

# EDA FY19 DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL NOFO

## Frequently Asked Questions



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This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document has been prepared to complement the Economic Development Administration’s (EDA) [FY 2019 EDA Disaster Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) (FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO or NOFO) published on August 13, 2019. Interested applicants are encouraged to refer to both the [NOFO](#) and this FAQ for detailed information regarding this Disaster Supplemental funding, such as applicant eligibility, eligible activities, and application preparation and submission requirements. However, in the event of any conflict between the NOFO and the FAQs, the NOFO will control.

The questions and answers summarized in this document are organized by general topic area. Please refer to the table of contents, below.

**NOTE:** *This FAQ may be updated from time to time as new, additional questions are received. Please refer to the EDA Disaster Recovery home page ([www.eda.gov/disaster/](http://www.eda.gov/disaster/)) for FAQ updates and other important program information.*

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## A. Disaster Supplemental Funding Availability

### 1. Does this FY2019 Disaster Supplemental NOFO replace EDA's FY2018 Disaster Supplemental NOFO?

No. The [FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO](#) (EDA-2019-DISASTER) is a separate opportunity for communities impacted by the Presidentially-declared major disasters that occurred in 2018 and 2019, as described in Question B.1 below. EDA's prior FY18 Disaster Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity (EDA-2018-DISASTER) was authorized to support an earlier set of disasters that occurred during calendar year 2017. Some communities may be eligible under both funding opportunities. Applicants should contact the appropriate [Regional EDA Disaster POC](#) for assistance to determine their eligibility for the most relevant funding opportunity.

### 2. How much Disaster Supplemental FY19 funding is available for grants?

On June 6, 2019, the President signed into law the [Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 \(Pub. L. 116-20\)](#), which provided EDA \$600 million for necessary expenses related to flood mitigation, disaster relief, long-term recovery, and restoration of infrastructure in areas that received a major disaster designation as a result of Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Lane, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and of wildfires, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and other natural disasters occurring in calendar year 2018, and tornadoes and floods occurring in calendar year 2019.

Subject to the availability of funds, **EDA has made approximately \$587 million of these FY19 supplemental appropriations for EDA's Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) disaster recovery program**, as authorized by Sections 209 and 703 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3121 *et seq.*) (PWEDA). **Publication of these FAQs does not obligate the Department of Commerce (DOC) or EDA to award any specific grant or cooperative agreement or to obligate all or any part of available funds.**

### 3. How much money will be available to each EDA region for grants?

Applying a number of factors, including Congressional intent, level of impact and economic distress, EDA has initially allocated the \$587 million in disaster supplemental program funds among its six Regional Offices as follows:

EDA REGIONAL OFFICE <sup>1</sup>	DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOCATION
Atlanta / ATRO	\$140,000,000
Austin / AURO	\$50,000,000
Chicago / CRO	\$50,000,000
Denver / DRO	\$107,000,000
Philadelphia / PRO	\$50,000,000
Seattle / SRO	\$190,000,000

<sup>1</sup> For a list of states covered by each Regional Office see here: <https://www.eda.gov/contact/>.

EDA did not allocate funding to a specific disaster or a specific disaster location.

**NOTE: When appropriate, EDA may exercise its discretion to adjust the allocations to the Regional Offices based on its experience in administering disaster supplemental appropriations to ensure funds are used to maximum effect, or to adjust to unforeseen changes in recovery efforts.**

## B. Disaster Supplemental Eligibility Criteria

### 1. Where can Disaster Supplemental projects be located?

Applicants must propose a project **located in or serving** one or more communities or regions impacted by major Presidentially-declared natural disasters in calendar year 2018, as a result of Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Lane, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and wildfires, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and other natural disasters.

