impacts of federal financial, technical, and other assistance with an all-of-government approach.

With the \$41 million request (less than 0.5% of the program’s current authorization), EDA will fund additional grants to the 31 Designated Tech Hubs to strengthen global competitiveness in critical technology sectors. With corresponding mandatory funding (\$1.5 billion in FY25 and \$2.5 billion in FY27, constituting cumulative appropriations of approximately 46% of the program’s authorization; see EDA-97), EDA will designate additional Tech Hubs, make additional implementation investments in new and existing Hubs, and award additional strategy development grants.

As of October 2023, EDA has designated a first tranche of 31 Hubs, meeting or exceeding the applicable statutory distribution requirements across EDA regions, small and rural communities²⁰, States and territories eligible for the National Science Foundation’s (NSF’s) Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), low population states²¹, and underserved communities. EDA also awarded 29 strategy development grants and met or exceeded the applicable statutory distribution requirements regarding small and rural communities²² and States or territories eligible for the NSF’s EPSCoR. Consortia will use strategy development grant funding to coordinate local planning processes, identify regional technology strategy partnerships, conduct regional need and capability assessments, develop, or update a regional strategic plan and goals, identify or implement planning and local zoning changes, and develop plans for promoting broad-based regional economic growth. Furthermore, funds may be used to formulate a workforce development strategy based on regional needs for a skilled and technical workforce. Grants may be awarded for up to 80% of the total cost (i.e., requiring a 20% match from non-Federal sources). Exceptions to this rule allow for grants up to 90% if the grantee represents small and rural or underserved communities and up to 100% for Tribal governments. EDA, via the Phase 1 NOFO for the first iteration

²⁰ “The term ‘small and rural community’ means a noncore area, a micropolitan area, or a small metropolitan statistical area with a population of not more than 250,000.” 15 U.S.C. § 3722a(a)(8).

²¹ “The term ‘low population State’ means a State without an urbanized area with a population greater than 250,000 as reported in the decennial census.” 15 U.S.C. § 3722a(a)(7).

²² § 3722a(a)(8).

of this program, obligated \$13.8 million in strategy development grants and is authorized to award a total of \$50 million in strategy development grants over the life of the program.

As of February 29, EDA has received applications for implementation funding from all 31 Hubs, which request approximately four times the amount of available funding. Given that EDA received 198 applications for designation, this indicates an initial total potential demand of 25 times the amount of available funding and in excess even of the fully authorized level. EDA expects to announce the first tranche of approximately \$500 million in strategy implementation grant funding in summer 2024 to approximately 5-10 of the 31 Hubs across multiple projects spanning a broad array of workforce development, business and entrepreneur development, and technology development and maturation activities, as well as related infrastructure projects, based on the challenges and opportunities that their regions, institutions, and populations face in growing their innovation economies.

In this and any future rounds of strategy implementation funding, grants will have an initial performance period of no less than 2 years followed by a subsequent performance period for hubs that make satisfactory progress towards metrics under the terms of the grant. The Program's flexibility allows EDA to deploy additional rounds of investment in a Hub to meet changing needs of the region as well as to make new investments in additional Hubs. The initial award to any given Hub must be less than \$150,000,000, and, after EDA awards a second round of funding to any given Hub, no Hub may be awarded more than 10 percent of total strategy implementation grant obligations. Initial grant awards may not exceed 90 percent of the operating costs for the initial period, and subsequent rounds of funding may not exceed 75 percent of the operating costs each year. EDA is authorized to award up to \$9.5 billion in strategy implementation grants over the life of the program.

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
PROGRAM CHANGE DETAIL BY OBJECT CLASS
 (Direct Obligations amounts in thousands)

Activity: Economic Development Assistance

Object Class	2023	2024	2025	2025	Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base
	Actuals	Annualized CR	Base	Estimate	
41 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	403,070	1,610,620	1,610,620	431,000	1,610,620
99.9 Total obligations	403,070	1,610,620	1,610,620	431,000	1,610,620

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Object Class		2023	2024	2025	2025	Increase/Decrease
		Actuals	Annualized CR	Base	Estimate	over 2025 Base
41	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	403,070	1,610,620	1,610,620	431,000	1,610,620
99.9	Total Obligations	403,070	1,610,620	1,610,620	431,000	1,610,620
	Less prior year recoveries	55,481	55,000	55,000	10,000	(45,000)
	Less prior year unobligated balance	74,725	1,223,936	1,223,936	76,316	(1,147,620)
	Less unobligated balance transferred	(5,660)	(6,000)	(6,000)	0	6,000
	Less unobligated balance, end of year	(1,223,936)	(76,316)	(76,316)	(56,316)	20,000
	Less transfer to other account	(35,540)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	0
	Less rescission or cancellation of unobligated balances	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(30,000)	(20,000)
	Total Budget Authority	1,548,000	430,000	430,000	437,000	2,797,240
 Personnel Data						
Full-Time equivalent Employment:						
	Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0	0	0
 Authorized Positions:						
	Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0	0	0

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
JUSTIFICATION OF PROPOSED LANGUAGE CHANGES
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

FY 2025

This language is proposed for the Economic Development Administration’s grant programs:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

For ~~[grants for]~~²³ economic development assistance as provided by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, for trade adjustment assistance, and for **programs** ~~[for grants]~~ authorized by sections 27, 28, 29 and 30 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722, 3722a, 3722b, and 3723), as amended, \$437,000,000 to remain available until expended, of which \$50,000,000 shall be for ~~[grants]~~ **programs** under section 27, \$41,000,000 shall be ~~[for grants]~~ for programs under section 28, \$41,000,000 shall be ~~[for grants]~~ for programs under section 29 in amounts determined by the Secretary, and \$2,500,000 shall be ~~[for grants]~~ for programs—under section 30: *Provided*, That any deviation from the amounts designated for specific activities in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this heading in previous years, shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 504 of this Act.

The following language is proposed in the general provisions for the Department of Commerce:

²³ Removing the “grants” limiting language will expand the number of already-authorized programs EDA could engage in and permit EDA to select the most appropriate funding tool to carry out Congressionally authorized programs. Examples of authorized programs and funding tools that EDA cannot currently use because of the “grants” limitation:

- **Contracts:** Under the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965’s (PWEDA) Research and National Technical Assistance (RNTA) program, EDA is authorized to enter into contracts in addition to grants to provide research and technical assistance. See PWEDA sec. 207 (42 U.S.C. § 3147(b)). However, with the “grants” limitation in place, RNTA is currently constrained to exclusively awarding grants under this program. This limitation has stunted EDA’s ability to conduct valuable research to improve its own methodologies and programs, be it through strategic planning, developing performance metrics, or information dissemination; research that must be funded through a contract because it is for EDA’s benefit.
- **Prize Competitions:** Because EDA can only use these funds on “grants,” EDA is also prohibited from running prize competitions which may in some instances yield better results than a grant because it incentivizes a greater number of participants for a lesser amount of funding, exactly why Congress generally authorized the use of prize competitions under section 24 of SW (as added by sec. 105 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010). See 15 U.S.C. § 3719. The specificity of EDA’s “grant” language takes this tool out of EDA’s tool chest and unnecessarily limits EDA’s ability to carry out robust competitions that stimulate regional economic growth and development. While this change removes an impediment from running a prize competition, EDA would still require specific authorization to conduct a prize competition.

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 521. ((b)a) Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available to the Department of Commerce, under the heading “Economic Development Administration, Economic Development Assistance Programs”, \$30,000,000[\$25,000,000] are hereby permanently rescinded, not later than September 30, [2024] 2025.

((e)b) The Department of Commerce shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report no later than September 1, 2025[4], specifying the amount of each rescission made pursuant to subsection (a)[and (d)].

((f)c) The amounts rescinded in subsection (a), [(b), and (c) and (d)] shall not be from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency or disaster relief requirement pursuant to the concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 533. Of the amounts made available by this Act, not less than 10 percent of [each] the total amount provided[, respectively,] for Public Works grants authorized by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 [and grants authorized by section 27 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722)] shall be allocated for assistance in persistent poverty counties: Provided, That for purposes of this section, the term “persistent poverty counties” means any Territory or possession of the United States or any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by [the 1993 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates,] the 1990 and 2000 decennial census, and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates[, or any Territory or possession of the United States].

Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Economic Development Assistance Programs
APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE AND CODE CITATIONS
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

FY 2025

Economic Development Assistance Programs

- 1 For necessary expenses of the economic development assistance programs as provided for by law,

42 U.S.C. 3214(c), 3231

42 U.S.C. 3214(c) - Authorizes the transfer of appropriated funds from other federal agencies if such funds are used for the purpose for which (and in accordance with the terms under which) the funds are specifically authorized and appropriated.

42 U.S.C. 3231 - Authorizes funds to be appropriated for economic development assistance programs to carry out 42 U.S.C. 3121 *et seq.*, through fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.

- 2 Authorization of appropriations for defense conversion activities,

42 U.S.C. 3232

42 U.S.C. 3232(a) - In addition to amounts made available under section 3231 of this title, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out section 3149(c)(1) of this title, to remain available until expended.

42 U.S.C. 3232(b) - Funds made available under subsection (a) of this section may be used for activities including pilot projects for privatization of, and economic development activities for, closed or realigned military or Department of Energy installations.

- 3 Authorization of appropriations for disaster economic recovery activities,

42. U.S.C. 3233

42. U.S.C. 3233(a) - In addition to amounts made available under section 3231 of this title, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out section 3149(c)(2) of this title, to remain available until expended.

42. U.S.C. 3233(b) - The federal share of the cost of activities funded with amounts made available under subsection (a) of this section shall be up to 100 percent.

- 4 Funding for grants for planning and grants for administrative expenses,

42 U.S.C. 3234

Of the amounts made available under section 3231 of this title for each fiscal year, not less than \$27,000,000 shall be made available for grants provided under section 3143 of this title.

- 5 Title II of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, at 19 U.S.C. 2345 – Authorizes appropriations to carry out Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms (TAAF),

Public Law No: 114-27, Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015. Title IV of that Act, entitled the “Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015” extends the authorization of appropriations for TAAF through fiscal year 2021.

- 6 For section 27 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722). Specifically, 15 U.S.C. 3722(h) - The Secretary may use up to \$50,000,000 in each of the fiscal years 2020 through 2024 to carry out this section.
- 7 For section 28 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722a, as enacted by sec. 10621(a)(2) of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (Pub. L. 117-167)).
- 8 For section 29 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722b, as enacted by sec. 10621(a)(2) of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (Pub. L. 117-167)).
- 9 For section 30 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3723, as moved by sec. 10621(a)(1) of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (Pub. L. 117-167)).

