



BOB CASEY

U.S. Senator *for* Pennsylvania

Office of Senator Bob Casey

FY25 Appropriations

Preliminary Guidance

Please note, this guidance may be updated at a later date

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Appropriations Overview

This section details the basic types of appropriations requests and provides guidance on submitting Programmatic Requests.

In general, the guidance covers two types of appropriations requests.

- Programmatic/Language Requests: These types of requests are general funding requests for national and regional programs, and/or bill and report language requests that directs, encourages, or urges an Agency or Department to carry out an action.
- Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS)/Community Project Request: According to Senate Rule XLIV, a CDS is a provision “included primarily at the request of a Senator providing, authorizing, or recommending a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or other spending authority for a contract, loan, loan guarantee, grant, loan authority or other expenditure with or to an entity, or targeted to a specific State, location or Congressional district, other than through a statutory or administrative formula-driven or competitive award process.” Examples from previous years can be found on Senator Casey’s website. ***Generally speaking, this is funding requested for a specific project in a specific location.***

Please fill out the relevant form for your appropriations request in its entirety. The relevant form must be completed and submitted by **11:59 PM on March, 29, 2024**—late requests will not be considered.

Not sure whether your request is a community project?

If you aren’t sure which of the two types of requests you are making, please reach out to appropriations@casey.senate.gov. Submitting via the incorrect form can lead to your project not being fully considered.

I’m looking for “programmatic” funding for a local initiative in my community. Is that a programmatic request?

No. Within the “Community Project Funding” umbrella, you might request a project that funds a specific program at a specific place in Pennsylvania, for example, a STEM education program in a particular school district. While this project could be said to be “programmatic” in that it does fund programming, it is not a “programmatic funding request”, but a community project request because it funds *specific* work in a *specific* jurisdiction.

By contrast, if you were a local government who utilized HUD’s Community Development Block Grant program and thought it needed to be funded at a higher level *nationwide* so that all communities had more funding, you could make a programmatic funding request asking that the national program receive more funding. This would be a programmatic funding request.

All Programmatic Funding Requests

Please skip this page if you are submitting a community project funding request.

If you are requesting inclusion of specific programmatic funding or language in the bill and/or report as opposed to requesting funding for a specific project, please provide the following:

- Proposed funding proposal or draft language;
- Specification of the particular agency and appropriations account to which it is directed;
- Brief explanation of and rationale for the funding or language, including its relevance to Pennsylvania constituents;
- Indication of whether it is sought for bill text, report, or both bill and report.

Please note that programmatic requests generally have to do with funding federal programs. For example, if you were to request a certain overall level of funding for EPA's Clean Water Revolving Fund program, that would be a programmatic request. If you were to request funding for a specific project that utilizes the Clean Water Revolving Fund, that would be a congressionally directed spending request. All defense-related requests are programmatic funding requests, not community projects.

Senator Casey Community Projects Anticipated Timeline

March 11, 2024

Step 1: Portal Opens and Guidance is released.
CDS and Programmatic Application Portal Opens and Guidance is Released



March 11-29, 2024

Step 2: Application Period & TA
Casey Office holds 15 min. technical assistance calls with community project applicants

March 29, 2024

Step 3: Applications Due
All Appropriations applications due by 11:59pm on March 29



Spring/Early Summer '24

Step 4: Casey Office Review Period
Applications are reviewed; Senator Casey advances community projects to the Senate Appropriations Committee

Summer '24

Step 5: Senate Appropriations Committee Review Period
Senate Appropriators review Senator Casey's requests



Late Summer '24

Step 6: Appropriators Release Bill Text
Senate Appropriators release bill text, including the community projects it chooses to advance

Timing Varies. Goal of Fall '24

Step 7: Appropriators Conference
Senate and House Appropriators negotiate to reach a final agreement



Timing Varies. Goal of Winter '24

Step 8: Projects Become Law
Congress must pass its annual funding package for FY25

Timing Varies. Goal of Summer 2025

Step 9: Funding Awarded
Projects that are passed in the final funding package receive funding through federal agencies

Community Projects Overview

Some important notes on congressionally directed spending requests:

- **Staff are available to discuss potential projects and it is strongly recommended that prospective applicants meet with staff prior to final submission. Please note, those meetings are available on a first-come-first-serve basis and applicants should prepare for those 15-minute technical assistance calls by reading pages 1-9 of this guidance (skip page 4).** To request a meeting, please email a brief project description, project location, and a prospective budget for the proposal to Appropriations@casey.senate.gov, and a staff member will contact you to set up a 15-minute meeting to discuss your proposal. While you should do this as soon as you know you intend to submit an application, you should feel free to start your application prior to the meeting and adjust it following the conversation as needed. This conversation is particularly helpful as a way to match your project to a CDS eligible funding account (required to apply).
- **The amount of funds to be appropriated via congressionally directed spending is limited and the process will be competitive. Application does not guarantee funding.** The Committee has placed a 1 percent cap on discretionary spending for congressionally directed spending items. In some years, only roughly 1 in 10 projects submitted receives funding. All applications submitted to the Senator's office will undergo a detailed and competitive review. The Senator's office anticipates receiving many applications for every account and cannot guarantee funding.
- **Only public and non-profit entities may request congressionally directed spending items.** The Committee will not fund congressionally directed spending items to for-profit entities and each member must certify in the cover letter accompanying their request that none of the entities for which they have requested congressionally directed spending is a for-profit entity.
- **The application, in part or in whole, could be made public.** Senators are required to publish their CDS requests to their website as well as submit and make public a financial disclosure letter certifying that they do not have any financial interest in the items requested. Offices must post this information to their website. The Government Accountability Office will audit a sample of enacted congressionally directed spending items and report its findings to Congress. By submitting your request, you are acknowledging you understand these oversight requirements.
- **Community project funding is subject to the congressional process.** While Senator Casey looks forward to accepting and reviewing community project applications, the final funding decision is shared by all members of Congress, as an overall budget must pass that includes community project funding.
- **All construction projects funded through the community project funding process are likely subject to Build America Buy America Act (BABA) requirements which will apply to the total project cost, not just the federal cost-share portion.** If you have questions about BABA requirements, you can review federal government-wide materials [here](#).
- **Projects funded in previous years can serve as a useful reference and it is recommended that interested applicants review previous requests to get a sense of what projects have been successful in the past.** Requests from previous years can be found on Senator Casey's website.

Appropriations Basics

It is strongly recommended that community project applicants read this section before they take a 15-minute technical assistance meeting with Senator Casey's staff.

