

in the Special Award Conditions of the grant or cooperative agreement.

[64 FR 69878, Dec. 14, 1999]

§ 307.5 Purpose and scope.

The University Center technical assistance program is designed to help improve the economies of distressed areas. It helps institutions of higher education (or other applicants) use their own and other resources to address the economic development problems and opportunities of areas serviced.

[64 FR 5427, Feb. 3, 1999. Redesignated at 64 FR 69878, Dec. 14, 1999]

§ 307.6 Application evaluation criteria.

EDA selects University Center projects for grant awards according to the general application evaluation criteria set forth in part 304 of this chapter and the extent, as appropriate, the project:

- (a) Has the commitment of the highest management levels of the sponsoring institution;
- (b) Provides evidence of adequate non-Federal financial support, either from the sponsoring institution or other sources;
- (c) Outlines activities consistent with the expertise of the proposed staff, the academic programs, and other resources available within the sponsoring institution;
- (d) Documents past experience of the sponsoring institution in operating technical assistance programs; and
- (e) Balances the geographic distribution of University Centers across the country. Only the Assistant Secretary has the authority to approve the selection for grant assistance of a University Center that has not received University Center assistance for the previous year.

[64 FR 5427, Feb. 3, 1999. Redesignated and amended at 64 FR 69878, Dec. 14, 1999]

§ 307.7 Award and grant rate requirements.

- (a) EDA will provide assistance for the period of time required to complete the project scope of work, generally not to exceed twelve months.
- (b) If the project is regional in scope, EDA may determine that the require-

ment that public or private nonprofit organizations must act in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State is satisfied by the nature of the project;

(c) Grant rate:

(1) The maximum Federal grant rate for a project under this subpart is:

- (i) 50 percent, or
- (ii) 75 percent, if the project is not feasible without, and merits, a reduction or waiver of the non-Federal share.

(2) A project is eligible for a supplemental grant increasing the Federal share up to and including 75 percent when the applicant is able to demonstrate that:

- (i) It cannot provide the non-Federal share otherwise required because in the overall economic situation there is a lack of available non-Federal share due, for instance, to the pressing demand for its use elsewhere;
- (ii) The project is addressing major causes of distress in the area serviced and requires the unique characteristics of the applicant, which will not participate in the program if it must provide all or part of a 50 percent non-Federal share; or
- (iii) The project is for the benefit of local, State, regional, or national economic development efforts, and will be of no or only incidental benefit to the recipient.

(3) A project awarded under this subpart is not eligible for additional Federal grant assistance under the table in § 301.4(b) or the provisions of § 301.4(d) of this chapter, i.e., the 10 percent incentive increase for certain projects in districts.

(d) Direct costs: At least 80 percent of EDA funding must be allocated to direct costs of program delivery.

[64 FR 5427, Feb. 3, 1999. Redesignated and amended at 64 FR 69878, Dec. 14, 1999; 65 FR 71025, Nov. 28, 2000]

§ 307.8 Post-approval requirements.

Financial reports, progress reports, and project products will be specified in the special award conditions of the grant or cooperative agreement.

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