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Mandatory)
SUMMARY OF RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

	Positions	FTE	Budget Authority	Direct Obligations
Appropriation Available, 2024	0	0	0	0
2025 Adjustments to base:				
<i>Less: Estimated recoveries, 2025</i>			0	0
2025 Base	0	0	0	0
<i>Plus: 2025 Program changes</i>	0	0	1,500,000	1,500,000
2025 Estimate	0	0	1,500,000	1,500,000

Comparison by activity / subactivity with totals by activity			2023 Actual		2024 Enacted		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease over 2025 Base	
			Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
EDA-97	Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs Program Funds	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,455,000	0	1,455,000
		FTE/Obl.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,455,000	0	1,455,000
EDA-97	Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs Mission Support/Administrative	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45,000	0	45,000
		FTE/Obl.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45,000	0	45,000
	Total	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,500,000	0	1,500,000
		FTE/Obl.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,500,000	0	1,500,000
Adjustments for												
	Recoveries ¹			0		0		0		0		0
	Unobligated balance, start of year ¹			0		0		0		0		0
	Unobligated balance transferred			0		0		0		0		0
	Unobligated balance, end of year ¹			0		0		0		0		0
	Rescission or cancellation of unobligated balances ²			0		0		0		0		0
Financing from transfers:												
	Transfer from other accounts (-)			0		0		0		0		0
	Transfer to other accounts (+) ¹			0		0		0		0		0
	Appropriation			0		0		0		1,500,000		1,500,000

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Mandatory)
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Mandatory)

Line Item		2023 Actual		2024 Enacted		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease over 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Economic Assistance	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,455,000	0	1,455,000
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100,000	0	100,000
Total	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,455,000	0	1,455,000
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100,000	0	100,000

Line Item		2023 Actual		2024 Enacted		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease over 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Mission Support/ Administrative	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45,000	0	45,000
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15,000	0	15,000
Total	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45,000	0	45,000
	FTE/Obl	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15,000	0	15,000

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Mandatory)
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: [Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs](#)²⁴ (Mandatory)

The Administration proposes \$4 billion in no-year mandatory funding (\$1.5 billion in FY 2025 and \$2.5 billion in FY 2027) to further the Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Tech Hubs) program authorized by section 28 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722a) as amended by section 10621 of the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act (Pub. L. 117-167). The Tech Hubs program will enable regions across the United States to become and remain global leaders in critical technology areas and seeks to strengthen U.S. economic and national security through place-based investments in regions with the assets, resources, capacity, and potential to become globally competitive in the technologies and industries of the future and for those industries—and their good jobs—to start, grow, and remain in regions across the U.S. EDA is happy to provide technical assistance in drafting language to conform to any legislative vehicle.

Goal Statement

The Regional Technology and Innovation Hub (“Tech Hubs”) program seeks to strengthen economic and national security by making investments that enable the industries of the future to start, grow, and remain in regions across the United States.

Base Program

Through the Tech Hubs program, EDA makes large, coordinated strategic investments in regional workforce, business and entrepreneur, and technology development activities and related infrastructure to accelerate regions’ growth into globally competitive centers of the critical industries and emerging technologies that have significant potential to advance our economic and national security. EDA requires additional resources to administer this program and recommends up to 4 percent of the program funding be made available for administrative overhead.

This program is authorized by section 28 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. § 3722a), as amended by the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act (Pub. L. 117-167, div. B, tit. 6, subt. C, sec. 10621 (Aug. 9, 2022)).

Statement of Operating Objectives

Tech Hubs program is a critical pillar of the U.S. strategy to pursue the dual goals of strengthening economic competitiveness and national security while spreading economic prosperity and advancing equity in regions throughout the country. The Administration will implement the Tech Hubs program consistent with the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act.

²⁴ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/regional-technology-and-innovation-hubs>.

Explanation and Justification

Bringing new technologies to market catalyzes the creation of good jobs in the industries of the future for American workers at all skill levels and increases the economic competitiveness and prosperity of regional economies and of the country as a whole. The Tech Hubs program invests in these regions to drive technology- and innovation-centric growth, building on existing innovation capacity to enable companies and workers to make, deliver, and deploy the technologies born of that innovation. Tech Hubs investments are large, coordinated, strategic, and concentrated—funded projects simultaneously and cohesively address challenges and leverage existing assets, resources, and opportunities. Additionally, EDA predicates these investments on durable regional governance and institutional commitments—requirements to the realization of long-term, high-impact, innovation-centric economic development, and growth strategies. This combination of large magnitude investments, strong governance, and concrete commitments enables the actors within regional economies—institutions and individuals in the private and public sectors, academia, and other domains—to modernize United States manufacturing and to produce and deliver more—and more innovative—technologies domestically. The United States leads the world in research, development, and innovation, and the Tech Hubs program enables the United States to become or strengthen its position as the global leader in realizing the benefits—to our economy, our security, our resilience, our prosperity—of the technologies that result from our innovation.

Under the program, EDA (1) designates Tech Hubs, (2) awards funding for strategy development (i.e., planning and capacity building), and (3) awards funding for strategy implementation (i.e., projects) (all subject to constraints and targets outlined in detail in the full text of the statute). These designations and investments strive to accelerate regional evolution into global leadership in industries of the future that strengthen the region and U.S. economic and national security. Designation as a Tech Hub is a prerequisite for implementation funding but not for strategy development funding.

Through a highly competitive and rigorous merit-based process, EDA designates Hubs and invests in projects proposed by consortia that comprise a wide array of public, private, academic, and other partners that translate regional innovation capacity into economic growth—new and growing companies, new good jobs, and new technology products and services. EDA actively supports designated Hubs and recipients of Tech Hubs funding as they implement their innovation-based growth strategies, including by identifying and coordinating aligned programs to increase the impacts of federal financial, technical, and other assistance with an all-of-government approach.

EDA will deploy funding at this level (constituting cumulative appropriations of approximately 46% of the Program’s authorization alongside prior appropriations and the corresponding discretionary funding proposed herein; see EDA-82) to designate additional Tech Hubs, make additional implementation and investments in new and existing Hubs, and award additional strategy development grants. Additionally, EDA will make additional strategy development grants. These investments will make regional economies more competitive, communities and populations more prosperous, and our national security stronger and more resilient.

As of October 2023, EDA has designated a first tranche of 31 Hubs, meeting or exceeding the applicable statutory distribution requirements across EDA regions, small and rural communities²⁵, States and territories eligible for the National Science Foundation’s (NSF’s) Established Program to

²⁵ “The term ‘small and rural community’ means a noncore area, a micropolitan area, or a small metropolitan statistical area with a population of not more than 250,000.” 15 U.S.C. § 3722a(a)(8).

Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), low population states²⁶, and underserved communities. EDA also awarded 29 strategy development grants and met or exceeded the applicable statutory distribution requirements regarding small and rural communities²⁷ and States or territories eligible for the NSF's EPSCoR. Consortia will use strategy development grant funding to coordinate local planning processes, identify regional technology strategy partnerships, conduct regional need and capability assessments, develop, or update a regional strategic plan and goals, identify or implement planning and local zoning changes, and develop plans for promoting broad-based regional economic growth. Furthermore, funds may be used to formulate a workforce development strategy based on regional needs for a skilled and technical workforce. Grants may be awarded for up to 80% of the total cost (i.e., requiring a 20% match from non-Federal sources). Exceptions to this rule allow for grants up to 90 percent if the grantee represents small and rural or underserved communities and up to 100 percent for Tribal governments. EDA is authorized to award a total of \$50 million in strategy development grants over the life of the program.

As of February 29, EDA has received applications for implementation funding from all 31 Hubs, which request approximately four times the amount of available funding. Given that EDA received 198 applications for designation, this indicates an initial total potential demand of 25 times the amount of available funding and in excess even of the fully authorized level. EDA expects to announce the first tranche of approximately \$500 million in strategy implementation grant funding in summer 2024 to approximately 5-10 of the 31 Hubs across multiple projects spanning a broad array of workforce development, business and entrepreneur development, and technology development and maturation activities, as well as related infrastructure projects, based on the challenges and opportunities that their regions, institutions, and populations face in growing their innovation economies.

In this and any future rounds of strategy implementation funding, grants will have an initial performance period of no less than 2 years followed by a subsequent performance period for hubs that make satisfactory progress towards metrics under the terms of the grant. The Program's flexibility allows EDA to deploy additional rounds of investment in a Hub to meet the changing needs of the region as well as to make new investments in additional Hubs. The initial award to any given Hub must be less than \$150,000,000, and, after EDA awards a second round of funding to any given Hub, no Hub may be awarded more than 10 percent of total strategy implementation grant obligations. Initial grant awards may not exceed 90 percent of the operating costs for the initial period, and subsequent rounds of funding may not exceed 75 percent of the operating costs each year. EDA is authorized to award up to \$9.5 billion in strategy implementation grants over the life of the program.

²⁶ "The term 'low population State' means a State without an urbanized area with a population greater than 250,000 as reported in the decennial census." 15 U.S.C. § 3722a(a)(7).

²⁷ § 3722a(a)(8).

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Mandatory)
PROGRAM CHANGE FOR 2024
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Mandatory)	Pos./BA	0	0	0	1,500,000	0	1,500,000
	FTE/Obl.	0	0	0	115,000	0	115,000

Tech Hub program increase (\$1.5 billion in FY 2025)

The Administration is also proposing \$4 billion (\$1.5 billion in 2025 and \$2.5 billion in 2027) in no-year mandatory funding to further the Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Tech Hubs) program authorized by section 28 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722a) as added by the section 10621 of the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act (Pub. L. 117-167). The Tech Hubs program will enable regions across the United States to become and remain global leaders in key future technology focus areas and seeks to strengthen U.S. economic and national security through place-based investments in regions with the assets, resources, capacity, and potential to become globally competitive in the technologies and industries of the future and for those industries—and their good jobs—to start, grow, and remain in the U.S. EDA is happy to provide technical assistance in crafting appropriations language that conforms to any legislative vehicle. EDA requires additional resources to administer this program and recommends up to 4 percent of the program funding be made available for administrative overhead, though the agency will work to ensure administration costs are kept to a manageable level to maximize grant dollars available. Administrative funds pay for EDA staff to run the program, staff support costs for travel, training, contract services to aid in the assessment of grant applications, and attributable costs for shared services.