- **Programmatic Request:** Programmatic requests cover funding for a specific federal program or agency in the appropriations bill for a specified amount of money. For example, a request to fund the National Transportation Safety Board with at least \$150 million in funding for FY25 would be a programmatic funding request. Programmatic requests also cover language requests in the appropriations bill or report language encouraging, urging, or directing a federal agency to take a specific action. For example, Organization Y urges the National Institute of Health to study the impacts of screen time on young children.
- **Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS)/Community Project:** Also formerly called “earmarks,” this funding is for discrete projects to assist applicants with carrying out a project in a specific location for a specific amount of money, typically \$2 million and down. Community projects are intended to serve members of the community it is located within and must fulfill project eligibility requirements laid out in the account that the applicant is applying for funding through. Project eligibility requirements are generally the same as those for competitively awarded projects offered through existing federal grant programs. However, there may be some changes made by the Appropriations Committee to make the eligibility more flexible.
 - Example: An existing afterschool organization requests \$500,000 to support the development and implementation of curriculum for an innovative new education program serving K-12 students in Harrisburg
- **Fiscal Year:** This is the period for which the federal government appropriates funding to cover, running from October 1 of one calendar year to September 30 of the next. Fiscal year 2025 (FY25) will run from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025.
- **Subcommittee/Appropriations Bill:** The House and Senate Appropriations Committee are divided into 12 subcommittees covering different federal programs and agencies. Each subcommittee is responsible for drafting an appropriations bill that funds its agencies, programs, and relevant community projects. This is referred to in your application as the Appropriations Bill. For example, a community project request seeking funding for the construction of a health facility in Norristown, PA would likely fall under the *Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Bill*.
- **Account:** Within each subcommittee are multiple accounts, and each account has its own unique criteria that community project funding proposals must meet. For example, a community project request seeking funding for the construction of a health facility would likely fall under the *Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Account*.
- **15-Minute TA Meeting:** These meetings are intended to help applicants understand if their project is a good fit for CDS funding and which subcommittee and account it best fits in. During the meeting, Senator Casey's staff will assist with refining the request to ensure it meets eligibility requirements and offer best practices and basic information about the process. It is recommended that applicants come to the meeting with an idea of funding need and basic understanding of eligibility requirements. Please also review guidance beforehand, particularly pages 1-9.

Best Practices

- **Community support is a critical way you can distinguish your project from others.** Letters of support from third parties within the community or communities that would benefit from the request improve the competitiveness of a given application. These letters must clearly communicate the benefits that the request would confer upon the community. The quality of letters is more important than quantity and there is no minimum number of letters.
- **Communicate the impact of your project.** Strong congressionally directed spending projects should improve livelihoods, create jobs, grow local economies, advance research and development, improve health outcomes, promote inclusivity, improve safety, etc. Communicate the impact of the prospective project as clearly as you can.
- **Congressionally directed spending should not be viewed as a continuous funding source.** CDS projects should be viewed as a way to jumpstart an activity or fill a funding gap for a particular project – not sustain it over time. Good applications indicate how organizations plan to sustain the program or effort beyond the term of the CDS award.
- **Align the request with local need and federal missions.** Successful projects will match the project to the authorization or mission of an agency or account and have the support of local officials or communities.
- **Please clearly title each request.** A good title is 10 or less words long and mentions the location of the project, the organization, and the type of work being done. (Ex. “ABC Community Health Community Garden in Pittsburgh”)
- **It is strongly recommended that all projects submitted to Senator Casey are also submitted to Senator Fetterman and the relevant US House member (should the House member be accepting community project applications).** If you are struggling to find the application for a different office, don’t hesitate to reach out to Appropriations@casey.senate.gov to ask for information.
- **If you are submitting multiple project requests, you must rank them in priority order.** A field is provided in the application to do so. Please express the same priority order to each congressional office you make requests of.
- **The project should be flexible on timeline of fund award.** Because the legislation that projects would be included in if selected is subject to a relatively uncertain timeline, it is recommended that all projects submitted for community project funding have some flexibility in funding. Funds are likely to be awarded between March 2024 and October 2024 but even this timeline is subject to some uncertainty. Along these lines, it is also useful to note that many accounts cannot be used or have strict limitations on how they can be used for reimbursement of previously incurred expenses.
- **All congressionally directed spending requests should include a project budget broken down by funding type and component (see following page).**

Congressionally Directed Spending Budget Template

Senator Casey's office requests that you provide a budget for your project in two ways: by component and by funding source.

Project funding by component

For this version of the budget, the total project cost should be broken down into no fewer than two and no more than five component pieces. Miscellaneous costs can be grouped into an "other" category. An example of a component might be "Planning", "Design", "Construction of new facility", "Purchase of new vehicle", etc. Components should be broken out bullet by bullet, with a final bullet for total cost. Each bullet should lead with a bolded dollar amount and name of the component. After that, each bullet should contain a note on the status of funding and comments that indicate which components should receive priority for funding if full amount cannot be funded. Finally, each bullet should close with more detail on the contents of that segment of funding.

Examples

Project Funding by Component (Construction Project – Rural Community Center)

- **\$40,000 for Building Design:** Covered by state funds, no need for funding, included contractor fees for initial design
- **\$400,000 for Construction:** Partially covered by state funds and an EDA grant, remaining \$250,000 unfunded is highest priority need for the project; includes stabilization and rehab of first floor of building, new doors and windows, and demolition of first floor kitchen space.
- **\$500,000 for Second Phase Construction:** No funding yet acquired, lower priority for funding if project must be trimmed; includes new construction of community classroom on back half of property
- **\$940,000** is total project cost, **\$750,000** of which is requested

Project Funding by Component (Program Project – Math Skills Accelerator)

- **\$150,000 for Curriculum and Training:** Unfunded, highest priority need; curriculum development and staff training for supplemental math instruction
- **\$200,000 for Supplies and Equipment:** Unfunded, second priority; supplies and equipment for designated math accelerator facilities including ten SmartBoards, one classroom set of 30 grade level math textbooks for grades 7-12, and other classroom equipment including desks and white boards
- **\$350,000** is total project cost, **\$350,000** of which is requested

Project funding by funding source

This second budget should be broken down by funding source and clearly indicate how your requested amount will fit in with other funds. If the account requires a match, you should indicate which portion of the budget acts as that match. In addition, you should accurately characterize whether each funding source is secured, under active consideration for funding, or unfunded.

Examples

Project Funding by Funding Source (Construction Project – Rural Community Center)

- **\$40,000** in state funds, used for design, funding secured

- **\$150,000** in EDA grant funds, used for initial construction, funding secured
- **\$750,000** in outstanding funding need, advanced as a congressionally directed spending request, unfunded
- **\$940,000** total project cost

Project Funding by Component (Program Project – Math Skills Accelerator)

- **\$350,000** in outstanding funding need, used for all components of the project, advanced as a congressionally directed spending request, unfunded but currently \$100,000 under active consideration for funding from Heinz Foundation
- **\$350,000** total project cost

For projects with a match requirement, such as a water project, a budget by funding source could look like the following:

Project Funding by Component (Watermain Replacement)

- **\$400,000** in outstanding funding need, used to fund all components of the project, advanced as a congressionally directed spending request, unfunded
- **\$100,000** in funding from the Borough of Havendell, *provided as required match*, funding secured

Congressionally Directed Spending (Project) Guidance, by Project Type

How to use this section

This section details the individual accounts that accept community project funding requests. In order to be advanced through the appropriations process, a project **must** fit into one of these accounts. Staff are available to answer questions and help match your project to one of these accounts. However, it is important to note that not every project can be matched to an account, thus rendering it ineligible for project funding. The information below is shared to help applicants start to identify accounts that may work for their project, although applicants are strongly encouraged to confirm account with staff prior to application submission via a 15-minute meeting or email at Appropriations@Casey.Senate.gov

Construction & Rehabilitation of Community Infrastructure

Appropriations Bill: Transportation, Housing, Urban Development

CDS-Eligible Account: Economic Development Initiatives (EDIs).

