PROP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Project Criteria

Projects must have:

1. A solid business and development plan
2. Current financial information and/or financial pro forma
3. Demonstrated ability to achieve the objectives proposed in the application (ability to obtain other sources of funding, project readiness, etc.)
4. Supporting documentation
5. Commitment of private funds

Additional consideration will be given for projects that:

1. Create opportunities for new small and/or historically disadvantaged businesses
2. Preserve historic structures and/or are contextually appropriate for the neighborhood
3. Provide a critical or essential service to a recovering neighborhood
4. Demonstrate community support
5. Create additional Low to Moderate Income (LMI) jobs above the required minimum
6. Have a positive repayment and compliance history in previous CDBG programs

General Eligibility

To be eligible for assistance under PROP, a business must meet the following criteria:

1. Planning to open a new business in an eligible parish or currently open in an eligible parish with plans to expand.

   Expansion is defined as:

   a. *renovation, expansion, construction or purchase of a new facility or location,*
   b. *expanding capabilities, creating or expanding existing lines of business , or*
   c. *hiring and training new employees*
2. Create a minimum number of jobs per project as determined by industry standards
3. Minimum annual gross revenue of $250,000 for existing businesses
4. Minimum equity investment $\geq$ 10% of total project costs
5. CDBG funds cannot exceed 75% of total project costs
6. Eligible Parishes: Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, Vermilion, Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Iberia, Jefferson Davis, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Mary, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, and Washington

Miscellaneous Eligibility

1. Non-profits are eligible based on the earned income portion of their operation
2. Religious organizations are eligible based on the secular component of their business
3. Bars are eligible to receive awards; package liquor stores **are not**
4. Single & multi-family residential projects **are not** eligible
5. An owner may participate in a maximum of 2 projects/awards and the total sum of ownership percentages must be $\leq$ 100%
6. Eligibility issues that arise during the course of program implementation will be decided by OCD-DRU via the Policy Clarification / Change Form process