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Mandatory)
PROGRAM CHANGE DETAIL BY OBJECT CLASS
 (Direct Obligations amounts in thousands)

Activity: Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs (Mandatory)

Object Class		2023	2024	2025	2025	Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base
		Actual	Enacted	Base	Estimate	
	Mission Support/Administrative Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	15,000	15,000
41		0	0	0	100,000	100,000
99.9	Total obligations	0	0	0	115,000	115,000

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
American Rescue Plan
SUMMARY OF RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	Positions	FTE	Budget Authority	Direct Obligations
Appropriation Available, 2024	26	14	0	2,008
2025 Adjustments to base:				
<i>Less: Estimated recoveries, 2025</i>			0	0
2025 Base	0	0	0	0
<i>Plus: 2025 Program changes</i>	0	0	0	0
2025 Estimate	0	0	0	0

Comparison by activity / subactivity with totals by activity			2023 Actuals		2024 Enacted		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease over 2025 Base	
			Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
EDA-109	Mission Support/Administrative	Pos./BA	98	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	90	21,779	14	2,008	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	Pos./BA	98	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		FTE/Obl.	90	21,779	14	2,008	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Adjustments for											
	Recoveries ¹			(80)		0		0		0		0
	Unobligated balance, start of year ¹			(23,707)		(2,008)		0		0		0
	Unobligated balance transferred			0		0		0		0		0
	Unobligated balance, end of year ¹			2,008		0		0		0		0
	Rescission or cancellation of unobligated balances ²			0		0		0		0		0
	Financing from transfers:											
	Transfer from other accounts (-)			0		0		0		0		0
	Transfer to other accounts (+) ¹			0		0		0		0		0
	Appropriation			0		0		0		0		0

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**Department of Commerce
 Economic Development Administration
 American Rescue Plan
 PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
 (Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Mission Support/Administration

Line Item		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		Actuals		Enacted		Base		Estimate		over 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Mission											
Support/Administrative	Pos./BA	98	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	FTE/Obl	90	21,779	14	2,008	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	Pos./BA	98	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	FTE/Obl	90	21,779	14	2,008	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
American Rescue Plan
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: [American Rescue Plan](#)²⁸

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP Act or Act), P.L. 117-2, provided \$3 billion to the Department of Commerce for economic adjustment assistance as authorized by sections 209 and 703 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3149 and 3233) to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 and for necessary expenses for responding to economic injury because of the pandemic. The Act further stipulated that 25 percent of the funding, \$750 million, be for assistance to States and communities that have suffered economic injury because of job and gross domestic product losses in the travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation sectors. The \$2,940 million in program funds were fully obligated at the end of 2022 when their period of availability expired.

The Act also stipulates that up to 2 percent, \$60 million, be used for federal costs to administer such assistance utilizing temporary federal personnel as may be necessary consistent with the requirements applicable to such administrative funding in fiscal year 2020 to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 and which shall remain available until September 30, 2027.

EDA estimates the funding to administer ARP Act grants will be exhausted in Fiscal Year 2024. EDA will provide basic oversight, management, and program administration through its Salaries and Expenses (S&E) funding.

²⁸ <https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/American-rescue-plan>.

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
American Rescue Plan
PROGRAM CHANGE DETAIL BY OBJECT CLASS
(Direct Obligations amounts in thousands)**

Activity: American Rescue Plan

	Object Class	2023 Actuals	2024 Enacted	2025 Base	2025 Estimate	Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base
11.1	Full-time permanent compensation	0	0	0	0	0
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	8,044	1,436	0	0	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	207	81	0	0	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	8,251	1,517	0	0	0
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	4,331	491	0	0	0
21	Travel and transportation of persons	508	0	0	0	0
22	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0	0
23	Rent, communications, and utilities	0	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	0	0	0	0	0
23.1	GSA FIT	0	0	0	0	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges	0	0	0	0	0
24	Printing and reproduction	0	0	0	0	0
25	Other contractual services					
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	1,467	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	7,214	0	0	0	0
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources	0	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operations and maintenance of equipment	0	0	0	0	0
26	Supplies and materials	8	0	0	0	0
31	Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
41	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0	0
99.9	Total obligations	21,779	2,008	0	0	0

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
American Rescue Plan
SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Object Class	2023 Actuals	2024 Enacted	2025 Base	2025 Estimate	Increase/Decrease over 2025 Base
11.1 Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	8,044	1,436	0	0	0
11.5 Other personnel compensation	207	81	0	0	0
11.9 Total personnel compensation	8,251	1,517	0	0	0
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	4,331	491	0	0	0
21 Travel and transportation of persons	508	0	0	0	0
22 Transportation of things	0	0	0	0	0
23 Rent, communications, and utilities					
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	0	0	0	0	0
23.1 GSA Fit	0	0	0	0	0
23.2 Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0	0
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc. charges	0	0	0	0	0
24.0 Printing and reproduction	0	0	0	0	0
25 Other contractual services					
25.1 Advisory and assistance services	1,467	0	0	0	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	7,214	0	0	0	0
25.3 Other goods and services from Federal sources	0	0	0	0	0
25.7 Operations and maintenance of equipment	0	0	0	0	0
26 Supplies and materials	8	0	0	0	0
31 Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
41 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0	0
99.9 Total Obligations	21,779	2,008	0	0	0
Less prior year recoveries	80	0	0	0	0
Less prior year unobligated balance	23,707	2,008	0	0	0
Less unobligated balance transferred	0	0	0	0	0
Less unobligated balance, end of year	(2,008)	0	0	0	0

Less transfer to other account	0	0	0	0	0
Less rescission or cancellation of unobligated balances	0	0	0	0	0
Total Budget Authority	0	0	0	0	0

Personnel Data

Full-Time equivalent Employment:

Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
Other than full-time permanent	90	14	0	0	0
Total	90	10	0	0	0

Authorized Positions:

Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
Other than full-time permanent	98	26	0	0	0
Total	98	98	0	0	0

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
SUMMARY OF RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	Positions	FTE	Budget Authority	Direct Obligations
Appropriation Available, 2024	300	288	68,000	79,424
2025 Adjustments to base:				
<i>Plus: Inflationary/Adjustments to base</i>	0	0	4,770	4,770
2025 Base	300	288	72,770	84,194
<i>Plus: 2025 Program changes</i>	58	64	13,094	9,621
2025 Estimate	358	352	85,864	93,815

Comparison by activity / subactivity with totals by activity			2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease		
			Actuals		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		from 2025 Base		
			Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	
EDA-127	Operations and Administration (1-year)	Pos./BA	253	68,000	243	68,000	243	72,770	301	85,864	58	13,094	
		FTE/Obl.	231	66,821	231	68,000	231	72,770	295	85,664	64	12,894	
EDA-139	Operations and Administration (No-year)	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		FTE/Obl.	0	3,200	0	95	0	95	0	0	0	(95)	
EDA-143	Disaster Operations ² (No-year)	Pos./BA	83	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	0	0	
		FTE/Obl.	5	14,019	57	11,329	57	11,329	57	8,151	0	(3,178)	
Total			Pos./BA	336	68,000	300	68,000	300	72,770	358	85,864	58	13,094
			FTE/Obl.	236	84,040	288	79,424	288	84,194	352	93,815	64	9,621

**Comparison by activity /
subactivity
with totals by activity**

	2023 Actuals		2024 Annualized CR		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base	
	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Adjustments for:										
Recoveries		(293)		0		0		0		0
Unobligated balance, start of year ^{/1}		(5,208)		(21,822)		(21,822)		(10,398)		11,424
Unobligated balance transferred		0		0		0		0		0
Unobligated balance, end of year ^{/1}		21,822		10,398		10,398		2,247		(8,151)
Unobligated balance expiring		1,179		0		0		200		200
Financing from transfers:										
Transfer from other accounts (-) ^{/1}		(33,540)		0		0		0		0
Transfer to other accounts (+)		0		0		0		0		0
Appropriation		68,000		68,000		72,770		85,864		13,094

/1 Amounts include both disaster and non-disaster funding.

/2 Obligation amounts include funds transferred into this account for disasters in 2018, 2019 and 2023.

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
SUMMARY OF REIMBURSABLE OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Comparison by activity:		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		Actuals		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		from 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Operations and Administration (1-year)	Pos./BA	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl.	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	0
Total	Pos./BA	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl.	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	0

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
SUMMARY OF FINANCING**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	2023 Actuals	2024 Annualized CR	2025 Base	2025 Estimate	Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base
Total Obligations	86,348	83,424	88,194	97,815	9,621
Offsetting collections from:					
Federal funds	(2,308)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	0
Trust funds	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Federal sources	0	0	0	0	0
Recoveries	(293)	0	0	0	0
Unobligated balance, start of year	(5,208)	(21,822)	(21,822)	(10,398)	11,424
Unobligated balance, transferred	0	0	0	0	0
Unobligated balance, end of year	21,822	10,398	10,398	2,247	(8,151)
Unobligated balance, expiring	1,179	0	0	200	200
Budget Authority	101,540	68,000	72,770	85,864	13,094
Financing:					
Transfer from other accounts (-)	(33,540)	0	0	0	0
Transfer to other accounts (+)	0	0	0	0	0
Appropriation	68,000	68,000	72,770	85,864	13,094

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
ADJUSTMENTS-TO-BASE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	<u>Positions</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Transfers of Estimates	0	0
Adjustments	0	0
Financing	0	0
Other Changes		
2024 Pay raise	0	551
2025 Pay raise	0	636
Awards		12
Full-year cost in 2025 of positions financed for part-year in 2024	0	0
Change in compensable days		0
Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS)		42
Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS)		(115)
Thrift Savings Plan		(37)
Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) – OASDI		(6)
Health insurance		64
Employees Compensation Fund		1
Travel:		
Mileage		1
Per diem		3
Rental payments to GSA		(138)
GSA Furniture and IT Program (FIT)		(45)
Working Capital Fund, Departmental Management		3,891
Cyber Security (Non-Add in WCF)		60
National Archive and Records Administration (NARA)		0
General Pricing Level Adjustment		256
Enterprise Services		(353)
Federal Protective Services		<u>7</u>
Subtotal, other changes	0	4,770
Total, adjustments to base	0	4,770

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Operations and Administration (1-year)

Line Item		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		Actuals		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		from 2025 Base	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
Operations and Administration (1-year)	Pos./BA	253	68,000	243	68,000	243	72,770	301	85,864	58	13,094
	FTE/Obl	231	66,821	231	68,000	231	72,770	295	85,664	64	12,894
Total	Pos./BA	253	68,000	243	68,000	243	72,770	301	85,864	58	13,094
	FTE/Obl	231	66,821	231	68,000	231	72,770	295	85,664	64	12,894

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: REIMBURSABLE OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Operations and Administration (1-year)

Comparison by activity		2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
		Actuals		Annualized CR		Base		Estimate		from 2025 Base	
		FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Operations and Administration (1-year)	Pos./BA	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	0
Total	Pos./BA	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	4,000	0	0

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Operations and Administration (1-year)

Goal Statement

Support Department of Commerce and EDA strategic goals through the award and administration of grants for economic development in areas experiencing economic distress.