- Applicants can seek funding for projects that fall within the “Community Development Fund” account for activities eligible under section 5305 of chapter 69 of title 42, United States Code, as well as for affordable housing construction.
- **Primary Focus:** Projects that address affordable housing, community services, and economic development. Examples of eligible EDI projects include, but are not limited to:
 - Acquisition of real property (land, water rights, buildings);
 - Construction of new affordable housing;
 - Blight removal or remediation; and,
 - Construction, rehabilitation, and improvements of public facilities (except buildings for general conduct of government), such as neighborhood centers, parks, and shelter for persons having special needs such as survivors of domestic violence and the homeless.
- EDIs are subject to other Federal requirements including the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards at 2 CFR Part 200, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), HUD’s NEPA-implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 50 or 24 CFR Part 58, and all appropriate Federal environmental and historic preservation laws, regulations, and Executive Orders. Applicants must confirm with Senator Casey’s office that they are able to comply with these requirements. To review HUD’s current implementation of the EDI program and the applicable Federal requirements, please see HUD’s EDI landing page: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/edi-grants
- Reimbursement of expenses incurred prior to the enactment of a final FY24 appropriations bill is not permitted.

- In the “Narrative and Justification” section, applicants should provide:
 - description of the project;
 - status of the project (planning, design, under construction, etc.) and timeline of its expected completion;
 - breakdown of how EDI funds would be used;
 - description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project; and
 - the status of the environmental review work.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants should also discuss how the project meets one or more of the three national objectives of the CDBG program in their “Narrative and Justification” section. The three CDBG program National Objectives are: (1) benefit low- and moderate-income persons or communities; (2) prevent or eliminate slums or blight; or (3) address community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community for which other funding is not available.
 - The most common CDBG National Objective that EDI projects will meet is the benefit to low- and moderate- income (LMI) persons. If using the LMI National Objective, please review this HUD resource:
<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg/cdbg-low-moderate-income-data/>
 - Use the “Map Application” tool to provide the necessary data points demonstrating the LMI benefit:
<https://hud.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=ffd0597e8af24f88b501b7e7f326bedd>
- Projects must have a reasonable expectation of being obligated by the end of FY 2026.
- **Match Requirement:** None
- **Frequency:** This is a frequently used account
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 tended to fall between \$250,000 and \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration
CDS-Eligible Account: Rural Development, Community Facilities Grants

- **Primary Focus:** The Community Facilities Grant account can be used to provide grants to develop or improve essential public services and facilities in communities across rural Pennsylvania. Public bodies, non-profit organizations and federally recognized American Indian Tribes can use the funds to construct, expand or improve facilities that provide health care, education, public safety, and public services. Projects include fire and rescue stations, village and town halls, health care clinics, hospitals, adult and child care centers, assisted living facilities, rehabilitation centers, public buildings, schools, libraries, and many other community-based initiatives.
- This program is subject to the Build America Buy America Act requirements which will apply to the total project cost, not just the federal cost-share portion. Applicants must meet environmental review requirements (i.e., NEPA). Applicants must complete an application with RD if awarded a CDS in the final bill. Note: there are several set-asides within the CF grant program, but congressionally directed spending requests will only be eligible for the general CF Grant program.
- Funds may not be used for the following activities:

- To reimburse funds for projects already constructed/acquired or projects that will be completed by the passage of the final bill.
- To pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring costs, including purchases or rentals that are generally considered to be operating and maintenance expenses (unless a CF loan is part of the funding package).
- To fund facilities to be used primarily for recreation purposes.
- To fund facilities to be used primarily for business entrepreneur purposes.
- **Match Requirement:** *Required.* The Community Facilities (CF) Grant program has a match requirement on a sliding scale based on community population size. CF Grants can cover up to 75 percent of the total project costs. Rural Development (RD) will verify an applicant's population size from the 2020 census. Staff will confirm eligibility of submitted projects with the Pennsylvania RD office.
 - This program will fund up to 75 percent of total project costs, with match requirements based on population as follows:
 - Maximum of 75 percent when the proposed project is located in a rural community having a population of 5,000 or fewer
 - Maximum of 55 percent when the proposed project is located in a rural community having a population of 12,000 or fewer
 - Maximum of 35 percent when the proposed project is located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer
 - The match requirements are outlined in the CF regulation: 7 CFR 3570.63(b). Towns with populations over 20,000 are not eligible for this program.
 - In general, CF matching funds must come from a non-Federal source. However, there are two exceptions: (1) sometimes a Federal source will state that it can be used as a match for Federal grants and (2) when a Federal source loses its Federal identity --- such as CDBG funds that are distributed through a Governor's office (not the CDBG entitlement funding) --- a CF project having these funds as part of the capital stack can be a part of the applicant required match.
- **Frequency:** This is a frequently used account
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$150,000 to \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Interior, Environment

Account: National Park Service, Historic Preservation Fund Projects

- **Primary Focus:** The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), established to help fund the programs engendered by the National Historic Preservation Act (Public Law 89-665; 54 USC 300301 et seq.), was designed to preserve historical and archaeological sites in the United States of America. The Subcommittee anticipates that most requests will be made within the HPF for the Save America's Treasures (SAT) program.
- All HPF grantees, including successful CDS recipients, must meet standards set by the Secretary of the Interior and comply with the [audit requirements](#), and each successful CDS recipient funded in a final bill must complete an application through grants.gov.

- **Eligibility:** The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for non-formula funded activities within HPF that meet the qualifications of HPF programs. Please note that acquisitions of collections or historic properties are not eligible under the HPF. For more information, please visit [here](#). For HPF, the project **must** be listed on the National Register of Historic Places or as a National Historic Landmark individually or as contributing to an historic district.
- **Match:** Required. One-to-one match with non-federal cash and/or in-kind contribution
- **Frequency:** Some awards were made through this account in FY24
- **Range:** The maximum project amount is \$500,000.

Appropriations Bill: Financial Services and General Government

Account: General Services Administration, Federal Buildings Fund, Construction and Acquisition or Repairs and Alterations

- **Primary Focus:** Construction projects typically include federal courthouses, federal buildings, or land ports-of-entry.
- **Eligibility:** Repairs projects must be federally owned properties in need of repair or alteration and are typically federal buildings or federal courthouses. Programmatic requests are limited to projects with line items in the GSA Federal Buildings Fund requested by the Administration in the FY24 GSA budget request. ***Please note:*** *Eligible projects do not include state or county facilities, DOD facilities, VA facilities, or transportation infrastructure facilities.*
- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** Only one award was made to any member from this account in FY24
- **Range:** The earmark funded in FY24 through this account was \$1,500,000

Appropriations Bill: Agriculture

Account: Rural Development, Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

- **Primary Purpose:** This account helps rural communities use advanced telecommunications technology to connect to each other - and the world - overcoming the effects of remoteness and low population density. Projects can have a number of specific goals, but particularly strong applications may support health care needs stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, and helping prepare for future pandemic events, advance rural equity, grow the rural economy, or respond to the climate crisis.
- **Eligibility:** Full list of eligible entities, uses, and limitations can be found here: [7 CFR Part 1734 Subpart A and B](#). Broadband deployment is **not** an eligible use of funds for DLT.
- Applicants must complete an application with RD if awarded a CDS in the final bill.
- **Match:** Required. There is a flat 15 percent match (matching funds cannot come from another Federal source).
- **Frequency:** Some projects received funding through this account in FY24
- **Range:** The maximum grant size is \$1,000,000.