For 2019 disasters, only areas impacted by major Presidentially-declared disasters involving tornadoes or floods in 2019 are eligible for funding. If an area is declared a major disaster for Incident Type floods or tornadoes occurring in 2019, or another Incident Type that also includes flood or tornadoes in the descriptive field, such as severe storms, etc., the area is eligible for 2019 Disaster Supplemental Funding. Additionally, areas with floods or tornadoes in 2019 that are declared major disasters after the release of the FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO, are eligible to apply for funding. Please see Section C.2 of the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO](#), “Eligible Counties Based on Disaster Declarations.”

Construction projects and activities (including design and engineering) must be located within an eligible county. The scope of work for non-construction projects and activities must primarily benefit eligible counties and stakeholders representing those eligible counties must be directly engaged in the project.<sup>2</sup> An applicant may propose a project that benefits more than one community or region. The applicant does not need to be located in the affected county; however, the applicant does need to demonstrate how the proposed project will benefit the disaster affected community or region.

For more information on the location of Presidentially-declared disasters in 2018 and 2019, applicants are invited to consult the FEMA website, <https://www.fema.gov/disasters>. (See question B.2 below for more detail on using the FEMA website.)

### 2. How do I use the FEMA website to determine if my project is a county that has received a Presidential major disaster declaration in calendar year 2018 or for a flood or tornadoes in calendar year 2019?

It is advisable to use the FEMA website to confirm your county has received a major Federal disaster declaration in 2018 or for a flood or tornado declaration in 2019; the counties included in a major disaster declaration may be updated or changed by FEMA after an initial declaration is made. To learn more about a particular disaster, please visit the FEMA website at <https://www.fema.gov/disasters> and follow these steps:

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<sup>2</sup> See also 13 C.F.R. § 301.3(a).

1. Select “Major Disaster Declaration”.
2. For 2018 Major Disasters, select 2018 for “Incident begins” date, and 2018 “Incident ends” date. You do not need to enter the month.
3. Select the State in which your proposed project will be located.
4. Click “Apply”. This will bring you to a list of major disasters that were declared in that State during 2018.
5. Select the disaster that impacted the community where the proposed project will be located. This will bring you to a map showing the counties that are included in that major disaster declaration. Counties that are shaded (any color or pattern) have received a major disaster declaration.
6. To identify 2019 declared floods and tornadoes, follow the above directions, inserting 2019 for “Incident begins” date.
7. To identify areas with declared floods or tornadoes, look for any “Incident Type” that includes the word “Flood(s)” or “Tornado(es).” Floods or tornado Incident Types may be combined with other Incident Types such as severe storms, straight-line winds, landslides, mudslides, etc.

You may also consult this table of raw data that is updated on a regular basis <https://www.fema.gov/api/open/v1/DisasterDeclarationsSummaries.csv>. While not user-friendly, it is searchable and allows you to look at multiple disasters at once.

### **3. The FEMA website includes different types of disaster declarations. What type of disaster declaration is necessary in 2018 and 2019?**

To be eligible for funding under the FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO, proposed projects must serve areas where a **Presidential declaration of a major disaster** was issued under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. For 2018, this includes any Presidentially declared major disaster. For 2019, EDA funds are only available for Presidentially declared major disasters involving floods or tornadoes.

If an area is Presidentially declared a major disaster for floods or tornadoes occurring in 2019 as well as another Incident Type, such as severe storms, straight-line winds, landslides, mudslides, etc., the area is eligible for 2019 Disaster Supplemental Funding.

Additionally, counties with floods or tornadoes in 2019 that are declared major disasters after the release of the FY19 NOFO, are eligible to apply for funding. Please see Section C.2 of the FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO, “Eligible Counties Based on Disaster Declarations.”

### **4. What activities are eligible for Disaster Supplemental funding?**

EAA funds can be awarded to assist a wide variety of activities related to disaster recovery focused on economic development, including economic recovery strategic planning grants and construction assistance. It is a flexible resource that responds adaptively to pressing economic issues and is well-suited to help address challenges faced by regions recovering from natural disasters. Through this program, EDA can support both the development of disaster recovery strategies and the implementation of recovery projects identified with those strategies, including infrastructure improvements and by capitalizing revolving loan funds (RLFs). The list of disaster

supplemental grants awarded for 2017 disasters at the top of EDA's [Disaster Supplemental page](#) provides examples of the types of disaster projects funded by EDA.