Base Program

The S&E appropriation reflects a reduced capacity for the on-going award, administration, monitoring, and close-out of grants, specifically oversight and monitoring of its supplemental awards. These activities are carried out through a footprint consisting of headquarters located in Washington, D.C., and six Regional Offices located in Atlanta, Austin, Chicago, Denver, Philadelphia, and Seattle.

Executive Direction: The Assistant Secretary directs the Bureau's programs and is responsible for the conduct of all activities at EDA's headquarters and Regional Offices, subject to the policies and directives prescribed by the Secretary of Commerce.

The Deputy Assistant Secretary and Chief Operating Officer assists the Assistant Secretary in all matters affecting EDA and performs the duties of the Assistant Secretary during the latter's absence.

The Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and External Affairs oversees the implementation of EDA's National Programs and provides executive direction over EDA's Office of External Affairs and Communications described below.

EDA's National Programs are designed to address some of the nation's most pressing economic challenges. Through highly selective and specialized regional investments, these programs are tailored for specific regions by tackling nation-wide, strategically significant challenges.

- **The Tech Hubs Program** will strengthen economic and national security by enabling regions all throughout the United States to accelerate and expand their capacities to scale and deliver critical technologies.
- **The Recompete Pilot Program** will reduce the multi-decade growth in geographic inequality across the country by addressing the root causes of distress in regions that have seen stagnate growth and opportunity.
- **The Build Back Better Regional Challenge** will increase the country's share of high-value, export-oriented industries by shifting the competitive advantage to growth sectors in 21 regions across the country.
- **The Good Jobs Challenge** will address the national employment gap in high-demand jobs through sector-specific strategies in 32 places, linking employer needs with targeted job training.

Office of the Chief Counsel: The Office of the Chief Counsel (OCC) prepares and reviews legal documents to ensure that the administration of grants are consist with applicable legal requirements imposed on EDA programs by statute, regulation, Executive Order, OMB circular, or controlling policy document. The Chief Counsel directs and supervises the activities of the OCC, including those of EDA's six Regional Counsels in the field. OCC provides a full range of legal services incident to federal assistance law, such as reviewing the acceptability of title to property, sufficiency of diverse property-related agreements, and post-approval matters, such as resolving complex property issues relating to the use and disposition of project assets.

Office of Finance and Management Services: The Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administration Officer (CFO/CAO) is the senior official for financial and administrative management within EDA. As such, the CFO/CAO is responsible for managing EDA's budget execution, managing financial and accounting activities, directs EDA's efforts related to preparation of financial statements and the annual financial audit, and coordinating and evaluating internal management control systems. The CFO/CAO is also responsible for providing administrative support and information technology services for EDA headquarters and oversight of these services at the Regional Offices, for those services not already provided at the Departmental level. These service areas include acquisition management, human capital management, facilities, real and personal property, records management, and other support activities.

The Administration Division provides a full range of non-financial administrative services, unless otherwise provided at the Department level, for EDA headquarters and oversight of these services at the Regional Offices. The Division provides records and property management, human capital management, procurement management, security oversight, loan management, audit oversight and resolution management, continuity of operations planning, information technology, and other support activities.

The Budget and Finance Division, in concert with bureau and Departmental officials, develops, prepares, and executes the annual EDA budget. The Division is responsible for the fiscal aspects of EDA programs, including programs entrusted to other federal agencies, by monitoring fiscal controls for program and administrative expenses including accounting and financial statement preparation, allotment of funds, operating budgets, staffing limitations, and analysis of reports and resource proposals, consistent with the requirements of the Anti-Deficiency Act and other applicable laws.

Office of External Affairs and Communications: The Director of External Affairs and Communications coordinates EDA's public affairs, legislative affairs and executive secretariat activities, and acts as point of contact for members of Congress, Congressional staff, other federal agencies, state and local governments, the media, and the general public. The Office provides appropriate and comprehensive bureau information necessary to respond to Secretarial, Congressional, intergovernmental, other federal bureau, and public requests related to EDA, and prepares and processes-controlled correspondence relating to grants and other bureau business.

The Public Affairs and Communications Division staff interacts with the public on behalf of EDA, and is responsible for the form, appearance, and content of all materials and information provided to EDA stakeholders, partners, customers, and the general public. The Division also supports EDA's internal communications.

The Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs Division coordinates all activities relating to EDA relations and interactions with members of Congress, Congressional staff, other federal agencies, state and local elected officials, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations through all manner of written and verbal communication.

Office of Regional Affairs: The Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regional Affairs oversees program operations in the six Regional Offices, the Performance, Research and National Technical Assistance Division, Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms Division, Economic Development Integration and Disaster Recovery Division, and the Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship. As part of this responsibility, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regional Affairs ensures a bureau-wide focus on EDA investment priorities; and the development and implementation of adequate internal controls to ensure EDA exercises adequate fiduciary oversight of its programs. The Office of Regional Affairs develops and maintains program guidance, policies, directives, and operating procedures to ensure efficient administration of EDA's financial assistance programs.

The Performance, Research and National Technical Assistance Division measures EDA program performance with an eye to promoting best practices for increasing the economic impact of EDA investments. The Performance, Research and National Technical Assistance staff is also responsible for award, oversight, monitoring and close out of research and national technical assistance grants. They also handle all program performance reporting to the Office of Management and Budget, the Department, Congress, and other stakeholders.

EDA's Economic Development Integration (EDI) and Disaster Recovery Division collaborates with federal peers to effectively coordinate disaster recovery operations under the Economic Recovery Support Function and to identify opportunities to facilitate the coordinated and effective investment of multiple federal economic development resources in support of high-impact projects and activities by implementing policies and methods that:

- **Increase Access:** Ensuring that local and regional applicants can easily identify and apply for the federal economic development resources that can best support their local priorities and objectives.
- **Enhance Collaboration:** Facilitating coordination among multiple partners and stakeholders (federal and non-federal, public, and private) to promote multiple, strategic investments in support of local priorities that can contribute to sustainable economic growth, especially for distressed communities.
- **Reduce Administrative Burdens:** Working with federal interagency partners on guidance tools to help applicants navigate, and possibly consolidate different administrative requirements that are triggered by each individual award of federal assistance (e.g., strategic planning, reporting).

In addition to EDI staff at EDA Headquarters, Regional Integrators²⁹ work in each of EDA's Regional Offices to further enhance EDA's capacity to support local and regional economic development projects.

The Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms Division is responsible for award, oversight, monitoring and close out of grants to Trade Adjustment Assistance Centers (TAACs) across the nation which provide technical assistance to manufacturing firms to help them increase their global competitiveness.

The Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (OIE) funds EDA grants that focus on promoting and supporting high-growth entrepreneurship and accelerating commercialization of federally funded research, and STEM apprenticeships.

²⁹ <https://www.eda.gov/edi/contact/>.

The six Regional Offices include the six Regional Directors and their supporting operational, technical, and administrative personnel. Regional Directors are responsible for the administration of EDA's programs within specific geographic regions, the management of regional resources, and the monitoring and servicing of previously funded projects. The Regional Offices are staffed with Regional Counsels who provide the legal reviews required to administer and close down EDA investments. The Regional staff monitor and service approved projects at the local level.

Statement of Operating Objectives

Support the administration, monitoring, and close-out of grants awarded by EDA.

Explanation and Justification

The EDA works directly with local economic development officials to support their bottom-up, regionally owned economic development initiatives. Linking EDA's investments to a community's strategic economic development plan enables the federal government to better leverage public and private sector investments to achieve economic development goals. Economic development is about creating the conditions for sustained economic growth and improved quality of life and prosperity for our citizens by expanding the capacity of individuals, firms, and communities to maximize the use of their talents and skills to support innovation, lower transaction costs, and responsibly produce and trade valuable goods and services.

The way in which EDA has such a dramatic impact across the country is through its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) planning requirements. Economic development planning through the CEDS is not only a cornerstone of EDA's programs, but successfully serves as a means to engage the community and region in building the regional capacity to ultimately create an environment for regional economic prosperity. EDA's successful model of economic development includes the following key elements: focusing on regional economic ecosystems and bottom-up strategies; and fully leveraging regional assets—businesses, existing and emerging industry clusters, supply chains, technology, infrastructure, institutions of higher learning, and human talent.

EDA's programs are designed to provide a full range of tools and resources that can help communities build the capacity to capitalize on their full economic potential—whether by addressing an immediate critical infrastructure need, assisting with the development of a regional strategic plan, or helping a community connect to the worldwide marketplace. To build long-term capacity for sustained economic growth, EDA invests in partnerships with our local communities to build strategic economic development assets which support long-term growth and competitiveness. These partnerships have a laser focus: catalyze private investment; leverage resources to support the establishment and growth of globally competitive businesses; as well as strengthen innovation, manufacturing supply chains, an employer-driven, skilled workforce, exports, and foreign direct investment.

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
PROGRAM CHANGE FOR 2025
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease	
		Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount
EDA Operations	Pos./BA	243	72,770	301	85,864	58	13,094
	FTE/Obl.	231	72,770	295	85,664	64	12,894

For 2025, EDA is requesting a program increase of \$13.1 million and 58 positions above the base for a total of \$85.9 million and 301 positions. The base includes an adjustment of \$4.8 million for inflationary factors.

