State Small Business Credit Initiative Investing in America Small Business Opportunity Program (SSBCI Investing in America SBOP)

Pre-Application Webinar

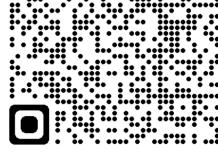
November 6, 2023 @ 1:30 pm Eastern Time





Agenda

- Introduction 1.
- **Program Priorities and Objectives**
- 3. **Program Overview**
 - NOFO at a Glance
 - Key Dates/Milestones
 - **Competition Overview**
 - **Application Information**
 - Application Submission
 - **Evaluation Criteria**
 - Award
- **Upcoming Events**
- Q&As



Scan QR Code for NOFO

Webinar Disclaimer

This presentation does not contain the full text of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP. Before applying, eligible applicants should thoroughly review the NOFO, which was published on Treasury's website on October 25, 2023 (see link or scan QR code above).





SSBCI Technical Assistance (TA) Program Team

- ❖ Jessica Milano, Chief Program Officer, Office of Capital Access
- ❖ Jeffrey Stout, SSBCI Director
- ❖ Jamie Lipsey, Senior Policy Advisor
- ❖Peter Gillen, Program Manager
- ❖Terrie Riley, Grants Manager
- ❖Carmen Reed, Grants Manager
- Terry Valladares, Program Manager (contract support)



SSBCI Investing in America SBOP – Priorities and Objectives



1. Connect eligible beneficiaries with **loans or investments** supported by the SSBCI Capital Program or other federal or other jurisdiction small business programs.



- 2. Assist eligible beneficiaries to secure financing so they can **access**, **leverage**, and **scale into business opportunities** arising from legislation such as the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors and Science Act (CHIPS and Science Act), or the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).
 - Business opportunities related to ARPA, BIL, CHIPS and Science Act, and IRA include projects related to public and private infrastructure, critical manufacturing supply chains, and the clean energy transition.





SSBCI Investing in America SBOP – Priorities and Objectives (cont.)



- 3. Incentivize innovation in the delivery of TA services through collaborations with other jurisdictions, SEDI-owned LAF firms, non-traditional TA providers, educational institutions, and community-serving organizations.
- 4. Scale the impact of SSBCI Investing in America SBOP awards through matching funds, including from the private sector.





Program Overview

- Through the competitive grant program the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP Treasury intends to award grant funding to support programs that propose innovative and high-impact models for delivering TA in the areas of legal, accounting, and financial advisory services (TA services) to very small businesses (VSBs) and businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (SEDI-owned businesses), as those terms are defined in SSBCI guidance, applying for a jurisdiction's SSBCI capital program or other federal or other jurisdiction small business program. Those businesses are collectively referred to as "eligible beneficiaries" throughout this presentation.
- This program is related to and supports the SSBCI Capital Program and the allocation formula-based SSBCI Technical Assistance (TA) Grant Program.





Program Overview (cont.)



An application will receive **more points** in the review process if it:

- ✓ Includes high-quality existing or proposed collaborations with **project partners**, which may include other jurisdictions, cities, or other political subdivisions, educational institutions, community-serving organizations, and industry stakeholders
- ✓ Leverages public or private cash matching commitments that will contribute to successful outcomes and project long-term sustainability
- ✓ Is designed to serve eligible small businesses on a regional basis as described in the NOFO.



Recipients may **make subawards** to other organizations to act in an administrative role. Please review the NOFO carefully for requirements applicable to TA providers, which must be either jurisdiction entities or legal, accounting, or financial advisory firms (LAF firms).





SSBCI Background – Capital Program

Overall, SSBCI supports small businesses and entrepreneurship in communities across the country by providing capital and technical assistance to promote small business stability, growth, and success.

SSBCI Capital Program¹

- The Capital Program provides funding to states, the District of Columbia, territories, and Tribal governments (collectively, "participating jurisdictions") for programs that catalyze lending and investing in small businesses, build ecosystems of opportunity and entrepreneurship, and create high-quality jobs.
- The Capital Program is anticipated to catalyze tens of billions in public and private capital to support loans, microloans, and venture capital focused on small businesses, including for VSBs and SEDI-owned businesses. These funds can be transformative in a range of industries such as small manufacturing, supply chain, and other sectors promoting key national priorities.
- For more information on the jurisdictions' capital programs, refer to: http://www.treasury.gov/ssbci/programs.