Disaster recovery project activities that can be eligible for Disaster Supplemental grants include, but are not limited to, economic recovery and resiliency projects that:

- Support the creation of new businesses and jobs in a variety of industry sectors, such as advanced manufacturing, agriculture, energy, information technology, health care, telecommunications, tourism and recreation, transportation, and cultural and natural assets.
- Implement local and regional job creation and growth and economic diversification strategies targeted towards affected workers and businesses. This includes the development of economic development diversification strategies in accordance with EDA Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) recommendations.<sup>3</sup>
- Resiliency projects to increase the ability of a community or region to anticipate, withstand, and bounce back from future economic injuries and disasters. This may include: ensuring redundancy in telecommunications and broadband networks; promoting business continuity and preparedness; industrial diversification; employing safe development practices in business districts and surrounding communities that protect residents and businesses from future disasters; conducting disaster recovery planning with key stakeholders; and other methods that strengthen local and regional capacity to troubleshoot and address vulnerabilities within the regional economy.
- Construction activities, including the restoration of damaged infrastructure, infrastructure enhancement, and building new infrastructure with high performance and resilient components and buildings.
- Strengthening or developing existing or emerging industry clusters.<sup>4</sup>
- Developing business incubator programs.
- Enhancing access to and use of broadband services to support job growth through business creation and expansion.
- Facilitating access to private capital investment and providing related capacity building and technical assistance, such as effective utilization of capital investment for business development and job creation.
- Facilitating and promoting market access for goods and services created and manufactured by businesses in the impacted community/region.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the appropriate EDA Regional Office Disaster Point of Contact ([Regional EDA Disaster POC](#)) for specific guidance pertaining to the eligible use of

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<sup>3</sup> CEDS Content Guidelines: <https://www.eda.gov/ceds/>.

<sup>4</sup> Industry clusters are networks of interconnected firms and supporting institutions in a common geographic region. Clusters also are generally defined by and benefit from shared labor pools, infrastructure and markets.

EDA Disaster Supplement Funds. See Section G. (“Federal Awarding Agency Contacts”) of the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO](#) or refer to EDA Regional Office Contact Information available on the EDA web site: [www.eda.gov/contact](http://www.eda.gov/contact).

## 5. What entities are eligible to apply for a Disaster Supplemental grant?

EDA will accept grant applications from eligible applicants as described below. If an application is submitted by a group of co-applicants, each co-applicant must individually meet EDA eligible applicant criteria. Further, the application should include information that clearly specifies how the co-applicants will work together and which portions of the scope of work each co-applicant is responsible to manage.

### Eligible Applicants

1. District Organization;
2. Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes;
3. State, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions;
4. Institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; or
5. Public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State.

Under its EAA program, EDA is not authorized to provide grants to individuals or for-profit entities.

## 6. My organization recently received a grant from EDA; will this affect our eligibility or general competitiveness for a Disaster Supplemental grant?

Any current or past recipient of an EDA award is eligible to apply under this competition whether or not they already have received a grant from EDA. See also Section E.1.c. (“Grants Officer’s Decision”) of the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO](#) regarding past performance under previous Federal financial assistance awards serving as a selection factor for the Grants Officer.

Eligible applicants for last year’s EDA’s 2018 Disaster Supplemental Funding, which covered Presidentially-declared major natural disasters in calendar year 2017, may also be eligible for this 2019 Disaster Supplemental NOFO provided their project also serves an area experiencing an eligible disaster in calendar years 2018 or 2019. Calendar year 2018 eligible disasters include Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Lane, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and wildfires, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and other natural disasters. For calendar year 2019, only areas impacted by major declared major disasters involving tornadoes or floods in 2019 are eligible for funding (see Question B.1). Applicants applying for [2018 disaster supplemental funds](#) need to comply with all requirements in the 2018 NOFO. For that funding information see [www.eda.gov/disaster-recovery/supplemental/2017/](http://www.eda.gov/disaster-recovery/supplemental/2017/). Applicants for 2019 disaster supplement funds, need to comply with all requirements in the 2019 NOFO.