Criminal Justice and Emergency Operations

Appropriations Bill: Commerce, Science, Justice

Account: DOJ Byrne Discretionary.

- **Primary Focus:** The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for Byrne Discretionary projects. Projects should provide additional personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems for criminal justice systems. CDS requests funded in a final bill will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#). Allowable costs are those costs consistent with the principles set out in the 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, and those permitted by the grant program's authorizing legislation. To be allowable under Federal awards, costs must be reasonable, allocable, and necessary to the project, and they must also comply with the funding statute and agency requirements. This funding cannot be used for land acquisition or construction.
- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** This is a frequently used account
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority tended to be between \$100,000 and \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Commerce, Science, Justice

Account: DOJ COPS Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment.

- **Primary Focus:** The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for COPS Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment for the development of technologies and automated systems to assist law enforcement agencies in investigating, responding to, and preventing crime. Recipients shall include State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and their public agencies (for example, police and/or sheriff's departments).
- Allowable activities are limited to the statutorily allowable purpose areas under the [COPS Office statute](#), including the procurement of equipment, technology, or support systems, and the development of new technologies to assist recipient entities in reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime. CDS requests funded in a final bill will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), and the applicable Award Owner's Manual. Agencies should consider the full range of potential legal, constitutional, and civil liberties and privacy implications associated with generating, acquiring, or using technology or data. For example, agencies that purchase unmanned aircraft systems must be aware of the Federal requirements and best practices for their effective and safe operation that is respectful of civil liberties and maximize the safety of citizens ([see guidance](#)).
- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** This is a frequently used account
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$100,000 to \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Homeland Security

Account: Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Projects

- **Primary Focus:** Requested projects must meet the eligibility requirements of the PDM grant program, including the non-federal cost-share requirement, benefit-cost ratio, and environmental and historic preservation requirements.
- Full requirements can be found in the fiscal year 2023 [NOFO for the "Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program"](#) (the NOFO for FY24 projects is expected to be issued later this year, but requirements are unlikely to change). For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal

year 2025 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state agency responsible for administering mitigation grants in the requestor's state must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that entity will serve as the administrative agent for the grant.

- **Match:** Required. Generally, the cost share is 75% federal and 25% non-federal cost share with flexibility for small, impoverished communities.
- **Frequency:** Few projects were awarded through this account in FY24
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$500,000 to \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Homeland Security

Account: Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program

- Requested projects must meet the eligibility requirements of the EOC grant program, including the non-federal cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements.
- Full requirements can be found in the fiscal year 2023 [NOFO for the "Emergency Operations Center Grant Program"](#) (the NOFO for FY24 projects is expected to be issued in the coming weeks, but requirements are unlikely to change). For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2025 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state administrative agency (SAA) must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that agency will serve as the administrative agent for the grant.
- **Match:** Required. All award recipients must provide a non-federal entity contribution supporting 25% of the total project costs (federal amount plus cost share amount).
- **Frequency:** Few projects were awarded through this account in FY24
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$500,000 to \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Agriculture

Account: Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO)

- **Eligibility:** CDS recipients for WFPO must have a local sponsor. Eligible local sponsors include any State, political subdivision, soil or water conservation district, flood prevention or control district, or combinations thereof; any irrigation or reservoir company or water users' association; any Indian tribe or tribal organization.
 - Any individual project may not exceed a watershed or sub-watershed size of 250,000 acres. At least 20 percent of the project's benefits must be directly related to agriculture.
 - If a project is a "new start" it is eligible only for PIFR funding at a level of \$55,000. Offices are encouraged to request funding for projects that are nearing the construction implementation phase.
- Projects are required to complete a four-step process including:
 - Preliminary feasibility study (PIFR)
 - Watershed Plan development
 - Implementation of Watershed Plan
 - Commencement of construction for authorized watershed conservation

- Applicants should indicate which phase of the project they are requesting funding for.
- **Match:** Required.
- **Frequency:** Few projects were awarded through this account in FY24
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$50,000 to \$2 million.

Health-Related Accounts

Appropriations Bill: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

Account: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

- CDS requests within HRSA should be submitted through the Program Management account and must fall under one of the following categories:
 - **Health Facilities Construction and Equipment**—CDS requests for the cost of limited-scope construction, renovation, or capital equipment purchase for facilities for health, mental health, or substance abuse services, training of health professionals, or medical research. Examples of eligible facilities include hospitals, health centers, and clinics; skilled nursing facilities; mental health centers; facilities for schools of medicine, nursing, or other health professions; and medical research laboratories. In addition to construction and renovation, CDS funding can be used to acquire capital equipment, such as lab equipment, x-ray machines, or telehealth and information technology. The Committee will not consider a CDS request for federal funding within this account that exceeds \$15 million. Equipment-only CDS requests—that is, requests not involving construction—are permissible. Generally, any equipment having a useful life of more than one year and a unit cost of at least \$5,000 will be eligible as capital equipment. In addition, equipment with lower costs may also be eligible, provided that it is treated as an item of capital expense under the recipient institution’s pre-existing, written accounting policies. Equipment expenses for health information systems and electronic medical records systems are permitted expenditures. The costs of expendable supplies such as pharmaceuticals, lab chemicals, or office paper are not eligible.
 - HRSA Health Facilities funding cannot be used to acquire land or purchase existing buildings, or to pay salaries or other operating costs. Funding cannot be used to pay for work previously completed. CDS requests can be used for architectural and engineering costs associated with an eligible construction project but cannot be used for general feasibility studies or planning and design.
- **Rural Health**—CDS requests for projects to improve health care in rural areas. Examples of eligible activities include medical, dental, or mental health care services; health promotion and education; chronic disease management; telehealth services; and improvements to emergency medical services. CDS funds can be used for services only in areas that meet HRSA’s definition of rural. For lists of eligible rural areas and further information regarding that definition, see: <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/about-us/definition/index.html>. Please include the address of the project’s activities in the Project Detail, if different than the legal entity recipient address, for purposes of determining project eligibility.
- HRSA CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.

- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** This is a frequently used account
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$250,000 to \$2 million.

**Appropriations Bill: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Account: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**

- CDS requests within SAMHSA should be submitted through the Health Surveillance and Program Support account and must fall under one of the following categories:
 - **Mental Health**—funding to support programs that promote the prevention or treatment of mental health disorders, including rehabilitation, outreach, and other support services.
 - **Substance Abuse Treatment**—funding to support programs that improve access, reduce barriers, and promote high quality, effective treatment and recovery services.
 - **Substance Abuse Prevention**—funding to support programs to prevent the onset of illegal drug use, prescription drug misuse and abuse, alcohol misuse and abuse, and underage alcohol and tobacco use.
- **Non-eligible uses:**
 - Needle Exchange: A General Provision prohibits the award of funding for projects which distribute sterile needles or syringes for I.V. drug injection.
 - Use of Illegal Substances: A General Provision prohibits the award of funding for projects which promote the legalization of illegal drugs or substances.
 - Construction: CDS funding within SAMSHA **cannot be used for construction** (other than a limited amount of renovation necessary to carry out a funded project), and SAMHSA CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.
- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** Some projects were awarded through this account in FY24
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$100,000 to \$2 million.