¹The Capital Program is <u>not</u> considered federal financial assistance or a grant program but a transfer of Allocated Funds by Treasury to participating jurisdictions under the terms of the Allocation Agreement with Treasury.





SSBCI Background – Allocation Formula-Based TA Grant Program

Allocation formula-based TA Grant Program²

- Under the TA Grant Program, Treasury allocated funding by formula to jurisdictions
 that submit timely and complete applications for the SSBCI Capital Program to provide
 TA to eligible beneficiaries that are applying for SSBCI Capital Program funding and
 other government programs that support small businesses.
- The TA Grant Program supports eligible beneficiaries by providing the businesses with:
 - √legal,
 - √accounting, and
 - ✓ financial advisory services.

²In contrast to the Capital Program, the TA Grant Program is a federal financial assistance or grant program.





The Competitive NOFO at a Glance



Program Summary

Type of awards: Discretionary grants

Estimated total program funding: \$75 million

Estimated award ceiling: \$10 million*

Estimated award floor: \$5 million*

Estimated number of awards: 8 to 15

Period of performance: Up to 36 months (3 years) **

^{**}The length of the period of performance should be based on the assessed needs of the jurisdiction's eligible small businesses and must be clearly articulated in all budget documents.





^{*}Treasury anticipates that larger awards will have a regional focus that involves collaboration between jurisdictions. The ranges are provided only for your information and may prove useful for planning purposes. Actual amounts awarded may be higher or lower, including based on the availability of funds.

The Competitive NOFO at a Glance (cont.)



Application Deadline

60 calendar days from the date the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP application is available.



Treasury will publish a separate notification when the program application is published that **specifies the application deadline** and will update the NOFO accordingly.





Key Dates/ Milestones

NOFO Posted Oct 25 Draft PDF
Application
Posted to
UST Website
Winter
2023/2024
(est.)

Application Webinars Winter 2024 (est.) Awards Issued Summer/ Fall 2024 (est.)















Pre-Application A Webinar I

Pre-Application Webinar II Application Portal Opened Winter 2024

vinter 202 (est.) Applications Due

Spring 2024 (est.)



Competition Overview – Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include:



1. Any jurisdiction that has been approved as a participating jurisdiction in the SSBCI Capital Program.



2. Jurisdictions that are not yet approved as participating jurisdictions in the SSBCI Capital Program, but that have submitted complete and timely SSBCI Capital Program applications (or are part of a joint Tribal government application), are also eligible to apply; however, to receive an SSBCI Investing in America SBOP award, a jurisdiction must be approved as a participating jurisdiction in the SSBCI Capital Program.



Competition Overview – Eligible Applicants (cont.)



3. Groups of Tribal governments may apply jointly (i.e., in consortia). For additional requirements applicable to joint Tribal applications, please see TA Grant Program FAQ #3 "Can a Tribal-affiliated entity or non-Tribal entity apply for a TA grant, sign a TA Grant Agreement, and implement the grant on behalf of a group of Tribal governments under Section III. Eligible Recipients, Beneficiaries, and TA Providers," which will apply to applications and grants under this NOFO.



- 4. States, territories, and the District of Columbia may not apply jointly, but an application from these applicants or from Tribal governments will receive more points if the TA program is designed to serve eligible small businesses on a regional basis as described in the NOFO. See Section C.1 and the "Project Reach" evaluation criterion in Section E.1 of the NOFO.
 - The NOFO describes 4 ways an applicant may be considered for regional collaboration points.





Competition Overview – Eligible Beneficiaries



Eligible beneficiaries (i.e., businesses eligible to receive TA services under this program) are **VSBs and SEDI-owned businesses** that are applying for a jurisdiction's SSBCI Capital Program or other federal or other jurisdiction small business program. VSBs and SEDI-owned businesses are defined in the NOFO **Section A.2 – Key Terms**.



