

# Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

<p><b>Program Overview</b></p>	<p>The CSBG program is a federal anti-poverty program administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. CSBG funds provide assistance to local communities, working through a network of community action agencies and other neighborhood organizations, for the reduction of poverty, the revitalization of low-income communities, and the empowerment of low-income families and individuals, to become fully self-sufficient.</p> <p>In Oregon, the CSBG Program funds a portion of the administrative and program activities of Community Action Agencies. These organizations typically coordinate and administer a variety of services to assist low-income Oregonians within their own communities, in both rural and urban areas of Oregon, and serve as key partners to Oregon Housing and Community Services.</p> <p>Beneficiaries of CSBG-supported programs are low-income individuals and families (at or below 125 percent of the federal poverty level).</p>
<p><b>Program Funding</b></p>	<p>Oregon allots 90 percent of its annual CSBG funding to local eligible entities (17 Community Action Agencies and one statewide farmworker organization) that meet the requirements of Section 675 c (2)(A)(I) of the Community Services Block Grant Act. The remaining ten percent is divided equally for state administrative costs and discretionary spending.</p> <p>Federal grant amounts are determined by a formula. Grantees receiving CSBG funds are required to provide services and activities addressing: employment, education, self-sufficiency, housing, nutrition, healthcare, emergency services, and youth or elderly-based initiatives.</p>
<p><b>CSBG goals nationally include:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help low-income people become more self-sufficient;</li> <li>• Improve conditions for low-income households;</li> <li>• Help low-income people own a stake in their communities;</li> <li>• Coordinate local services and providers assisting low-income households;</li> <li>• Help increase Community Action Agencies' (CAA) ability to achieve results;</li> <li>• Help low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening families and creating supportive environments.</li> </ul> <p>These goals are the principles of Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA), a performance-based initiative designed to preserve the anti-poverty focus of community action and to promote greater effectiveness among state and local agencies receiving CSBG funds.</p>
<p><b>CSBG State Plan</b></p>	<p>OHCS annually submits a CSBG State Plan Application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, and Office of Community Services (based on availability of funds). State plans must go before a public hearing before submission. Once approved by the Office of Community Services, the current state plan is available for viewing on the OHCS website.</p>