## 7. What are the differences between the 2018 Disaster Supplemental grant requirements and the 2019 Disaster Supplemental requirements?

While there are many similarities in the requirements of the two NOFOs, there are also a few differences. For example, while the 2018 Disaster Supplemental required a two-phased review, the 2019 Disaster Supplemental NOFO has only one, comprehensive review. There is no proposal submission stage under the 2019 Disaster Supplemental.

In areas with Presidentially-declared major natural disasters that occurred in both 2017 and 2018/19, applicants may apply for grant funding from both Supplementals. In that event, the applicant needs to meet the specific requirements of each funding opportunity, which includes demonstrating a nexus, or direct connection, to eligible disasters in 2017 and 2018/19 (please see Question B.9 for more information on Disaster Nexus).

## **8. Can Disaster Supplemental awards be used to fund construction activities?**

Yes, construction activities are eligible for Disaster Supplemental funding and may be awarded by EDA. In EDA's experience with post-disaster recovery, the most effective rebuilding efforts are based on long-term regional economic development or redevelopment strategies connected with the community's recovery and resilience goals from the eligible disaster. For this reason, EDA encourages the submission of applications based on long-term, regionally oriented, coordinated and collaborative economic development or redevelopment strategies that foster economic growth and disaster resilience. EDA will regard applications that are substantively supported by such strategies as more competitive, while applications for rebuilding damaged infrastructure that are not demonstrably supported by or otherwise related to a long-term plan for economic development will not be considered competitive.

## **9. What is a Disaster Nexus?**

In accordance with the NOFO, an applicant must include a standalone narrative attachment, not to exceed one page, describing in detail the connection between their proposed project scope of work and disaster recovery and resilience. The narrative should consider the consequences of the relevant disaster and how the intended project outcome fulfills the community's specific post-disaster recovery and resilience needs. Failure to submit this narrative or to demonstrate a nexus between the project and specific disaster recovery and resiliency goals will result in the application not being considered for funding.

## **10. Must a project align with the EDA's Investment Priorities? How does that requirement differ from the Disaster Nexus?**

Alignment with EDA's Investment Priorities and a Disaster Nexus are separate, yet complementary, requirements. Proposed projects must align with at least one of the [Investment Priorities](#), which, as of the publication date of this FAQ, include Recovery & Resilience, Critical Infrastructure, Workforce Development & Manufacturing, Exports & Foreign Direct Investment, and [Opportunity Zones](#), but may change over time as described in Section A.2. of the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO](#). The Disaster Nexus, discussed further in question B.9 above, must describe the nexus between the proposed project and disaster recovery and resiliency.

## **11. What is a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and must my application demonstrate alignment with a local CEDS?**

A regional CEDS is an EDA-funded plan created by a multi-jurisdictional council of governments, or Tribe, and can typically be found on the internet. With the exception of proposals for “strategy grants,” proposed projects must be consistent with a region’s current CEDS or, in the absence of a CEDS, an equivalent regional economic development strategy that meets EDA’s CEDS or strategy requirements. Applicants must clearly detail how a proposed project will support the economic development needs and objectives outlined in the CEDS or EDA-approved equivalent strategy document, identify the CEDS or strategy document, and provide a copy of this planning document, either by attaching the document to the application, including the web link to the document, or by submitting a hard copy.

Applicants are encouraged to discuss their specific circumstances with their [Regional EDA Disaster POC](#), especially where a region does not have a current CEDS or equivalent EDA-accepted regional economic development strategy meeting EDA’s CEDS or strategy requirements. For more information regards the CEDS process, please visit EDA’s website at: <https://eda.gov/ceds/>.