Some businesses may qualify as both VSBs and SEDI-owned businesses. A recipient can consider these businesses as VSBs, SEDI-owned businesses, or both for all purposes for grants made under the SSBCI Investing In America SBOP NOFO.



Competition Overview – Eligible TA Providers

A recipient may:

- 1. Provide TA services itself under an award,
- Make a subaward for an entity of the recipient (e.g., a state agency or government corporation) or an LAF firm to provide TA services under an award,
- 3. Contract with third-party LAF firms to provide TA services, or
- 4. Make a subaward to a non-federal entity (as defined at 2 CFR § 200.1) that is not an entity of the recipient (e.g., a state entity or other jurisdiction entity) or LAF firm, if the subrecipient acts in an administrative role and will contract with or make subawards to jurisdiction entities or LAF firms that serve as TA providers.

See also **Section C.3** of the NOFO.



Competition Overview – Eligible TA Services



Funds are for the provision of **legal**, **accounting**, **and financial advisory** services (i.e., TA services) intended to help eligible beneficiaries applying for SSBCI capital or for other federal or other jurisdiction programs that support small businesses. Such services include a wide variety of assistance throughout the business life cycle.

A list of example TA services can be found in **Section C.4 of the NOFO**.



Competition Overview – Non-Federal Matching Funds

Non-federal matching funds (also referred to as cost sharing or third-party funds) are not required under the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP; however, applicants are encouraged to demonstrate an ability to leverage additional sources of funding to increase the impact of the award.



Examples of matching fund sources could include **commitments from businesses**, **non-profits, including philanthropic partners**, and the **jurisdiction's own non-federal funds**.

Any proposed matching funds must be:

- ✓ Cash;
- ✓ Included in the project budget; and
- ✓ Available at the time of award, committed to the project, and not encumbered in any way that would preclude their use for the applicant's proposed project.



In-kind contributions are prohibited as match under the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP.





Competition Overview – Non-Federal Matching Funds (cont.)



Applications that can demonstrate how the use of matching funds will be leveraged in conjunction with SSBCI Investing in America SBOP grant funds to make a **significant impact in providing needed TA services** to eligible small businesses **will be prioritized** in the application evaluation criteria. Refer to the **Section E.1** of the NOFO (Budget and Timeline evaluation criterion).



If an applicant proposes matching funds in the project budget, all such funds **must be documented** by a letter of commitment from each provider of the funds, as applicable, that clearly:

- States the amount; and
- States or evidences that the funds are available, committed, and unencumbered.

Matching funds that do not have corresponding letters of commitment will not be considered in the application review process. See also Slide 31 of this presentation.



Application Information

Summary of the application elements

	Application Documents
i	Applicant Letter of Designation
ii	Delegation of Authority and Joint Tribal Application Designation Documentation (if applicable)
iii	Program Design and Substance
iv	Budget Narrative (using the budget categories of Form SF-424A "Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs")
V	Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement/Cost Allocation Plan (if applicable)
vi	Form SF-LLL "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" (if applicable)
vii	Assurances of Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements
viii	SSBCI Investing in America SBOP Assurances and Certifications
ix	Other Supporting Documentation (if applicable)



Application Information – Designation Documents

i. Applicant Letter of Designation

The eligible applicant, which may be a specific department, agency, or political subdivision of the relevant jurisdiction, will be required to submit a **designation letter** on official letterhead signed by the governor of the state, mayor of the District of Columbia, or governing official of the territory or Tribal government stating or evidencing that they have designated the eligible applicant to do the actions listed in **Section D.2.b.i.** of the NOFO on behalf of the jurisdiction.

ii. Delegation of Authority and Joint Tribal Application Designation Documentation (if applicable)

If the Authorized Official named in the application has **delegated the authority to another official** of the applicant jurisdiction to certify and electronically sign the application on behalf of the jurisdiction, documentation evidencing the delegation of authority must be submitted to Treasury on official letterhead. In addition, joint Tribal applications require additional information.