**Appropriations Bill: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Account: Administration for Children and Families (ACF)**

- CDS requests within ACF should be submitted through the Children and Families Services Programs account and must fall under one of the following categories:
 - **Child Abuse Prevention**—projects to improve the prevention, assessment, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect through research, model service improvement, information dissemination, and technical assistance. Projects must serve or target abused and/or neglected children and their families.
 - **Social Services Research and Demonstration (SSRD)**—projects to promote the ability of families to thrive through financial self-sufficiency in order to reduce poverty and to promote the healthy development and greater well-being of children and families. Projects can serve a diverse population including: low-income individuals, children, youth, families, individuals with developmental disabilities, and Native Americans.
- **Non-eligible uses:**

- CDS funding within ACF cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities
- ACF CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.
- **Match:** Required for SSRD projects. The SSRD match need not be a monetary contribution (it can be in-kind) and there is no floor on the amount of the match
- **Frequency:** Some projects were awarded through this account in FY24
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$100,000 to \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Account: Administration for Community Living (ACL)

- CDS requests within ACL should be submitted through the Aging and Disability Services Programs account and must fall under the following category:
 - **Aging and Disability Services Programs**—projects to improve the ability of older adults and individuals of all ages with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in their communities. Generally, CDS requests should focus on improving access to, or the quality of, education, training, support services, and independent living services for older adults and individuals with disabilities.
- CDS funding within ACL cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities, and ACL CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.
- **Match:** Required
- **Frequency:** Some projects were awarded through this account in FY24
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$100,000 to \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Financial Services and General Government

Account: Office of National Drug Control Policy, Administrative Provision (Prevention Grants)

- Preferred prevention programs would include community-based coalitions which, as part of their application, propose data-driven, evidence-based prevention interventions; have established measurable objectives; and proposed implementing a comprehensive mix of strategies. Also, DFC-funded coalitions recently trained by CDC to implement Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) as part of their substance use prevention efforts are recommended. Please note: *Programs should not be substance specific. Treatment programs are not eligible for CDS under this account.*
- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** Few projects were awarded through this account in FY24
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$100,000 to \$2 million.

Workforce Training & Small Business

Appropriations Bill: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

Account: Employment and Training Administration (ETA)

- **Primary Focus:** CDS requests under ETA (through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) demonstration authority) should clearly articulate a project purpose and be focused on meeting the employment and training needs of workers. Generally these projects should include direct services which could include career services, training services (including work-

based training), supportive services, and other permissible services, as they are defined in WIOA. Typical activities include training unemployed individuals to increase their skills and obtain employment and enhancing the skills of incumbent workers to get higher-paying jobs.

- CDS requests should include a basic budget that clearly describes how the funds will be used for specific activities to achieve the project's goals. CDS projects will be expected to have measurable outcomes and demonstrate a linkage with the state or local workforce investment system.
- **Eligible Uses of Funding:** CDS funding may be used for the purchase of equipment, but generally only if it is an incidental part of the larger project to provide direct services (a similar standard applies to curriculum development). If a larger portion of the CDS funding is expected to be used for equipment or curriculum development, please note that and provide a detailed justification for why such investments are necessary to meet the employment and training needs of individuals. CDS funding within **ETA cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities or the purchase of land or buildings**, and ETA CDS recipients may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.
- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** This is a frequently used account
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under these authorities ranged from \$100,000 to \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Financial Services and General Government

Account: Small Business Administration, Administrative Provision

- Projects in support of small businesses, including but not limited to entrepreneur training, counseling, research, and construction or acquisition of facilities.
- *Please note: SBA CDS funding cannot be used to provide seed capital for small businesses nor can it be used by the CDS recipient to make grants/loans.*
- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** Some projects were awarded through this account in FY24
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under these authorities ranged from \$100,000 to \$2 million.

Education and Archiving

Appropriations Bill: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education

Account: Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE)

- **Primary Purpose:** Elementary and secondary education CDS requests can be designated under this heading for a wide variety of elementary and secondary education projects.
- **Eligible Uses:** Examples of projects that can be funded under this account include instructional services, afterschool centers, curricula development, teacher training, acquisition of books and computers, arts education, social and emotional learning activities, full-service community schools, and early childhood education. In general, the focus of elementary and secondary education CDS requests should be providing early childhood or K-12 educational services.
 - CDS requests to provide and improve special education services at the elementary and

secondary levels are also eligible under this heading. These CDS requests may include early intervention services for infants and toddlers, transition services, and postsecondary education services.

- **Eligibility:** Eligible CDS recipients are state education agencies, school districts, colleges and universities, and other public and private nonprofit entities. Generally, CDS requests intended for individual schools are provided to the applicable school district and not directly to the individual school.
- **Non-Eligible Uses:** This funding **cannot be used for construction or renovation** of school buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling or minor alterations in a previously completed building, for example as part of technology upgrades. Daycare and childcare projects that do not include educational services are also not eligible under this account.
- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** This is a frequently used account
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under these authorities ranged from \$50,000 to \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education

Account: Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)

- **Primary Focus:** CDS requests through FIPSE should primarily be focused on improving access to, or the quality of, postsecondary education. This can include a range of activities as authorized and specified in section 741(a) of the Higher Education Act ([20 U.S.C. 1138\(a\)](#)). CDS recipients are usually colleges and universities but may include other public and private nonprofit organizations.
- **Eligible Uses:** Examples of the types of CDS requests that can be funded under FIPSE include projects to hire and train faculty, establish and improve degree programs, improve teacher preparation programs, develop and improve curricula, upgrade technology, equipment, and telecommunications, provide student support, and implement university partnerships with school districts. If a significant portion of CDS funds is expected to be used for the purchase of equipment make sure to note that and include a justification for that use of funds.
- **Non-Eligible Uses:** This funding **cannot be used for endowments, or for the construction or renovation of facilities**, except in the case of minor remodeling or minor alterations in a previously completed building, for example as part of technology upgrades.
- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** This is a frequently used account
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under these authorities ranged from \$100,000 to \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Financial Services and General Government

Account: National Archives and Records Administration, National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC)

- **Primary Focus:** Projects that help ensure online public discovery and use of historical records collections, encourage public engagement with historical records, strengthen the nation's archival network, or publish documentary editions of historical records. This includes initiatives like record digitization, programming, and online availability of records.
- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** Few projects were awarded through this account in FY24

- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under these authorities ranged from \$150,000 to \$2 million.

Appropriations Bill: Financial Services and General Government

Account: National Archives and Records Administration, Repairs and Restoration

- Projects that direct spending for presidential libraries or new archival facilities.
- **Match:** None
- **Frequency:** Few projects were awarded through this account in FY24
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under this authority ranged from \$150,000 to \$2 million.