## **12. What are CEDS equivalent documents?**

Except for strategy grants, the applicant must demonstrate alignment of its project with the region’s economic objectives as stated in the region’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) or, in the absence of a CEDS, CEDS equivalent EDA-accepted economic development strategy. Documents for consideration as a CEDS equivalent can include various regional economic development plans (or a combination of plans), including but not limited to: regional comprehensive plans, regional resilience or recovery plans, adaptation or hazard mitigation plans, and Long-Term Recovery Support Strategies prepared in select FEMA Disaster Locations. See 13 C.F.R. § 303.7 (outlines threshold legal requirements for CEDS and agency consideration of CEDS-equivalents).

## **13. If we are receiving HUD CDBG-DR funds or funding from FEMA, USDA or SBA, could we also apply for EDA funding?**

EDA will not award its program funds to pay for any project-related costs that are already funded by other sources, Federal or otherwise. Applicants that are interested in supporting large projects with multiple Federal program resources will be required to demonstrate that the Federal funds will not be used in duplicative fashion.

In cases such as this, applicants should indicate to EDA if other Federal funds have been secured for, or have been requested to support, any portion of the project for which an EDA investment is proposed. Applicants should describe how the EDA investment will complement, leverage, or otherwise align with Federal resources, as well as with other public and private investments to accomplish the intended project outputs. In cases where an applicant has secured one or more other sources of Federal funding for a given project, the applicant should include the Federal program name and relevant state or regional office contact information with their EDA application in order to facilitate interagency coordination and prevent the duplicative use of Federal resources. For



more information on other sources of federal funding that may complement EDA’s funding, please contact your EDA Regional Integrator: <https://www.eda.gov/edi/contact/>.

Federal funds cannot typically be used to meet EDA’s match requirements. However, under certain circumstances some Federal funds, such as HUD CDBG-DR funds, could be used as match for EDA projects. See 13 C.F.R. § 300.3 for more information regarding this issue (definition of “Local Share or Matching Share”). Applicants are encouraged to discuss their specific circumstances with their Regional Disaster POC.

#### **14. Is there a minimum or maximum award size? What is the average award size?**

There is no set minimum or maximum award size, and EDA anticipates making a range of award amounts, based on several factors including the specific circumstances of proposed projects. For more information on the type and scale of EDA disaster grants from previous years, please see the table of EDA grants made to date on our [Disaster Supplemental page](#).

#### **15. Where can I find out about EDA awards?**

EDA posts past grant awards at: <https://www.eda.gov/grants/>. Information on EDA’s Disaster Supplemental grant program can be found on our [Disaster Supplemental page](#).

#### **16. What is the typical period of performance of a Disaster Supplemental award?**

The period of performance for a given Disaster Supplemental award will depend on the type of project and scope of work for which the award is made. For example, the period of performance for disaster and economic recovery strategy grants typically ranges from 12 to 18 months, with extensions considered on a case-by-case basis. Implementation grants involving construction of project facilities and infrastructure generally are expected to range from 12 to 48 months, but all construction projects are expected to be completed within five years from the date of award. EDA will work closely with the recipients to accommodate reasonable projected timelines within the allowances of regulations and grant policies. EDA expects that all projects will proceed efficiently and expeditiously, and EDA encourages applicants to clearly document how quickly they will be able to start and complete the proposed project scope of work.

#### **17. Is sub-granting allowed?**

Yes, a recipient of a grant under the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO](#) may, with prior EDA approval, sub-grant a portion of the award to a subrecipient that must also be eligible for assistance under the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO](#). Proposed sub-grants should generally be included and described in the application. In determining whether to approve a proposed sub-grant, EDA will consider a range of factors, including the specific circumstances of the project and the scope of work of the proposed sub-grant.

A recipient or pass-through entity must require all subrecipients, including lower tier subrecipients, to comply with all terms and conditions applicable to the recipient under the original award,

including applicable provisions of the OMB Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. part 200). Additionally, selection of a sub-recipient must be competitive.