The forthcoming application template (which will be posted on Treasury's website) will provide additional information on both requirements.





iii. Program Design and Substance

Description of Program Design and Substance should be a maximum of 15 total pages (12-point font, one-inch margins), including any exhibits or attachments. *Material beyond 15 pages will not be read or considered.*

Content and Structure

Section 1: Executive Summary (up to 1 page) Applicants should include the following:

- 1. Succinct **overview** of the proposed project and activities.
- 2. What the applicant plans to accomplish.
- 3. Summary of the **proposed activities and deliverables.**
- 4. Brief description of the **potential broader impact** of the grant's successful completion.

Section 2: Description of Project Service Area and Potential to Connect Eligible Beneficiaries to Opportunities

Applicants should:

- Describe the project's location and region, including the areas of impact and the targeted participants to be served.
- 2. Describe the service area's **existing resources and assets** to support small businesses, and the **rationale** for the service area's selection.
- Describe the types of business opportunities the project is designed to help eligible beneficiaries access and leverage.
- 4. An **assessment of the needs** of eligible beneficiaries in the project service area in accessing and leveraging the identified opportunities and any **limitations or gaps in coverage.**





Content and Structure

Section 3: Proposed Solution

Applicants should:

- 1. Describe the **proposed solution** and how it **aligns with the needs of the eligible beneficiaries** and **overcomes any limitations or gaps in coverage.**
- 2. Describe how the proposed project will help eligible beneficiaries access, leverage, and scale into identified opportunities.
- 3. Explain how the proposed project supports eligible small business beneficiaries applying for the SSBCI Capital Program, and other programs that support small businesses.
- 4. Describe how the project is **connected to relevant small business programs** and **provide evidence** that demonstrates how the applicant will leverage other existing programs and funding sources.
- 5. Describe how the project will **launch new programming or scale existing programming** aimed at reaching currently eligible beneficiaries that are currently underserved.
- 6. Demonstrate clearly how the project will **create added benefits** for the project service area's VSB and SEDI program infrastructure and **provide data** to support claims.
- 7. Provide **information and data** used to design the proposed project in a way that effectively addresses eligible beneficiaries' needs, particularly **information and data on barriers to capital access** and **how the project will address those needs** to connect beneficiaries to identified opportunities.





Content and Structure

Section 4: Key Partners and Project Support Applicants should:

- 1. Describe **current partner network**, including public and private entities at the national, state, regional, and local level, that will be working on the project.
- 2. **Identify the TA providers** you plan to work with under the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP **or examples of TA providers** that are representative of the network of providers you intend to work with. If target partners are **not** identified, describe your strategy for identification and outreach.
- 3. Describe **partners' roles and responsibilities** on the project and include information about any past collaboration efforts.
- 4. Describe **concrete outreach plans** to engage new partners that will support the project.
- 5. Describe **strategy to reach VSBs and SEDI-owned businesses**, such as regular internal organization meetings to assess project implementation and planned outreach efforts.
- 6. Address the statutory requirement relating to **prioritization of SEDI-owned TA providers**, as set out in the NOFO. For purposes of this requirement, prioritization may be satisfied by having (i) a partnership with one or more SEDI-owned TA providers, or (ii) procurement processes, outreach efforts, and a program design that enables SEDI-owned TA providers to be reached.





Content and Structure

Section 5: Organizational Capacity and Experience Applicants should:

- 1. Articulate the **relevant prior experience** of the applicant and any proposed TA providers.
- 2. Describe the applicant and any proposed TA providers' ability to execute the project.
- 3. If TA providers have not yet been selected, describe the **process for identifying future TA providers**, such as applicants' procurement processes.
- 4. Discuss applicant's **capability to directly implement the TA project** or to **manage subrecipient or contractor** implementation.
- 5. Discuss any subrecipient's or contractor's capability to implement the TA project or to manage the implementation of lower-tier subrecipients or contractors.
- 6. Discuss the **process**, **sources**, **and tools** used in identifying and determining the capability of the TA providers.