Clean and Drinking Water

Appropriations Bill: Interior, Environment

Account: Clean Water: EPA, STAG, Clean Water SRF, Clean Water CDS

Account: Drinking Water: EPA, STAG, Drinking Water SRF, Drinking Water CDS

- **Primary Focus:** Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund projects include construction of, and modifications to, municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. The Subcommittee will be limiting water infrastructure grants only to projects that are publicly owned or owned by a non-profit entity. Privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for water infrastructure grants.
- The Subcommittee has previously considered projects benefiting both a clean water and drinking water system. Any such project must meet the qualifications below and must be requested under the Clean Water CDS account.
- **State and Local Projects:** The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for local and/or municipal projects included on a state's most recently finalized Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan (IUP). The Subcommittee may consider projects that are eligible for funding under State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) guidelines (detailed below) but are **not** on the state IUP list.
- **Match:** Required. There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any state or local water infrastructure grant funded through congressionally directed spending. For example, a \$1 million project could receive a maximum of \$800,000 from the federal government, with the remaining \$200,000 the responsibility of the CDS recipient. In almost all cases, other federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share. Please note that only the non-federal portion of assistance provided by a State Revolving Loan Fund can be applied towards a project's matching requirement.
- **Frequency:** These are frequently used accounts
- **Range:** Earmarks awarded in FY24 under these accounts tend to range from \$250,000 to \$2 million, with \$500,000 being a very common award amount.

Required Questions: Applicants for these two accounts should answer the following questions in the “Narrative and Justification” section of the application.

- 1) What is the project purpose, e.g., drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and/or water quality protection?
- 2) How will the project help the recipient meet applicable water standards—e.g. improve drinking water quality or improve surface/groundwater quality?
- 3) Is this project primarily to support existing water needs or to support future growth? Note that projects primarily to support future growth are typically ineligible for State Revolving Funds. Is this request seeking funding for planning and design, construction, or both?
- 4) Describe the project recipient—are they a municipality? Public water system? Other public entity?
- 5) What is the total estimated cost of the project, based on the facilities plan or preliminary engineering report?
- 6) What is the amount requested for the project?
- 7) Is the amount requested scalable to a lower amount and if so, what is the minimum amount?
- 8) Please list any funding received from federal appropriations, including the fiscal year and source of funding (Clean Water SRF, Drinking Water SRF, STAG grants, USDA Rural Development Program, FEMA, or others)?
- 9) Does the community have a financing plan certified by an authorized local official demonstrating how it will cover the matching funds of 20% or more?
- 10) What are the anticipated non-federal sources of funding for this project?

Note that SRF projects have very specific eligibility requirements, and the Subcommittee will not consider projects that do not meet those requirements. The following table lists some of the project types that are ineligible for SRF funding:

Projects that generally are NOT eligible for SRF funding	
Clean Water / Wastewater	Drinking Water
Land, except for projects described in the subsequent table under eligibility #11	Dams or rehabilitation of dams
Operations and maintenance costs	Operations and maintenance costs
Non-municipal point source control	Water rights, except if the water rights are owned by a system that is being purchased through consolidation as part of a capacity development strategy or if the water rights purchase is covered by EPA’s DWSRF Class Deviation for Water Rights 2019

Acid drainage correction	Reservoirs, except for finished water reservoirs and those reservoirs that are part of the treatment process and are located on the property where the treatment facility is located
Ambient water quality monitoring	Laboratory fees for monitoring
Flood Control Projects, unless the project is otherwise managing, reducing, treating, or recapturing stormwater	Projects needed mainly for fire protection
Privately owned sewer pipes	Projects for systems that lack adequate technical, managerial, and financial capability, unless assistance will ensure compliance
	Projects for systems in significant noncompliance, unless funding will ensure compliance
	Projects primarily intended to serve future growth

The following list provides some examples of the types of projects that are typically eligible for SRF funding and are most frequently funded. This list is not intended to be exhaustive.

Projects that generally ARE eligible for SRF funding	
Clean Water / Waste Water	Drinking Water
Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities.	Facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e. PFAS)
Collector Sewers – Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites.	Rehabilitate or develop water sources (excluding reservoirs, dams, dam rehabilitation and water rights) to replace contaminated sources
Interceptor Sewers – Large sewers that convey wastewater from collector sewers directly to a wastewater treatment facility.	Install or upgrade treatment facilities
Sewer Pipes – Rehabilitation is only eligible if the pipes are publicly owned.	Install or upgrade storage facilities, including finished water reservoirs, to prevent microbiological contaminants from entering the water system
Outfall Sewer – A sewer that conveys treated wastewater from a wastewater treatment facility to the receiving waters.	Install or replace transmission and distribution pipes to prevent contamination caused by leaks or breaks in the pipe, or improve water pressure to safe levels
Storm Water Management – Measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water (i.e. storm sewers, green infrastructure, etc.).	Projects to consolidate water supplies – for example, when individual homes or other public water supplies have a water supply that is contaminated, or the system is unable to maintain compliance for financial or managerial reasons

Combined sewer overflow (CSO) control and sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) control.	Land is eligible only if it is integral to a project that is needed to meet or maintain compliance and further public health protection
Infiltration/Inflow Correction – Construction activities that prevent surface water or groundwater from entering the sewer system.	Project planning, design and other related costs
Water Security – Installation or upgrade of physical security infrastructure such as lighting, fencing, monitoring and access control. Also, cybersecurity measures, installation of safer treatment technologies, and more secure storage of on-site treatment.	
Septic Tanks – Remediation, rehabilitation, removal and replacement of failing tanks are eligible, as well as installation of new tanks.	
Land – The leasing and fee-simple purchase of land, including surface and subsurface easements, needed to locate eligible municipal or Tribal projects, and land integral to the treatment process. Municipal purchase of land and/or conservation easements for source water protection are also eligible.	
Water Reuse – Projects involving the municipal reuse or recycling of wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water.	
Capital Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Projects – e.g., river or streambank restoration, agricultural best management practices (i.e., buffer strips, manure containment structures), wetlands restoration, etc.	

Science, Research, Forestry, & Industry

Earmarks awarded in FY24 under these authorities ranged from \$250,000 to \$2 million. **These are not frequently used accounts**, so it is recommended applicants check in with Senator Casey's office before applying for funding through one of these accounts.

Appropriations Bill: Agriculture

Account: Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities

- This account is used to fund deferred maintenance needs at federal research facilities operated by USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS). There are two ARS facilities in Pennsylvania: the Eastern Regional Research Center in Wyndmoor, PA and the University Park Center in State College, PA. Funding requests are limited to these two facilities under this account.
 - Requests for ARS B&F may only include funding for existing facilities or facilities where funding has been provided in the past.

Appropriations Bill: Agriculture

Account: APHIS Salaries and Expenses

- Must meet environmental review requirements (i.e. NEPA and ESA).
- While the entire S&E account is open for CDS requests, below are the line items within the account that are most compatible with CDS:
 - Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests
 - Pest Detection
 - Plant Protection Methods Development
 - Specialty Crop Pests
 - Tree & Wood Pests
 - Wildlife Damage Management
 - Wildlife Services Methods Development
 - Veterinary Diagnostics
 - Equine, Cervid and Small Ruminant Health
- A few APHIS programs have matching requirements:
 - Grasshopper/Mormon Cricket (Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests) – this program conducts surveys, provides technical assistance, and conducts suppression activities. When conducting suppression activities, the Plant Protection Act dictates the Federal percentage of control costs and cost-sharing for other parties. The Federal government pays the total cost of suppression on Federal land (including most tribal trust lands), 50 percent of the cost on State land, and 33 percent of cost on private land.
 - Brucellosis (Cattle Health) – this program has a 40 percent match by the States.
 - Wildlife Services – reimbursable service agreements are generally 50/50 cost-share and the States would reimburse for their portion.

Appropriations Bill: Commerce, Science, Justice

Account: NIST STRS, External Projects

- The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for NIST STRS. Projects should address standards-related research and technology development. Construction projects will not be accepted.