Since 2018, EDA has seen its active grant portfolio grow by more than 8 times, going from 1,670 grants valued at \$694 million at the end of 2017 to over 3,000 grants valued at over \$6 billion in 2024. The complexity of EDA’s portfolio is amplified by the larger average size of grants within EDA’s programs funded by supplemental appropriations (\$3.8 million) compared to the average size of grants within EDA’s core programs (\$600 thousand). Within most of the largest grants funded under supplementals, there are also numerous sub-awardees that require oversight. Large grants in EDA’s core programs are in the millions, while large grants in supplemental funded programs can be in the tens of millions. The larger size grants are more complex and require more resources to administer. Another factor is the new programs EDA has recently received funding for, such as Build Back Better Regional Challenge, Good Jobs Challenge, Tech Hubs, and Recompete, are significantly different from EDA’s other programs in that, because of the size, scale, and complexity of the programs, they require a high level of technical assistance from EDA staff and technological expertise, resources that are sometimes best obtained by using contracts. These vehicles provide EDA access to a broad spectrum of skills and knowledge basis on-demand and tailored to the grant applications EDA receives.

Within the \$13.1 million 2025 program increase, \$8.5 million is for staffing. This will fund the addition of 58 positions to help address the exponential growth and diversity in our grant portfolio, to include workload associated with open grants funded with prior supplemental appropriations that have since been exhausted. The 58 requested positions will support EDA’s programs by ensuring adequate program implementation and oversight for Tech Hubs, Recompete, the Build Back Better Regional Challenge, and the Good Jobs Challenge, increasing EDA’s capacity for engaging communities by adding additional Economic Development Representatives, providing support to communities impacted by natural disasters, and increasing EDA’s capacity for construction grants. The requested positions will also support EDA’s operations by improving EDA’s grants management capabilities, growing its capacity for data driven operations, and offering enterprise-wide support of administering grants through additional legal, budget, communications, and legislative support. These additional positions provide EDA with the staffing resources it needs to maximize the economic benefits of its programs while effectively managing taxpayer resources.

The remaining \$4.6 million in program increase is split across contracts, shared services, and travel necessary for effective implementation. The request includes an increase of \$1.2 million to administer grants awarded with supplemental funding but now being administered using EDA’s

annual appropriation. EDA's travel and a portion of its interagency agreements are volume based and will increase as a result of using annual appropriations to administer grants awarded with supplemental funding. These costs were previously funded with supplemental funds that have been exhausted, shifting those costs to EDA's annual appropriation. The remaining \$3.4 million is associated with contracts. This will fund Communities of Practice (CoP) for the Tech Hubs and Recompete programs. The CoP directly supports EDA grant recipients in building capacity to achieve greater impacts. This also funds contracts to provide services for grant application reviews, engineering and environmental assessments, and a portion for IT services associated with EDGE, Salesforce customer relationship management, integrated data environment and data analysis tools. EDA's S&E program invests in IT system work and operational costs to support grants management and performance capabilities including EDA's Economic Development Grants Experience (EDGE). EDGE complements the Department's implementation of GEMS while providing additional capabilities enabled to quickly integrate sophisticated customer relationship management into its grants management, enhancing the data available for analysis while increasing the level of customer service it can provide. This system was able to be deployed quickly to support the quick timelines in the recent supplemental appropriations. EDGE is scheduled to be integrated into GEMS as part of the plan to incorporate additional functionality to administer construction grants within GEMS.

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
PROGRAM CHANGE PERSONNEL DETAIL**

Activity: Grant Administration and Operations
Program Change: Staff Increase

<u>Full-time permanent</u> Title	Grade	Number	Annual Salary	Total Salaries
Administrative Specialist	12	2	144,268	288,537
Attorney Advisor	14	1	189,985	189,985
Budget Analyst	12	1	144,268	144,268
Chief Data Officer	15	1	225,922	225,922
Civil Engineer	13	4	158,509	634,034
Correspondence Specialist	11	1	131,009	131,009
Data Analyst	13	1	158,509	158,509
Data Analyst	12	2	144,268	288,537
Data Scientist/Data Engineer	13	1	158,509	158,509
Director	15	1	225,922	225,922
Economic Development Representative	13	5	158,509	792,543
Economic Development Specialist	12	3	144,268	432,805
Economic Development Specialist	11	8	131,009	1,048,069
Engagement Specialist	12	1	144,268	144,268
Environment Protection Specialist	13	2	158,509	317,017
Grants Management Specialist	12	1	144,268	144,268
Grants Management Specialist	11	3	131,009	393,026
Junior Advisor	11	1	131,009	131,009
Management and Program Analyst	14	2	189,985	379,971
Management and Program Analyst	13	3	158,509	475,526
Management and Program Analyst	12	6	144,268	865,611
Program Analyst	13	2	158,509	317,017
Program Analyst	12	1	144,268	144,268
Program Manager	13	2	158,509	317,017
Public Affairs Specialist	12	1	144,268	144,268
Senior Advisor	15	1	225,922	225,922
Senior Advisor	14	1	189,985	189,985
Total		58		8,907,824
Less lapse	25.0%	(15)		(2,226,956)

Total full-time permanent (FTE)	44	6,680,868
2025 Pay Adjustment (2%)		<u>133,617</u>
		6,814,485

Personnel Data Summary

Full-time Equivalent Employment (FTE)

Full-time permanent	44
Other than full-time permanent	<u>0</u>
Total FTE	44

Authorized Positions

Full-time permanent	58
Other than full-time permanent	<u>0</u>
Total Positions	58

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
PROGRAM CHANGE DETAIL BY OBJECT CLASS
(Direct Obligations amounts in thousands)**

Activity: Operations and Administration (1-year)

Object Class	2023	2024	2025	2025	Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base
	Actuals	Annualized CR	Base	Estimate	
11.1 Full-time permanent compensation	25,865	31,048	32,235	38,660	6,425
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	1,624	688	688	0	(688)
11.5 Other personnel compensation	885	949	961	1,109	149
11.9 Total personnel compensation	28,374	32,685	33,884	39,769	5,885
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	10,098	11,330	11,279	13,908	2,629
21 Travel and transportation of persons	492	290	294	785	491
22 Transportation of things	23	23	24	23	(1)
23 Rent, communications, and utilities					
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	3,086	3,011	2,873	2,873	(1)
23.1 GSA FIT	105	105	60	60	0
23.2 Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0	0
23.3 Communications, utilities and misc. charges	232	278	258	355	97
24 Printing and reproduction	30	35	36	30	(6)
25 Other contractual services					
25.1 Advisory and assistance services	205	0	0	0	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	10,839	7,000	7,169	10,385	3,216
25.3 Other goods and services from Federal sources	13,296	13,103	16,751	17,333	582
25.7 Operations and maintenance of equipment	0	0	0	0	0
26 Supplies and materials	41	140	143	143	0
31 Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
43 Interest and Dividends	0	0	0	0	0
44 Refunds	0	0	0	0	0
99.9 Total obligations	66,821	68,000	72,770	85,664	12,893

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Object Class	2023 Actuals	2024 Annualized CR	2025 Base	2025 Estimate	Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base
11.1 Full-time permanent	25,865	31,048	32,235	38,660	6,425
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	1,624	688	688	0	(688)
11.5 Other personnel compensation	885	949	961	1,109	149
11.9 Total personnel compensation	28,374	32,685	33,884	39,769	5,885
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	10,098	11,330	11,279	13,908	2,629
21 Travel and transportation of persons	492	290	294	785	491
22 Transportation of things	23	23	24	23	(1)
23 Rent, communications and utilities					
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	3,086	3,011	2,873	2,873	(1)
23.1 GSA Fit	105	105	60	60	0
23.2 Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0	0
23.3 Communications, utilities and misc. charges	232	278	258	355	97
24.0 Printing and reproduction	30	35	36	30	(6)
25 Other contractual services					
25.1 Advisory and assistance services	205	0	0	0	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	10,839	7,000	7,169	10,385	3,216
25.3 Other goods and services from Federal sources	13,296	13,103	16,751	17,333	582
25.7 Operations and maintenance of equipment	0	0	0	0	0
26 Supplies and materials	41	140	143	143	0
31 Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
99.9 Total Obligations	66,821	68,000	72,770	85,664	12,893
Transfers from other accounts	0	0	0	0	0
Less unobligated balance expiring, end of year	(1,179)	0	0	(200)	(200)
Total Budget Authority	68,000	68,000	72,770	85,864	13,093

Object Class	2023 Actuals	2024 Annualized CR	2025 Base	2025 Estimate	Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base
<u>Personnel Data</u>					
<u>Full-Time equivalent Employment:</u>					
Full-time permanent	231	231	231	295	64
Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
Total	231	231	231	295	64
<u>Authorized Positions:</u>					
Full-time permanent	253	243	243	301	58
Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
Total	253	243	243	301	58

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Operations and Administration (no-year)

Line Item	2023		2024		2025		2025		Increase/Decrease	
	Actuals		Enacted		Base		Estimate		from 2025 Base	
	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Operations and Administration	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(No-year)	FTE/Obl	0	3,200	0	95	0	95	0	0	(95)
Total	Pos./BA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	FTE/Obl	0	3,200	0	95	0	95	0	0	(95)

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses (No-Year)
SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASS
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

Object Class	2023 Actuals	2024 Enacted	2025 Base	2025 Estimate	Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base
11.1 Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
11.3 Other than full-time permanent/WCF	0	0	0	0	0
11.5 Other personnel compensation	0	0	0	0	0
11.9 Total personnel compensation	0	0	0	0	0
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	0	0	0	0	0
21 Travel and transportation of persons	0	0	0	0	0
22 Transportation of things	0	0	0	0	0
23 Rent, communications, and utilities					
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	0	0	0	0	0
23.1 GSA Fit	0	0	0	0	0
23.2 Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0	0
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc. charges	0	0	0	0	0
24.0 Printing and reproduction	0	0	0	0	0
25 Other contractual services					
25.1 Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	1,500	0	0	0	0
25.3 Other goods and services from Federal sources	1,700	95	95	0	0
25.7 Operations and maintenance of equipment	0	0	0	0	0
26 Supplies and materials	0	0	0	0	0
31 Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
99.9 Total Obligations	3,200	95	95	0	(95)
Prior year recoveries	9	0	0	0	0
Prior year unobligated balance	4,192	1,001	1,001	906	(95)
Transfers from other accounts	0	0	0	0	0
Less unobligated balance, end of year	(1,001)	(906)	(906)	(906)	0
Total Budget Authority	0	0	0	0	0

Object Class	2023 Actuals	2024 Enacted	2025 Base	2025 Estimate	Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base
<u>Personnel Data</u>					
<u>Full-Time equivalent Employment:</u>					
Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Authorized Positions:</u>					
Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE: DIRECT OBLIGATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Activity: Operations and Administration (Disasters)

