

## Grant and Funding Availability Notification

Empire State Development (“ESD”) is issuing a Request for Proposal (“RFP”) and is inviting **federally-certified Community Development Financial Institutions\*** (“CDFIs”) to submit proposals for funding assistance through the CDFI Assistance Program. (“The Program”) The Program awards grants to help strengthen organization’s ability to serve minority and women-owned businesses and women entrepreneurs (“M\WBEs”) and small businesses. Award opportunities will be used in the areas of loan capital, loan loss reserve, institutional capacity and technical services.

ESD will carefully evaluate proposals in terms of the applicant’s performance in meeting the goals and reporting requirements established under any previous Program agreements with ESD. ESD may choose not to consider proposals from organizations that are not in compliance with the reporting requirements of previous Program agreements. ESD will consider an applicant’s funding needs in light of any funding they may have received through other ESD programs. ESD’s awards will also be weighed according to the CDFI’s lending pool size, performance, reach and impact in the M\WBE and small business community, as well as recent organizational growth or innovation. Read the entire RFP carefully before beginning work on a proposal, and take care to address requests for information contained herein. Full program details are available in the RFP.

Questions associated with this RFP must be submitted in writing to Ms. Marion Samuels, Director, Community Development Programs at [msamuels@esd.ny.gov](mailto:msamuels@esd.ny.gov). Common questions and answers will be posted on the Frequently Asked Questions sheet, which you may access from the link below. No phone calls please.

ESD will be hosting a conference and/or webinar to describe the Program and answer questions about the RFP. Date to be announced shortly, please refer to this Frequently Asked Questions link for details

**Three unbound** copies of the completed proposal for funding **MUST BE RECEIVED** by Tuesday, **December 11, 2012 at 4:00 PM** and should be sent to:

Empire State Development Corporation  
633 Third Avenue, 33<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10017-6754  
Attn.: Marion Samuels, Director, Community Development Programs  
CDFI Assistance Program Round 14 RFP

*To download a copy of the RFP, go to links below:*

[Request for Proposals CDFI Round 14 RFP](#)

[RFP Exhibits](#)

[MWBE/EEO Participation](#)

## [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

### **Contact Information**

Questions associated with this RFP must be submitted in writing to Ms. Marion Samuels, Director, Community Development Programs at [msamuels@esd.ny.gov](mailto:msamuels@esd.ny.gov)

\*If your organization is interested in becoming a federally certified CDFI, please visit the U.S. Treasury website at [www.cdfifund.gov](http://www.cdfifund.gov) for additional information.

For general questions, please contact your local ESD Regional Office:

<http://www.esd.ny.gov/regionaloverviews.html>

For individual assistance on accessing a wide range of small business support services available throughout New York State, please contact the Division directly at 800-STATE-NY or 518-292-5220. For additional information, please visit the NYS Small Business Resource Center at <http://www.esd.ny.gov/SmallBusiness.html> or [www.NYFirst.ny.gov](http://www.NYFirst.ny.gov)