Content and Structure

Section 6: Performance Goals and Measures

- Applicants are required to describe the goals of their proposed project and the output, outcome, and impact-based
 performance measures and benchmarks they will use to achieve those goals.
- Applicants' goals must align with the overarching performance goals of the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP award to
 provide TA services to eligible beneficiaries, as described in the overview of this NOFO.
- Applicants' performance measures **must align** with Treasury's minimum performance measures set out below.

Treasury's minimum performance measures

- 1. Number of eligible beneficiaries that received TA services
- 2. 2017 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) for each eligible beneficiary
- 3. Primary purpose of the TA service or TA services provided to each eligible beneficiary
- 4. Identity of each TA provider





Content and Structure

Section 6: Performance Goals and Measures

	Sample output, outcome, and impact-based measures ¹
Output measures	Number of coaching/mentoring sessions delivered by the project
	Number of classroom-style events completed by the project
	Number of referrals of eligible beneficiaries to small business programs
Outcome measures	SSBCI capital applications submitted by eligible beneficiaries participating in the project
	Successful SSBCI capital applications for eligible beneficiaries participating in the project
	Average increase in the revenue of participating eligible beneficiaries
	Additional funding secured or leveraged through the project
Impact-based measures	Jobs created by eligible beneficiaries assisted by the project
	Total amount of debt or equity investments secured by eligible beneficiaries assisted by the project

¹ These are examples only and applicants are not required to include all measures shown.





iv. Budget Narrative

Applicants must:

- Provide a budget narrative using Treasury's budget narrative template, which will be posted on Treasury's website.
- Identify and explain how funds in each line item of the budget will be used to support the
 proposed project. Reviewers will consider whether the budget aligns with the proposed
 project.
- Provide specific justification for all budget categories that apply, including eligible direct cost categories (i.e., personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, supplies, contractual, and other), eligible indirect costs, and program income.
- Explain the necessity, allowability, reasonableness, and allocability of proposed costs in accordance with <u>2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E</u> and other program guidance, including Section D.2.b.iv of the NOFO.





iv. Budget Narrative (cont.)



Each cost category should be treated consistently in like circumstances as direct or indirect costs. Do not **double-count** any costs as both direct and indirect costs.



Do not repeat information provided in the Program Design and Substance section, but provide additional detail needed to understand the amounts allocated to each budget line item.



Clearly identify any non-federal matching funds committed to the proposed project.



Clearly describe any proposed pre-award costs in the budget narrative.



Application Information – Other Documents

v. Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement/Cost Allocation Plan (if applicable)

If indirect costs are proposed in the budget, such costs must be supported by either a current federally approved Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) or, if the applicant does not have a current NICRA and receives less than \$35 million in direct federal funding per year, the applicant may elect to use the de minimis indirect cost rate, 10 percent of modified total direct costs (MTDC), as defined at 2 CFR § 200.414(f).

vi. Form SF-LLL "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" (if applicable)

Form SF-LLL is required for an applicant to disclose any lobbying activities. If an applicant does not have any lobbying activities to disclose, Form SF-LLL is not a required submission.



Application Information – Other Documents

vii. Assurances of Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements

- If approved, recipients must comply with legal requirements related to nondiscrimination and nondiscriminatory use of federal funds, where such laws are applicable to a recipient and any subrecipient or contractor operating program activities on the recipient's behalf.
- All state, D.C., and territory applicants must download, review, and have the Authorized Official sign the assurances of compliance with civil rights requirements form (which will be made available in Treasury's forthcoming portal or on Treasury's website).
- Any state, the District of Columbia, or territory that is recommended for funding under this NOFO will be required to undergo a Title VI of the Civil Rights Act pre-award compliance review before being funded and be required to complete a Title VI Narrative form that will be separately provided by Treasury.
 - ✓ Applicants may, but are not required, to submit a Title VI Narrative form with the application.





Application Information – Other Documents (cont.)

viii. SSBCI Investing in America SBOP Assurances and Certifications

All applicants must review, sign, and submit the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP Assurances and Certifications which will be included with the application and will become part of the grant agreement.

ix. a. Letter(s) of Matching Funds Commitment (if applicable)

If matching funds are proposed in the project budget, they must be documented by a letter of commitment from each provider of the funds, as applicable, that clearly:

- ✓ States the amount; and
- ✓ States or evidences that the funds are available, committed, and unencumbered.