Line Item	2023 Actual		2024 Enacted		2025 Base		2025 Estimate		Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base		
	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	Personnel	Amount	
Operations and Administration (No-year)	Pos./BA	83	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	0	0
	FTE/Obl	5	14,019	57	11,329	57	11,329	57	8,151	0	(3,178)
Total	Pos./BA	83	0	57	0	57	0	57	0	0	0
	FTE/Obl	5	14,019	57	11,329	57	11,329	57	8,151	0	(3,178)

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses (Disasters)
SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASS
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

Object Class	2023 Actuals	2024 Enacted	2025 Base	2025 Estimate	Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base
11.1 Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	706	6,869	6,869	5,071	(1,798)
11.5 Other personnel compensation	27	453	453	300	(153)
11.9 Total personnel compensation	733	7,322	7,322	5,371	(1,951)
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	241	2,900	2,900	2,730	(170)
21 Travel and transportation of persons	13	75	75	50	(25)
22 Transportation of things	0	0	0	0	0
23 Rent, communications, and utilities					
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	0	0	0	0	0
23.1 GSA Fit	0	0	0	0	0
23.2 Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0	0
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc. charges	15	0	0	0	0
24.0 Printing and reproduction	0	0	0	0	0
25 Other contractual services					
25.1 Advisory and assistance services	1,825	0	0	0	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	11,189	1,032	1,032	0	(1,032)
25.3 Other goods and services from Federal sources	1,155	0	0	0	0
25.7 Operations and maintenance of equipment	0	0	0	0	0
26 Supplies and materials	5	0	0	0	0
31 Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
99.9 Total Obligations	15,176	11,329	11,329	8,151	(3,178)
Prior year recoveries	100	0	0	0	0
Prior year unobligated balance	1,016	19,480	19,480	8,151	(11,329)
Transfers from other accounts	33,540	0	0	0	0
Less unobligated balance, end of year	(19,480)	(8,151)	(8,151)	0	8,151
Total Budget Authority	0	0	0	0	0

Object Class	2023 Actuals	2024 Enacted	2025 Base	2025 Estimate	Increase/Decrease from 2025 Base
<u>Personnel Data</u>					
<u>Full-Time equivalent Employment:</u>					
Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
Other than full-time permanent	7	57	57	57	0
Total	7	57	57	57	0
<u>Authorized Positions:</u>					
Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0	0
Other than full-time permanent	8	57	57	57	0
Total	8	57	57	57	0

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
JUSTIFICATION OF PROPOSED LANGUAGE CHANGES**

FY 2024

This language is proposed for administration of the Economic Development Administration.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of administering the economic development assistance programs as provided for by law, [\$99,509,000] \$85,864,000:
Provided, That funds provided under this heading may be used to monitor projects approved pursuant to title I of the Public Works Employment Act of 1976; title II of the Trade Act of 1974; sections 27 through[, 28, 29 and] 30 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722-[, 3722a, 3722b and]3723), as amended; CARES Act; American Rescue Plan Act; and the Community Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1977.

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE AND CODE CITATIONS**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

FY 2025

Salaries and Expenses

- 1 For necessary expenses of the economic development assistance programs as provided for by law,

42 U.S.C. 3214(c), 3231

42 U.S.C. 3214(c) - Authorizes the transfer of appropriated funds from other federal agencies if such funds are used for the purpose for which (and in accordance with the terms under which) the funds are specifically authorized and appropriated.

42 U.S.C. 3231 - Authorizes funds to be appropriated for economic development assistance programs to carry out 42 U.S.C. 3121 *et seq.*, through fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.

- 2 Authorization of appropriations for defense conversion activities,

42 U.S.C. 3232

42 U.S.C. 3232(a) - In addition to amounts made available under section 3231 of this title, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out section 3149(c)(1) of this title, to remain available until expended.

42 U.S.C. 3232(b) - Funds made available under subsection (a) of this section may be used for activities including pilot projects for privatization of, and economic development activities for, closed or realigned military or Department of Energy installations.

- 3 Authorization of appropriations for disaster economic recovery activities,

42. U.S.C. 3233

42. U.S.C. 3233(a) - In addition to amounts made available under section 3231 of this title, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out section 3149(c)(2) of this title, to remain available until expended.

42. U.S.C. 3233(b) - The federal share of the cost of activities funded with amounts made available under subsection (a) of this section shall be up to 100 percent.

- 4 Funding for grants for planning and grants for administrative expenses,

42 U.S.C. 3234

Of the amounts made available under section 3231 of this title for each fiscal year, not less than \$27,000,000 shall be made available for grants provided under section 3143 of this title.

- 5 Title II of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, at 19 U.S.C. 2345 – Authorizes appropriations to carry out Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms (TAAF),

Public Law No: 114-27, Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015. Title IV of that Act, entitled the “Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015” extends the authorization of appropriations for TAAF through fiscal year 2021.

- 6 For section 27 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722). Specifically, 15 U.S.C. 3722(h) - The Secretary may use up to \$50,000,000 in each of the fiscal years 2020 through 2024 to carry out this section.
- 7 For section 28 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722a, as enacted by sec. 10621(a)(2) of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (Pub. L. 117-167)).
- 8 For section 29 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722b, as enacted by sec. 10621(a)(2) of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (Pub. L. 117-167)).
- 9 For section 30 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3723, as moved by sec. 10621(a)(1) of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (Pub. L. 117-167)).

**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
ADVISORY AND ASSISTANCE SERVICES**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	2023 Actuals	2024 Annualized CR	2025 Estimate
Consulting Services	3,825.0	-	-
Management and professional services	-	-	-
Special studies and analyses	-	-	-
Management and support services for research and development	-	-	-
Total	3,825.0	-	-

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Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
PERIODICALS, PAMPHLETS, AND AUDIOVISUAL SERVICES
 (Dollar amounts in thousands)

	2023 Actuals	2024 Annualized CR	2025 Estimate
Pamphlets	30.0	35.0	35.8
Total	30.0	35.0	35.8

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
AVERAGE GRADE AND SALARIES**
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	2023 Actuals	2024 Annualized CR	2025 Estimate
Average ES Salary	254.8	268.0	273.4
Average GS Grade	13.0	13.0	13.0
Average GS Salary ¹	172.6	181.6	185.2

1 Amounts include salaries, locality pay and benefits

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**Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF GAO AND OIG RECOMMENDATIONS**

31 U.S.C. 720, as amended January 3, 2019, requires the head of a federal agency to submit a written statement of the actions taken or planned on Government Accountability Office (GAO) recommendations to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations with the agency's first request for appropriations made more than 180 calendar days after the date of the report.

The Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act (GAO-IG Act), passed on January 3, 2019, (P.L. 115-414) requires each agency to include, in its annual budget justification, a report that identifies each public recommendation issued by GAO and the agency's office of the inspector general (OIG) which has remained unimplemented for one year or more from the annual budget justification submission date. In addition, the Act requires a reconciliation between the agency records and the IGs' Semiannual Report to Congress (SAR).

Section 1. Recommendations for which action plans were finalized since the last appropriations request.

Nothing to report.

Section 2. Implementation of GAO public recommendations issued no less than one year ago that are designated by GAO as 'Open' or 'Closed-Unimplemented.'

Open Recommendation(s) the Department has decided not to implement.

Nothing to report.

Open Recommendation(s) the Department plans to implement.

Report Number	Report Title	Issue Date	Recommendation Number	Recommendation	Action(s) Planned	Action Status (Planned, In-Progress, or Complete)	Target Completion Date	Recommendation Status (Planned, In-Progress, or Complete)
GAO-21-579	Economic Development: Opportunities Exist for Further Collaboration among EDA, HUD, and USDA	2021	2	The Assistant Secretary of Economic Development at EDA should, in collaboration with HUD, monitor progress toward achieving outcomes of the two agencies' interagency agreement on community and economic development planning.	EDA's existing agreement is limited to a specific task and therefore EDA may address the recommendations through a different interagency agreement or other document, action, or policy. EDA plans to explore whether a refresh of the interagency agreement and expansion to include USDA is appropriate and work with HUD to add progress monitoring	Complete	FY 2023	Complete

GAO-21-579	Economic Development: Opportunities Exist for Further Collaboration among EDA, HUD, and USDA	2021	1	The Assistant Secretary of Economic Development at EDA should, in collaboration with HUD, revisit the two agencies' interagency agreement on community and economic development planning to align their collaborative efforts based on current priorities and determine to what extent USDA should be included in the agreement.	metrics to the agreement, if applicable. EDA's existing agreement is limited to a specific task and therefore EDA may address the recommendations through a different interagency agreement or other document, action, or policy. EDA plans to explore whether a refresh of the interagency agreement and expansion to include USDA is appropriate and work with HUD to add progress monitoring metrics to the agreement, if applicable.	In-Progress	FY 2023	Partially Implemented
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Section 3. Implementation of OIG public recommendations issued no less than one year for which Final Action has not been Taken or Action Not Recommended has been Taken.

Nothing to report.

Section 4. Discrepancies between this report and the semiannual reports submitted by the Commerce Office of Inspector General or reports submitted by the GAO.

Nothing to report.

Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Salaries and Expenses
Description of Tribal Consultations
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

EDA held a Tribal Consultation on Thursday March 9, 2023, seeking input regarding the design and implementation of new programs authorized as part of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022. EDA requested input from Tribal Leaders and their direct proxies; Alaska Native representatives also participated and provided feedback. Additional Tribal organizations were invited to view and listen to the presentation in a non-participatory role. Following a live discussion during the consultation, EDA also provided a dedicated email in box and voicemail so that additional feedback could be submitted up until March 23, two weeks after the event.³⁰

For the Recompete Pilot Program, specific consultation was requested on how EDA might calculate Tribal eligibility and maximum funding amounts, based on formulas provided by the statute. As context, the statute requires use of a dataset from the Department of the Treasury (see 15 U.S.C. § 3722b(j)(9)) that is not currently available. To overcome this structural issue with a view towards minimizing additional burdens, participants were asked: 1) Should EDA provide Tribes an opportunity to submit the missing data on a case-by-case basis, and 2) Should EDA use another data source as a proxy? Consultation participants also shared input on overall program design.