Appropriations Bill: Commerce, Science, Justice

Account: NIST Construction of Research Facilities, Extramural Construction

- The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for NIST Extramural Construction projects for non-Federal research facilities, including for projects at research institutions and colleges and universities. However, given the significant investments necessary for construction projects, only a very limited number of projects will be supported on an annual basis.

Appropriations Bill: Commerce, Science, Justice

Account: NOAA ORF, Special Projects

- The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for NOAA ORF. Projects should address fisheries, marine mammals, ocean, coastal issues, climate, weather, atmospheric research, data acquisition, and forecasting programs. Construction projects will not be accepted.

Appropriations Bill: Commerce, Science, Justice

Account: NASA Safety, Security and Mission Support (SSMS)

- The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for NASA SSMS. Projects should focus on science education, research, and technology development related to NASA's mission. Medical research projects and projects at NASA-owned Visitor Centers or a State's designated Space Grant Consortium will not be funded. This account cannot fund construction but may be used for equipment, research funding, or education programs.

Appropriations Bill: Interior

Account: SPF: USFS, State and Private Forestry, Forest Resource Information and Analysis

- **Primary Focus:** The State and Private Forestry account provides technical and financial assistance grants to non-federal forest landowners, including state, Tribal, and local governments. Activities within this account include forest health management, cooperative fire protection, wood innovation, and urban and community forestry. Project requests should be part of the state's Forest Action Plan, or contribute to meeting the goals of the Forest Action Plan.
- **Required Questions:** Applicants **must** answer each of the following questions in the order listed below in the "Narrative and Justification" section of the application.
 1. Is the project part of a state Forest Action Plan or otherwise ranked in a prioritized list (provide list name and rank)?
 2. How does this project contribute to the state Forest Action Plan?
 3. What is the federal nexus for this project and why should there be a federal funding component?
 4. Has this project received previous federal funds (provide year, amount, and program)?
 5. What is the total cost of the project? Are there matching funds or partner contributions?
 6. Is the amount requested scalable to a lower amount and if so, what is the minimum amount?
 7. What is the timeline for this project?
 8. Describe how the project will conserve and steward working forests or open space, protect forest health from insects and disease, meet urban and community forestry goals, create opportunities for innovative wood use, improve fire mitigation efforts, or otherwise benefit communities and forested lands.

Appropriations Bill: Interior

Account: Projects on Agency Lists

- The Subcommittee will **only** consider CDS requests for projects that are **not** included in the

President's budget request or for funding levels that are above the amounts provided in the President's budget request. The Subcommittee will have a strong preference for projects included on agency-submitted priority lists.

- **LWCF: Great American Outdoors Act, Land and Water Conservation Fund:** Pursuant to the Great American Outdoors Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-152) and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328), prioritized project lists will accompany the President's budget request in five LWCF accounts. This requirement is delivered in two separate lists: 1) a list of projects proposed for funding in the President's budget request; and 2) a supplemental list of projects that are ready but unfunded. Any funding request for activities not included in the President's budget request must be submitted as CDS request. There will be a high bar for considering any projects not present on the current year's lists. Note that while third party organizations may advocate for specific projects, the CDS recipient for federal acquisition is the federal agency that will eventually manage the land (BLM, FWS, NPS, or USFS), or in the case of the Forest Legacy Program, it is the state.
- **LRF: Great American Outdoors Act, Legacy Restoration Fund:** Pursuant to the Great American Outdoors Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-152) and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117- 328), prioritized project lists for deferred maintenance projects to be funded by the National Parks and Public Lands Legacy Restoration Fund will accompany the President's budget request for BLM, FWS, NPS, USFS, and BIE schools. There will be a high bar for considering any projects not present on the current year's lists. Note that the CDS recipient is the federal agency.
- **LMCON: Land Management Agency Construction:** The four land management agencies (BLM, FWS, NPS, and USFS) receive annual appropriations for new construction and other capital improvement projects and typically include a short list of specific projects in the President's budget request. There will be a high bar for considering any projects not present on the current year's lists. Note that the CDS recipient is the federal agency.

Special Guidance for Department of Energy CDS Requests:

Energy project requests must fit under at least one of the five topic areas listed below and be submitted to the "Energy Projects" account. Successful projects will be in line with current Department of Energy missions that focus on transformative science and technology research, development, and demonstration. The Subcommittee is more likely to grant requests that are not eligible for funding through tax credits or other federal incentives. The Subcommittee is more likely to grant requests that are not eligible for funding through tax credits or other federal incentives.

Statutory cost sharing requirements may apply to these projects, as required by section 988 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. A step-by-step document explaining the cost share rules according to the Department is included as an addendum to this guidance. In short, the amount of required cost sharing will depend on the scope and technological maturity of the project:

- Research or development activities of a basic or fundamental nature: no minimum cost share.
- Research or development activities of an applied nature: minimum 20 percent cost share.
- Demonstration or commercial application: minimum 50 percent cost share.

- Some projects may contain elements of more than one of the categories listed above. Therefore, some projects may have a blended cost share.

Further, the Subcommittee **will not fund** the following projects:

- Projects that do not follow statutory cost sharing requirements.
- Projects that require multiple years of funding.
- Construction of buildings or new facilities (no brick and mortar), even if it will have clean energy associated with it.
- Vehicle charging projects, unless the project is connected to larger clean energy sources (like a battery) or has clean energy applications beyond the charging station.
- Electrical substation replacement or routine grid upgrades that could otherwise be funded under ratepayer contracts or through existing federal incentives.
- Planning studies for a forthcoming project.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are seeking a DOE award, please email Appropriations@casey.senate.gov for a link to the supplemental cost sharing handout for the Energy account.

Transportation

All of these projects fall under the Appropriations Bill: **Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development**. Transportation CDS projects must have a reasonable expectation of being obligated by the end of FY 2027. Awards to these accounts vary significantly in size and applicants should speak with Casey staff about their project to determine the most competitive amount to request.

Account: TPR&D.

- Applicants can seek funding for projects that fall within the TPR&D account for transportation research projects eligible under title 23 or title 49 of the United States Code. Planning for specific local highway, transit, or rail projects that are eligible under HIP, TIG, or CRISI should NOT be included in this account. This account is focused on national or regional research and development projects.

Account: Airports (AIP).

- Applicants can seek funding for projects that fall within the AIP account for airport projects eligible under chapter 471 of title 49, United States Code (<https://www.faa.gov/airports/aip/overview>).
- NOTE: As AIP CDS follows the existing AIP statute, the Federal cost-share requirements still apply to CDS. For large and medium primary hub airports, CDS can cover 75 percent of eligible costs (or 80 percent for noise program implementation). For small primary, reliever, and general aviation airports, CDS can cover a range of 90-95 percent of eligible costs, based on statutory requirements.

Account: FAA Facilities and Equipment (F&E).

- Applicants can seek funding for projects that fall within the FAA F&E account but **only** for terminal air traffic control tower facility replacement projects eligible under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code.
- Applicant should provide a statement of why the tower needs to be replaced, which

includes provide the age of the tower, number of enplanements, operational line of sight issues, other related infrastructure work not covered by the cost of replacing the air traffic control tower (roads, utilities, etc.), and any other information to justify the project. In addition, the project detail is required to provide the status of the planning and environmental. Applications should provide information on how the CDS funding will ensure completion of a project or segments of a project, including the total cost of the project, the CDS funding amount, and any other identified sources of funding.