Matching funds that do not have corresponding letters of commitment will not be considered in the application review process.



Application Information – Other Documents (cont.)

ix. b. Optional Programmatic Supporting Documentation – Letters of Regional Coordination and/or Letters of Partnership

Applicants may provide documents that substantiate elements of their application and their ability to successfully execute the project. These documents may include:

- ✓ Letters from other jurisdictions, including municipalities, demonstrating a plan to coordinate on a regional approach (as consistent with NOFO Section C.1); and
- ✓ Letters of **partnership support**, which detail the specific roles and responsibilities of engaged project partners





Application Submission

SAM.gov registration:

- All applicants must be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM) and provide a valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) in the application. Applicants may visit <u>SAM.gov</u> to complete the registration and obtain an UEI.
- If you have already registered on SAM.gov, please log on to SAM.gov and confirm that your registration is active with current information and that a UEI has been assigned to the applicant.
- Please also see Section D.3 of the NOFO for more information on UEI requirements and SAM.gov.

Creating an ID.me account for Treasury Portal access:

- An applicant must create an ID.me account to apply through Treasury's Portal under the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP.
- To get started, visit Treasury's ID.me "Create Account" page.



Application Submission Portal



Applications must be submitted through Treasury's forthcoming Portal, which will be available at https://portal.treasury.gov/cares/s/ssbci-home-page.



Treasury will not accept paper, facsimile, or e-mail transmissions of applications unless the means of alternate submission has been approved in writing by Treasury prior to the application deadline.



For technical support with Treasury's Portal, please e-mail <u>SSBCI_information@treasury.gov</u>.





Evaluation Criteria

- Submitted applications will be reviewed and scored competitively against 4 main criteria.
- Each criterion is given a weight, based on the points listed.
- Merit reviewers will respond to prompts for the scoring factors under each criterion by indicating the extent to which they agree with the statement as it applies to the application, from "strongly disagree" (1 point) to "strongly agree" (5 points).





Evaluation Criteria (cont.)

Scoring factors for reviewers to consider

Proposed Goals and Proposed Solutions (40 points total)		
To what extent do you agree that the application identifies specific TA opportunities to connect businesses to capital needed to participate in an existing economic development cluster or to participate in manufacturing, supply chain, or contracting opportunities, particularly including opportunities generated by recent federal legislation?	15 points	
To what extent do you agree that the application's outreach strategy and partners credibly address the opportunities identified?	10 points	
To what extent do you agree that the application effectively provides TA for SEDI-owned businesses and VSBs and identifies how the proposed project will improve outcomes from prior efforts to increase such businesses' ability to secure financing and business opportunities	10 points	
To what extent do you agree that the application includes high-quality existing or proposed collaborations with project partners, which may include other jurisdictions, cities, or other political subdivisions, educational institutions, community-serving organizations, and industry stakeholders (e.g., companies, suppliers, and service providers)	5 points	



Evaluation Criteria (cont.)

Scoring factors for reviewers to consider

Organizational Capacity (30 points total)		
To what extent do you agree that the applicant and TA providers have the capacity to execute the plan presented?	20 points	
To what extent do you agree that the TA providers have the capacity to provide services in a linguistically and culturally relevant manner?	10 points	

Budget and Timeline (25 points total)		
To what extent do you agree that the budget line items appear to be reasonable, allowable, and allocable to the proposed project?	5 points	
To what extent do you agree that the budget narrative appears to be feasible and aligns with the activities described in the Program Design and Substance section of the application?	10 points	
To what extent do you agree that the application is supported by leveraged public or private matching fund commitments that will contribute to successful outcomes and project long-term sustainability?	10 points	





Evaluation Criteria (cont.)

Scoring factors for reviewers to consider

Project Reach (10 points total)

To what extent do you agree that the proposed project will result in a regional economic benefit beyond the reach of the applicant's standard jurisdiction?