Key takeaways from the responses include:

Statutory dataset: The data needed to determine eligibility and maximum funding amounts are not readily available to a majority of Tribes. Participants reported that there are significant obstacles to Tribes providing employment data of individuals living on the reservation, and while able to provide member enrollment data, Tribes often do not have employment data readily available for those living off the reservation. As a result, EDA has determined that all Tribal lands are eligible to participate in the Recompete Pilot Program. EDA came to this determination based on available proxy unemployment data that indicates a high likelihood that Tribal lands have a high Prime Age Employment Gaps (PAEG) that greatly exceed the statutory requirements.

³⁰ EDA sent the Dear Tribal Leader Letter and consultation invitations directly to Tribal leaders in our network. In order to have broad participation, we also amplified the event through Native American stakeholder organizations, as well as Federal interagency groups. Details of the event were posted on the [EDA Tribal Resources](https://www.eda.gov/grant-resources/resources-for-tribes-and-tribal-governments) (<https://www.eda.gov/grant-resources/resources-for-tribes-and-tribal-governments>) website and social media channels, shared with the White House Council on Native American Affairs for amplification, and included in the White House Tribal Newsletter. This resulted in a total of 278 registered participants for the event. After the event EDA posted the presentation slides and a recording of the consultation on the EDA Tribal Resources website.

- **Data collection: Respondents noted that the data required by the program statute would also be difficult to gather** and expressed significant interest in receiving technical assistance to compile comprehensive Tribal data. Participants asked if Tribes might be able to provide and self-certify their own data sources, such as data from academic research, given many mainstream data sources are not fully accurate. In response to this feedback, as part of the Strategy Development Grants provided through Phase 1 of the Recompete Pilot Program, Tribal entities may use grant funds to collect data on the population of individuals ages 25 through 54 to determine PAEG. For Tribal entities, this includes collection of data related to such individuals residing on and off Tribal land consistent with the information requested in 15 U.S.C. § 3722b(j)(9).
- **Simplification: Respondents expressed a strong interest in a simplified application process.** Many participants expressed resource constraints to pay upfront for the services needed to complete funding applications, particularly if they must submit more than one application. There was a common desire for a simple and standardized application process with transparent evaluation standards. EDA recognizes that distressed communities face bandwidth limitations – therefore, the Recompete Pilot Program is designed to be as straightforward and customer-focused as possible to streamline the process for applicants. The competition will deploy funding in two phases, with each having its own Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) such that applicants who are not competitive for implementation funding receive early signals from EDA through the Phase 1 outcomes. Further, EDA has developed and released the Recompete Eligibility Mapping Tool, a user-friendly map that will allow Phase 1 applicants to determine if they are geographically eligible or not. To alleviate burden on applicants, EDA will also provide technical assistance between Phase 1 and Phase 2 applications in order to support development of implementation investment strategies.
- **Flexibility: Respondents recommended providing Tribes and Tribal organizations significant degrees of flexibility, both in the application period and in program implementation.** Tribal Nations have unique needs and structures, and not all Tribes look the same or have the same economic development needs. For example, respondents expressed a wide range of barriers that exist to closing the PAEG in their communities, such as availability of transportation, daycare, and obtaining a driver’s license. As discussed in the NOFO, the Recompete Pilot Program is designed to provide significant flexibility for applicants to address the necessary physical, social, and economic barriers to jobs and career pathways. Given the nature of the program, EDA understands there may be a suite of necessary interventions to increase employment, job quality, and wages, such as wraparound services. Applicants will need to clearly explain how any requested EDA investments directly serve the purpose of the program and its intended economic development results.

In addition to these themes, the Tribal Consultation generated additional recommendations and best practices on the needs of Tribal communities within the context of the Recompete Pilot Program. Throughout the competition, EDA will continue to integrate these insights into program design and to share themes with potential applicants in future communications.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**FY 2025 Annual Performance Plan
FY 2023 Annual Performance Report**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

Overview of Bureau Accomplishments

EDA has led the federal economic development agenda for over 50 years by fostering innovation, competitiveness, and global readiness for American communities and regions. EDA supports projects that create jobs, support entrepreneurs, develop workforce, and build capacity for communities across the nation, including those that have been historically underserved. EDA also conducts research to understand and enhance the impact of its investments.

EDA supported equitable economic development through various programs, such as the Equity Impact Investments, the Recompete Pilot Program, In FY23, EDA facilitated collaboration among practitioners and stakeholders in the ecosystem through several Communities of Practice that offer insights, best practices, and training for various economic development areas, such as technology, economic inclusion, workforce, manufacturing, and others. EDA worked with its research partners to publish several reports on topics such as persistent poverty, infrastructure, and the Build Back Better Regional Challenge (BBBRC). EDA also worked with its partners to create and update tools for use by practitioners, staff, and grantees.

These initiatives and research efforts help EDA measure its impacts, identify areas for improvement and additional resources, invest more effectively, and increase transparency with its stakeholders.

EDA has also made great strides towards some of the strategies in the Department's FY22-26 Strategic Plan:

SO 2.1 - Drive equitable, resilient, place-based economic development and job growth

Equity is at the forefront of EDA's programming hence it was established as an investment priority and a performance requirement. In FY 2023, EDA invested over \$224.3 million in 260 economic development planning or implementation projects that directly benefit one or more traditionally underserved populations. These populations include, but are not limited to women, Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders or underserved communities within geographies that have been systemically and/or systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic prosperity such as Tribal Lands, Persistent Poverty Counties, and rural areas with demonstrated, historical underservice.

EDA funded the Inclusive Recovery Initiative (IRI) project with New Growth Innovation Network (NGIN) through the Research and National Technical Assistance program. At its completion in FY 2023, the project had built a national CoP that represented 104 practitioners from 98 economic development districts and organizations. This community learned from and supported one another to

develop more inclusive economic growth strategies for their communities and produced a [toolkit³¹](#), with insights from the program, to support regional economic development leaders elevate equity within their organizations, planning, and strategies.

This work from the IRI project guided the implementation of EDA's Equity Impact Investments (EII) program, which provides capacity, knowledge, and technical assistance to organizations that serve these underserved communities disproportionately affected by the pandemic. Finally, EDA launched the FY 2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Phase 1 of its Distressed Area Recompete Pilot Program (Recompete Pilot Program) and expects to announce winners this winter. EDA also expects to announce the NOFO for Phase 2 of the program this winter. The Recompete Pilot Program aims to invest \$200 million in persistently distressed communities by targeting areas where prime-age (25-54 years) employment is below the national average. The program will create and connect people to good jobs and close the employment gap through large, flexible investments that support the local needs and priorities of these communities.

Phase 1 of the program involves strategy development grants, approval of a recompete plan or both to help the communities to identify their strengths, challenges, and opportunities for economic development and resilience. Phase 2 of the program will support a wide range of implementation activities across workforce development, business and entrepreneur development, infrastructure, and additional planning, predevelopment, or technical assistance. These activities will help these communities create jobs and build the capacity for long-term economic development.

SO 2.2: Build sustainable, employer-driven career pathways to meet employers' need for talent and to connect Americans to quality jobs

Workforce development is a key EDA investment priority. In FY 2023, EDA invested \$86.2 million in 126 projects that support community or regional workforce training objectives focused on the needs of businesses, associated networks of regional employers, trade associations and other stakeholders in the ecosystem. These projects seek to address critical workforce needs and will enable job seekers to secure industry recognized credentials and employment in high-demand industries in their communities or regions.

These investments were spread across EDA's extensive program portfolio, including the STEM Challenge run out of EDA's Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (OIE). EDA's OIE has found that as communities increase their technology entrepreneurship activity, they struggle to access the skilled workforces they need to grow these businesses and industries of the future. The STEM Challenge seeks to develop or expand regional workforce capacity through iterative work-and-learn training programs that are competency-based and responsive to the needs of employers in the region. In FY23, EDA awarded over \$4.5 million in 11 grants to enhance STEM education and training programs, increased collaboration, and engagement within the innovation ecosystem, and prepared students and workers for the jobs of the future.

³¹ <https://www.recovery.newgrowth.org/>

Additionally, the [Good Jobs Challenge Community of Practice \(CoP\)](#), led by Jobs For the Future (JFF), supported all 32 GJC grantees to build networks, learn from peers, and share best practices for equitable economic advancement. The CoP offered coaching, events, and expert connections to help grantees succeed. One such event was a convening in Washington D.C. to discuss collaboration and developing strong workforce systems, which gave grantees access to experts, including three Cabinet members and a Fortune 500 CEO, and networking opportunities.

EDA also released new Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) [Content Guidelines](#) for economic development regions. The new guidelines recommend including the concepts of workforce development as well as economic resilience and equity in the development or update of individual CEDS documents. Given the CEDS' influence in establishing and maintaining a strong economic ecosystem, this recommendation will help strengthen workforce efforts across Economic Development Districts and regions across the United States.

SO 2.3: Advance entrepreneurship and high-growth small and medium-sized enterprises

A healthy ecosystem is vital for the success of entrepreneurs. EDA recognizes this and prioritizes investments that support entrepreneurship, job growth and other initiatives that improve capacity. In FY 2023, EDA invested over \$62.5 million in 151 projects to support entrepreneurs and high-growth Small and Midsize Enterprises (SMEs). These investments covered programming across EDA's extensive portfolio including:

- The Build to Scale program, which aims to foster diverse and inclusive innovation ecosystems, awarded \$53 million to 60 organizations, including nonprofits, universities, local government agencies, and others, for programs that support technology entrepreneurs, catalyze innovation, and fuel economic growth. These investments will leverage an additional \$55 million in matching funds.
- The STEM Talent Challenge program, which seeks to build STEM talent training systems to strengthen regional innovation economies, awarded over \$4.5 million in 11 grants to applicants that demonstrated how the program will develop or expand regional STEM workforce capacity to support entrepreneurial ventures, industries of the future, and other innovation-driven businesses.
- The Revolving Loan Fund program awarded close to \$4 million in gap financing to businesses, typically from underserved communities and populations that cannot access capital through traditional lenders. As part of the Build Back Better Regional Challenge, EDA also awarded a \$20 million RLF to tribal communities. EDA also funded the National Development Council (NDC) in partnership with Drexel University's Nowak Metro Finance Lab and the Community Reinvestment Fund (CRF) to launch an [RLF Community of Practice](#) (COP). This COP will build RLF organizational capacity, increase qualified high-impact deployment rates of RLF funding, and build an effective and sustainable RLF cohort to better address the need for flexible, accessible, recovery and growth-oriented small business financing across the country.

- EDA made additional investments across its portfolio that align with its equity and technology based economic development priorities to promote inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystems.