Account: Highways (HIP).

- Applicants can seek funding for projects that fall within the HIP account for highway projects eligible under title 23, United States Code, including, but not limited to, highway and bridge construction projects, planning, environmental review, design, and right-of-way acquisition. Operational expenses are not eligible.
- All highway CDS funds will be provided directly to PennDOT. If a local or county level government is requesting the CDS, they will be required to coordinate with the State DOT to receive the funding and ensure a non-Federal match is available. The only exception to this is if the project is intended to be for a Tribal government.
- Consistent with FY 2023, applicants can request funding for highway projects that are not currently on the STIP or TIP but for which a State DOT has provided a letter confirming that: (1) the project is eligible for Federal-aid highway funding under title 23, United States Code; (2) the State DOT is willing to carry out the project if funding is enacted; and (3) the State DOT will include the project on the STIP or TIP once funding for the project is enacted.
- Applicants should also include details on the status of the planning and environmental work and the STIP or TIP ID number for the project as it appears in the STIP or TIP, if applicable

Account: Transit (TIG).

- Applicants can seek funding for projects that fall within the TIG account for transit projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code.
- Consistent with FY 2023, applicants can request funding for transit projects that are not currently on the STIP or TIP but for which a transit agency has provided a letter confirming that: (1) the project is eligible for transit funding under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code; (2) the transit agency is willing to carry out the project if funding is enacted; and (3) the transit agency will include the project on the STIP or TIP once funding for the project is enacted.
- Applicants are required to provide the status of the planning and environmental work and provide the STIP or TIP ID number for the project as it appears in the STIP or TIP, if applicable.

Account: Rail (CRISI).

- Applicants can seek funding for projects that fall within the CRISI account for rail capital projects eligible under section 22907(c) of title 49, United States Code.
- Consistent with FY 2023, applicants can request funding for rail projects that are not currently on the State Rail Plan but for which a State rail agency or State DOT has provided a letter confirming that: (1) the project is eligible for rail funding under section 22907 of title 49, United States Code; (2) the State rail agency, State DOT, or other relevant State agency is willing to carry out the project if funding is

- enacted; and (3) the State rail agency or State DOT will include the project on the State Rail Plan once funding for the project is enacted.
- Applicants must provide the status of the planning and environmental and should also provide a description of all other sources of funding contributing to the total cost of the project.

United States Army Corps of Engineers Projects

For the Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation, only authorized projects and programs will be considered for funding. For the Corps of Engineers, with the exception of Operation and Maintenance, an authorized project or program that has not received funding in prior years is considered a new start. Few, if any, new starts will be funded. The exception to this rule is projects funded through environmental infrastructure programs such as [Section 313](#), [Section 566](#), or [Section 219](#).

It is the practice of this Subcommittee to only provide funding which can be executed in the year of appropriation, and therefore CDS eligibility is further limited by the capability of the agency to obligate the funding. CDS requests for the Corps of Engineers are provided to the agencies (both prior to Senate mark and at conference) for technical assistance to verify authorization and capability. This means that at conference CDS amounts can be reduced from Senate or House mark levels based on a reduced capability, as determined by the agencies. In order to access funding through the Army Corps, interested parties must already be in contact with their [relevant Army Corps district](#).

Military Construction

- **Eligibility:** Eligible projects are provided to Congress by the Department of Defense and contain requirements that have been validated and vetted by the appropriate Service or Agency.
- Requests may include major construction, unspecified minor military construction, and planning and design, however, only certain major military construction projects within these accounts are eligible for CDS.
- It is the practice of the Subcommittee to only provide funding that can be executed in the year of appropriation. Therefore, CDS eligibility is further limited by the executability of funding. Eligible major military construction projects must be:
 - Authorized in the Fiscal Year 2024 or prior year National Defense Authorization Act;
 - At 35% design or higher with a DD 1391*; and
 - Prepared to award a contract in Fiscal Year 2024.

Miscellaneous

Appropriations Bill: Interior

Account: Accounts Only Used on a Case-By-Case Basis

The Subcommittee may also consider CDS requests within these accounts, but only on a case-by-case basis. These accounts are rarely used.

Each of the 15 questions below must be answered for ALL requests in these accounts.

- **Land Management Agencies, Local Projects and Research:** In order for requests to be considered within this category, they must be relevant to the specified mission area within the bureaus listed below and contribute to responsible stewardship of land, wildlife, and recreation resources or contribute to priority research areas that inform stewardship of those resources. Proposed projects should contribute to local, state, and federal efforts to benefit species, habitat, and/or enhanced stewardship of land and water resources. Project funding is not intended to primarily fund annual operations and maintenance of existing programs at the state, federal, or local level.
 - BLM, Management of Land and Resources, Land Management Priorities – project requests may be considered for activities related to wildlife and aquatic habitat management.
 - NPS, National Recreation and Preservation, Statutory and Contractual Aid – project requests may be considered for activities relating to operating, managing, and preserving resources, including as authorized by law.
 - FWS, Resource Management, Stewardship Priorities – project requests may be considered for fish and aquatic conservation, habitat conservation, recovery, and restoration activities.
 - USGS, Surveys Investigations and Research, Special Initiatives – project requests may be considered for high priority and core science research, and ecosystem and water resources related activities.
- **BIA, Operation of Indian Programs, Special Initiatives:** BIA provides direct services and funding for compacts and contracts for Tribes to provide programs for a wide range of activities. The Subcommittee may consider requests from eligible entities that honor the commitment to invest in Tribal communities, create economic opportunities, foster cultural heritage, promote efficient and effective Tribal governance, and conserve natural resources.
- **EPA, Science and Technology, Research: National Priorities:** Project requests may be considered for high priority lines of research related to environmental quality and/or human health.
- **EPA, State and Tribal Assistance Grants, STAG Infrastructure Grants:** Requests will only be considered for projects related to existing funding categories and activities within the STAG account that will result in improvements in environmental quality and/or human health.

Required Questions: In order to consider a request that falls into one of the “Other” categories outlined above, the Subcommittee requires detailed information about the project in the “Narrative

and Justification” section of the application. If the question does not apply to the requested project, please explain why.

- 1) Describe the project and make the case for its consideration.
- 2) Is the recipient entity a federal agency, state agency, Tribal entity, local city/county agency, university or college, or non-profit organization?
- 3) Does the project meet the eligibility and matching requirements for a specific grant program (provide description)?
- 4) Does the relevant federal agency have the authority to provide funds to this project and/or recipient (cite authority)?
- 5) Is the project specifically authorized (cite public law or other authority)?
- 6) Is the project on federal land or a federal facility?
- 7) Is the project funded in the President’s budget request (provide amount and describe any difference between the budget and your request)?
- 8) What is the federal nexus for this project and why should there be a federal funding component?
- 9) What is the total cost of the project?
- 10) Has this project received previous federal funds (provide year, amount, and program)?
- 11) Are there matching funds or partner contributions?
- 12) Is the project ranked on any federal, state, or other prioritized list (provide list name and rank)?
- 13) What is the timeline for this project and why are federal funds required in this fiscal year?
- 14) What are the estimated start and completion dates for the project?
- 15) Can the project obligate all of the requested funding within 12 months of receipt?