10 points





Review and Selection Process

Eligibility & Completeness Review

- Applications from ineligible > entities will not be considered
- Incomplete applications may be deemed nonresponsive

Merit Review

- Merit reviewers will evaluate applications against the evaluation criteria
- Each application will be reviewed by at least 3 merit reviewers

Senior Leadership Review

- Highly ranked applications will be forwarded to seniorranking federal employees
- Senior leadership may determine not to recommend a high-ranking application based on the results of the risk review

Chief Program Officer's Selection

 All final award decisions are anticipated to be made by the Chief Program Officer of Treasury's Office of Recovery Programs or delegate **Due Diligence**

Applicants preliminarily identified to receive grant funding may be required to complete certain due diligence requirements

Clarification from applicants

Throughout the review and selection process, Treasury reserves the right to seek clarification from applicants whose applications are being reviewed. Treasury may ask applicants to clarify application materials, objectives, and scope of work, or modify budgets or other specifics necessary to comply with federal requirements and the amount of available funding.

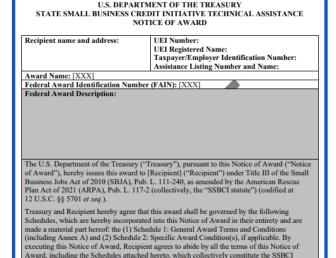




Notice of Award



 If an application is selected for funding, Treasury will issue a Notice of Award (NoA) document that includes the award terms and conditions and any special award conditions applicable to the award, including any specific conditions imposed on the recipient's award because of a pre-award risk assessment.



This Notice of Award constitutes an offer of a federal award. To officially accept the award, follow the instructions provided to electronically sign the Notice of Award and submit it to

Treasury within 15 calendar days of the date of receipt. Failure to electronically sign and submit the Notice of Award within the 15-day award acceptance period may result in the SSBCI TA

Technical Assistance (TA) Grant Agreement.

U.S. Department of the Treasury

Title: [XX]

Authorized Representative: [XX]

Date signed (Federal Award Date): [XX]

award being withdrawn without additional notification.





Authorized Representative: [XX]

[Recipient]

Title: [XX]

Date signed: [XX]

Notice of Award (cont.)

- The applicant's Authorized Representative must review and accept the award agreement without modification within the specified timeframe indicated in the NoA. Otherwise, Treasury may irrevocably withdraw the grant without any additional notification to the applicant.
- If an applicant is awarded funding, Treasury is not under any obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with the award or to make any future awards. Amendment or renewal of an award to increase the grant funding or to extend the period of performance is at the discretion of Treasury.



Award Notification



It is anticipated that awards will be announced in or after summer 2024.

Award notification will be sent electronically via email.





Treasury will provide **written notice** to all applicants informing them whether their application was selected for funding.





All award decisions are **final** and <u>not</u> subject to appeal.



Upcoming Events to Note



Winter 2023/2024 – We intend to host application webinars and portal demos to discuss the application package and how to submit applications via the Treasury Portal.



Winter/Spring 2024 – We intend to host office hours sessions to respond to questions on the application package and portal submission.



Dates and times for the events above will be shared with jurisdictions and interested parties/stakeholders in advance and a registration link provided.



Resources/References

SSBCI Investing in America SBOP

- Competitive NOFO
- Assistance Listing 21.034
- ➤ Authorizing Authority: The statutory authority for the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP is section 3009(e)(1) of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 (SSBCI statute), as added by section 3301(d) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) and codified at 12 U.S.C. § 5708(e)(1)
- > Appropriation Authority: This program is funded by section 3301(a)(2) of ARPA.
- Additional Resources:
 - SSBCI Capital Program Policy Guidelines
 - Technical Assistance Grant Program Reporting Guidance
 - <u>2 CFR § 200</u> Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards





Q&A Session

- Please submit relevant questions using the meeting chat feature.
- In case we are unable to answer all questions, or if you have a follow-up question, please email <u>SSBCI Information@treasury.gov</u> with the subject line <u>SSBCI Investing in America SBOP</u>.
- Questions related to the strategic aspects of project creation cannot be answered during the application stage, out of fairness to all applicants. We anticipate addressing common questions via publication of FAQs on Treasury's website.