EDA fostered collaboration among practitioners and other stakeholders in the ecosystem. In FY 2023, EDA announced the Technology-Based Economic Development (TBED) Community of Practice (CoP) to connect grantees working in risk capital, technology development, and entrepreneurship. The CoP is led by State Science and Technology Institute (SSTI) in partnership with the Association of University Research Parks (AURP) and includes subcommunities of practice that focus on specific strategies within the field. SSTI also supports the CoP through tools such as the [Key Technology Area Investment Data Tool](#), that shows investment activity by state and selected metrics across 18 technology areas. Lastly, EDA managed the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship (NACIE) of over 30 members and hosted five meetings in FY 2023 and one in FY 2024. The current NACIE cohort delivered its flagship recommendation in February 2024: a recommended national strategy to strengthen the United States' ability to compete and succeed as the world's leading nation in innovative startups and in developing, delivering, and deploying critical emerging technologies.

Planned Actions through FY 2024

- EDA's Agency Priority Goal is to accelerate high-growth industry clusters that are critical for U.S. global competitiveness by FY25. EDA will follow the Action Plan to achieve this goal.
- EDA announced Phase 1 winners and launched Phase 2 NOFO for the Re compete Pilot Program this winter, and anticipates announcing Phase 2 winners late FY24. This program will enable remarkable progress in these communities.
- EDA launched the Tech Hubs program in FY 2023 to boost regional innovation and job creation for U.S. economic and national security. These Tech Hubs will leverage existing innovation assets to build the future workforce, support businesses, and deliver critical and emerging technologies. EDA will monitor and track progress on the implementation of this program.
- EDA will monitor the Good Jobs Challenge's impact on participants' skills and earnings. EDA will track its research projects, including the one with RIPL to develop and implement ROI metrics for the Good Jobs Challenge's equity outcomes. EDA will make grants to support the workforce ecosystem.
- EDA will continue to support economic recovery from natural disasters by deploying its FY23 Disaster Supplemental.
- EDA has been working with the US Census Bureau to produce modeled tract-level poverty estimates for better targeting of high poverty areas. EDA will use this dataset in Q1 of FY24 to track and understand its impact in these areas.
- EDA, with Argonne National Lab, is adding a time-series feature to the Economic Development Capacity Index, to give practitioners a more comprehensive view of a community's capacity over time. This will help them monitor their community's economic strengths and challenges.
- EDA will work with its research partners and Communities of Practice partners to incorporate lessons learned into more effective program implementation.

- EDA has several ongoing research efforts to refine and establish indicators which will allow us to tell a better, more informative story regarding EDA's performance and substantive interactions with the economic development ecosystem. These ongoing research projects include partnerships with Argonne National Laboratory and the Urban Institute.

Analysis of Performance Indicators

Explanation of Trends

EDA's performance indicators cover two performance goals: Infrastructure and Revolving Loan Fund investments that promote private enterprise and job creation in economically distressed communities and regions (goal 1) and non-infrastructure investments that build community capacity to achieve and sustain regional competitiveness and economic growth (goal 2). Targeting for goal 1 is significantly affected by funding for the Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance (non-supplemental) programs. Targeting for this goal uses calculations that take into consideration non-supplemental EDAP appropriation levels, Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index (CPI), as well as the projected CPI, estimated by the Congressional Budget Office. These factors can result in target variations. Also, the targets, once set, are not changed over the years, so outliers and or errors result in no subsequent modification to the original target. However, over the years, EDA continues to meet/exceed its GPRA targets.

Explanation of Targets for FY 24 and FY 25

Reporting on goal 1 is at 3-, 6-, 9- year intervals after the award. Therefore, targets are set 3-, 6-, 9- years in advance. EDA's FY23 targets (for goal 1) were set in FY20, FY 17, and FY 13 based on appropriation levels for its PW and EAA programs. The targets for goal 2 are based on baseline data reported by grantees. For non-GPRA indicators, EDA's targets are calculated as the best estimate of future performance, based on prior performance and the most up-to-date data available. For a variety of reasons, including dynamic local economic circumstances, programmatic initiatives, the calculated targets are subject to fluctuation from one year to the next. Lastly, FY25 targets for non-GPRA indicators are currently "TBD" as they will be set based on FY24 actuals.

Progression of the Performance Indicators

EDA proposed new Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in the development of the Department's FY22-FY26 Strategic Plan. Several of these indicators are based on the Non-Infrastructure Metrics, a series of questionnaires intended to monitor grantee activities and measure outcomes for non-infrastructure awards. The rest cover the Department's Strategic Objectives. Given that a significant number of EDA's performance data is grantee-reported, EDA continues to work towards making reporting easier and clearer. EDA's Learning and Development team is building an external resource that will help grantees better prepare for their reporting requirements. Through its research efforts, EDA will also continue to review and improve its performance indicators through research efforts.

Performance Data Validation and Verification

All EDA grants are tagged with programmatic Special Initiative Codes (SICs) that categorize the nature, scope, and/or intent of the investment. EDA issues guidance to staff on the correct implementation of these SICs. This guidance is reinforced in the pre-award

phase during investment review. Once an investment has been approved, EDA does internal data quality review, including logic checks and outlier analyses, to mitigate data inaccuracies. Outliers and other data issues are flagged for review and verification. Projects are cleared for use in analysis and distribution upon data verification. Controls are also in place for grantee-reported outcomes and additional validation is required when grantees report at or above certain thresholds.

Performance Indicators

Strategic Objective	Class	Indicators	FY 2023 Target	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2023 Status	FY 2024 Target	FY 2025 Target
1.1	Current/Recurring	Dollar amount of economic development grants made to communities and regions to help build the capacity to support the manufacturing-related activities and needs of businesses	\$119.04	\$124.27	Exceeded	\$111.84	\$111.84
1.1	Current/Recurring	Number of economic development grants made to communities and regions to help build the capacity to support the manufacturing-related activities and needs of businesses	91	108	Exceeded	98	98
1.3	Current/Recurring	Number of economic development grants made to communities and regions to help build the capacity to support the export-related activities and needs of businesses	47	59	Exceeded	53	TBD
1.3	Current/Recurring	Number of economic development grants made to communities and regions to help build the capacity to attract foreign direct investment	16	25	Exceeded	23	TBD
1.3	Current/Recurring	Dollar amount of economic development grants made to communities and regions to help build the capacity to attract foreign direct investment	\$16.34	\$36.93	Exceeded	\$33.23	TBD
1.3	Current/Recurring	Dollar amount of economic development grants made to communities and regions to help build the capacity to support the export related activities and needs of businesses	\$54.90	\$68.59	Exceeded	\$61.73	TBD
2.1	Current/Recurring	Private investment leveraged - 3-year totals (in millions)	\$406	\$865	Exceeded	\$410	\$414
2.1	Current/Recurring	Jobs created/retained - 6-year totals	14,100	13,216	Met	15,814	15,880
2.1	Current/Recurring	Private investment leveraged - 9-year totals (in millions)	\$880	\$1,704	Exceeded	\$808	\$875
2.1	Current/Recurring	Private investment leveraged - 6-year totals (in millions)	\$656	\$1,262	Exceeded	\$753	\$734

Strategic Objective	Class	Indicators	FY 2023 Target	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2023 Status	FY 2024 Target	FY 2025 Target
2.1	Current/Recurring	Jobs created/retained - 3-year totals	8,533	9,002	Exceeded	7,888	7,849
2.1	Current/Recurring	Jobs created/retained - 9-year totals	20,185	18,406	Met	18,305	19,666
2.3	Current/Recurring	Number economic development grants made to communities and regions to help build the capacity to support the innovation related activities and needs of businesses	218	94	Not Met	196	TBD
2.3	Current/Recurring	Dollar amount of economic development grants made to communities and regions to help build the capacity to support the innovation-related activities and needs of businesses	\$136.11	\$35.93	Not Met	\$122.50	TBD
2.1	Current/Recurring	Dollar amount of private investment leveraged from grants supporting environmentally sustainable development (in millions)	\$33.37	\$55.90	Exceeded	\$50.31	TBD
2.1	Current/Recurring	Number of Jobs created/ retained for grants made in underserved populations and geographies	10,014	16,361	Exceeded	14,725	TBD
2.1	Current/Recurring	Dollar amount of private investment leveraged from grants made to support the travel and tourism sector (in millions)	\$16.32	\$32.00	Exceeded	\$28.80	TBD
2.1	Current/Recurring	Number of jobs created/retained for grants made in communities and regions to support the travel and tourism sector	429	620	Exceeded	558	TBD
2.1	Current/Recurring	Dollar amount of private investment leveraged from grants made in underserved populations and geographies (in millions)	\$2,705.43	\$2,521.91	Met	\$2,269.72	TBD
2.2	Current/Recurring	Number of jobs created and retained for grants made to communities and regions to support workforce development	10,785	11,099	Exceeded	9,989	TBD
2.2	Current/Recurring	Dollar amount of Private investments leveraged for grants made to communities and regions to support workforce development (in millions)	\$141.36	\$245.87	Exceeded	\$221.29	TBD

Strategic Objective	Class	Indicators	FY 2023 Target	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2023 Status	FY 2024 Target	FY 2025 Target
2.3	Current/Recurring	Percentage of EDA awards that support entrepreneurship in underserved communities and regions	42.00%	23.40%	Not Met	37.80%	TBD
2.3	Current/Recurring	Total sum of funding secured by entrepreneurs as a result of activities sponsored by EDA investments	\$65.39	\$69.57	Exceeded	\$62.63	TBD
2.3	Current/Recurring	Dollar amount of private investment leveraged from investments to support entrepreneurship (in millions)	\$1,937.79	\$577.70	Not Met	51993	TBD
2.3	Current/Recurring	Number of jobs created and retained from investments to support entrepreneurship	19,143	6,427	Not Met	5,784	TBD
3.4	Current/Recurring	Number of economic development grants made to support environmentally sustainable investments	14	26	Exceeded	23	TBD
1.1	Proposed new	Number of conferences, showcases, & exhibitions held by EDA grantees	—	7,896	N/A	7,106	TBD
1.1	Proposed new	Number of new customers and professional/business relationships	—	14,829	N/A	13,346	TBD
1.1	Proposed new	Number of patents, trademarks, or copyrights obtained/pending	—	492	N/A	474	TBD
1.1	Proposed new	Number of grantees assisting clients with technology commercialization, licensing, patents, and other efforts	—	274	N/A	246	TBD