## C. Disaster Supplemental Application Procedures: Complete Applications

### 1. What are the steps I need to follow to apply for a Disaster Supplemental grant?

All requests for Disaster Supplemental assistance are subject to EDA's standard review process.

Please refer to Section D.2.a. of the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental](#) NOFO regarding the forms that are required for a complete application. Complete applications will be reviewed and evaluated by a Regional Investment Review Committee (IRC) in accordance with the merit review criteria as described in Section E.1. of the [NOFO](#). Those complete applications recommended for funding by the IRC and fully compliant with applicable rules and regulations will be forwarded to the Grants Officer for a final decision on funding.

### 2. Submission Options

**EDA accepts electronic submissions of applications through Grants.gov.** EDA will not accept paper, facsimile, or email transmissions of applications except where applicant is unable to submit an application electronically for reasons beyond the control of the applicant. In such instances, EDA, in its sole discretion, may **pre-approve in writing** submission via an alternate method (e.g., email).

Instructions for electronic submission of applications:

- Applicants can locate the funding opportunity on Grants.gov ([www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)) using Funding Opportunity Number "EDA-2019-DISASTER."
- All components of the application package are identical to those required under EDA's EDAP NOFO, and may be accessed and downloaded (in a screen-fillable format) at: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html>.
- The preferred electronic file format for attachments is Adobe portable document format (PDF); however, EDA will accept electronic files in Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, or Microsoft Excel formats.

### 3. How will we know that our application has been received?

Upon the applicant's successful submission of a complete application, [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) will generate a confirmation page with a project proposal number. Applicants can use this number to check the status of their application.

### 4. What should applicants do if they have questions as they prepare their Disaster Supplemental applications?

Applicants are encouraged to contact the appropriate EDA [Regional Disaster POC](#) with any questions or requests for technical guidance pertaining to application requirements. See Section

G. (“Federal Awarding Agency Contacts”) of the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO](#), or refer to EDA Regional Office Contact Information available on the EDA web site at: [www.eda.gov/contact](http://www.eda.gov/contact).

**5. Can construction grant administration costs be written into the project budget? Do contracts for grant administration have to be competitively procured if the applicant is using an economic development district as its grant administrator?**

Yes, the costs of administering a construction grant may generally be included in the project budget. Administration performed by the Planning Organization representing an Economic Development District (EDD) does not always require a procurement. Applicants seeking to use an EDD to administer their construction project should note that in their grant application and should ensure that they have consulted with the EDD. See 13 CFR § 305.5 (lists requirements for requesting that an EDD perform grant administration for construction projects).

**6. Are costs directly associated with preparing a complete Disaster Supplemental application eligible for reimbursement?**

No, direct costs associated with the preparation of a complete Disaster Supplemental application are not eligible for reimbursement.

**7. How much of the NEPA review has to be completed when the application is submitted?**

Consistent with the NOFO, an “Environmental Narrative” is required as part of a complete application. This narrative provides EDA the information necessary to complete its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis as well as ensure compliance with other environmental requirements. A template of the current version can be found on [EDA's Program website](#). As noted in the Environmental Narrative template, interagency consultations are not required at the time of application but should be included if available. For additional information, contact the Environmental POC for your respective EDA Regional Office.

**8. What are the submission deadlines for Disaster Supplemental applications?**

Applications submitted under the FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO will be accepted and reviewed by EDA on an ongoing basis until the publication of a new Disaster Supplemental NOFO, cancellation of the FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO, or all available funds have been expended.

**9. What if we need to edit our application after it has been submitted?**

Applicants that wish to reopen a project application are instructed to please contact the appropriate Regional Disaster POC. See Section G. (“Federal Awarding Agency Contacts”) of the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO](#), or refer to EDA Regional Office Contact Information available on the EDA web site: [www.eda.gov/contact](http://www.eda.gov/contact).

**10. What are the matching fund requirements for Disaster Supplemental projects?**

Most Disaster Supplemental grantees will be required to provide matching funds for their projects, either cash or in-kind.

Once applicant and area eligibility are established, EDA generally expects to fund up to 80% of the eligible costs of such assistance. However, EDA’s consideration of factors such as scale of the project, the extent of the impact of the relevant disaster on the region, total project cost, relative distress of the community, or geographic distribution of disaster funds, may cause EDA to fund projects at a grant rate that is lower than 80%. The remaining portion of the costs for the EDA scope of work must be borne by the recipient or provided to the recipient by a third party as a contribution for the purposes of and subject to the terms of the award. Further, in accordance with the agency’s statutory authority, EDA may increase the investment rate up to a maximum of 100%.

EDA’s Grants Officer in the applicable Regional Office will consider on a case-by-case basis whether the circumstances of the proposed project warrant a Federal Share in excess of 80%, including whether the applicant has exhausted its effective taxing or borrowing capacity or meets other thresholds for elevated need based on the overall economic situation of the region. Additionally, EDA may establish a maximum investment rate of up to 100% for projects of Indian Tribes. The applicant is responsible for demonstrating to EDA that an enhanced grant rate is justified by providing statistics and other information on the nature and level of economic distress in the region, including other disaster-related needs and the level of resources available to address those needs.

Match requirements are outlined in Section C.3. in the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO](#).

**11. We have already submitted an Economic Development Assistance programs (EDAP) application to our EDA Regional Office. Is it possible for our application to be considered for Disaster Supplemental funding instead?**

It may be possible that this outcome can be accommodated; however, given that the Disaster funding application requirements are much more focused and specific than for standard EDAP submissions, the applicant may need to amend and/or resubmit their proposal and application. If an applicant has already submitted an EDAP application to an EDA Regional Office and would now prefer to be considered for Disaster Supplemental funding, contact the appropriate EDA Regional Disaster POC to initiate this discussion. See Section G. (“Federal Awarding Agency Contacts”) of the [FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO](#), or refer to EDA Regional Office Contact Information available on the EDA web site: [www.eda.gov/contact](http://www.eda.gov/contact).

## **D. Disaster Supplemental Application Selection and Award**

**1. How will applicants be notified of the Investment Review Committee (IRC) determination regarding their application? How will final award notices be made?**

EDA intends to notify applicants in writing of the IRC’s determination within 60 days of EDA’s receipt of their complete application.

If an application is selected for funding, the EDA Grants Officer will issue the grant award (Form CD-450), which is the authorizing financial assistance award document, along with all appropriate additional forms and documents. See Section F.1 of the NOFO for a list of these forms and documents.

EDA will provide Form CD-450 via the award package to the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) listed on the applicant's Form SF-424. The applicant must sign and return the Form CD-450 without modification within 30 days of the date of EDA's signature on the form.

EDA will notify unsuccessful applicants in writing to the AOR listed on the applicant's Form SF-424. EDA will retain unsuccessful applications in accordance with EDA's record retention schedule.

The length of the process depends in part on the quality of application submitted, complexity of the project, and capacity of the applicant to respond to EDA's grant requirements. Per the NOFO, applications for assistance will be accepted on an ongoing basis. If the IRC recommends an application, the applicant still may have to complete certain due diligence requirements before EDA can make an award.

## **2. How will EDA evaluate Disaster Supplemental proposal and application submissions?**

Program staff from EDA will review Disaster Supplemental project proposal and application submissions according to the criteria outlined under Section E. ("Application Review Process") of the FY19 Disaster Supplemental NOFO.

**NOTE:** Disaster Supplemental applications will be evaluated as a separate and discrete subset of all EDAP submissions that are received by EDA's Regional Offices, and will not otherwise compete with non-Disaster Supplemental EDAP applications for consideration and selection for award. However, EDA, at its discretion, may move projects between eligible NOFOs, including the EDAP NOFO.