

(2) *Certification*: For purposes of this Technical Assistance Component NOFA, eligible applicants consist of:

- (i) Certified CDFIs whose certifications expire after June 30, 2003;
- (ii) Entities that submit complete applications evidencing CDFI certification prior to or simultaneous with applications under this NOFA; or
- (iii) Entities that demonstrate in their certification applications that, in the judgment of the Fund, they have reasonable plans to become certified CDFIs by January 31, 2005 (for applications received by May 31, 2003) or by January 31, 2006 (for applications received between June 1, 2003 and May 31, 2004). Applicants must be certified by the applicable date. Applicants may obtain CDFI certification applications through the Fund's Web site at <http://www.cdfifund.gov>.

(3) *Previous Awardees*: Applicants must be aware that success in a previous round of the CDFI Program or the Native American CDFI Technical Assistance ("NACTA") Program is not indicative of success under this NOFA. Previous awardees are eligible to apply under this NOFA, except as follows:

(a) Any entity that has received a Notice of Award from the Fund for a previous CDFI Program or NACTA Program funding round, but that has not submitted a CDFI certification application nor been certified as a CDFI, is not eligible to receive funding under this NOFA (see Certification section, above);

(b) The Fund is generally prohibited from obligating more than \$5 million in assistance, in the aggregate, to any one organization and its Subsidiaries and Affiliates during any three-year period (further guidance on the calculation of the \$5 million cap is available on the Fund's Web site at <http://www.cdfifund.gov>);

(c) The Fund will not consider an application submitted by an applicant that is a previous Fund awardee under any Fund program or component of the CDFI Program if the applicant has failed to meet its reporting requirements, set forth in a previously executed assistance or award agreement(s), as of the date an application for funding under this NOFA is received by the Fund; and

(d) The Fund will not consider an application submitted by an applicant that is a previous Fund awardee under any Fund program or component of the CDFI Program that has a balance of undisbursed funds under said previous award, as of the date an application for funding under this NOFA is received by the CDFI Fund. Accordingly, applicants that are previous awardees are advised to:

(i) Submit all required reports by the deadlines specified in the assistance or award agreements governing said prior awards and to comply with all requirements found therein, and

(ii) Contact the appropriate Program Operations representative of the Fund to ensure that all necessary actions are underway for the disbursement of any outstanding balance of said prior award. In addition, in order to focus its resources on applicants that are most in need of TA awards, the Fund does not expect to make awards under this NOFA to any entity that has received Fund awards under the CDFI Program or the NACTA Program in excess of \$250,000, in the aggregate.

(4) *Serving a Native American, Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian community*: For the purposes of this NOFA, the Fund will determine, in its sole discretion, that an applicant serves a Native American, Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian community if greater than 50 percent of its historic and projected activities benefit Native American, Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian individuals.

(5) *Designation of Targeted Population*: For purposes of this NOFA, the Fund will use the following definitions, set forth in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Notice, Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity (October 30, 1997):

(a) American Indian, Native American or Alaska Native: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment; and

(b) Native Hawaiian: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii.

II. Types of Assistance

An applicant may only submit an application for a TA grant under this NOFA. The Fund reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to provide a TA grant for uses other than that which is requested by an applicant.

Applicants for TA grants under this NOFA shall describe the type(s) of TA requested, when the TA will be acquired, the provider(s) of the TA, the cost of the TA, and a narrative description of how the TA will enhance their community development impact. Eligible types of TA grant uses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) Acquiring consulting services;
- (2) Paying staff salary for the limited purposes of completing tasks and/or fulfilling functions that are otherwise eligible TA grant uses under this NOFA;

(3) Acquiring/enhancing technology items; and

(4) Acquiring training for staff or management.

The Fund will generally not consider requests for TA grants under this NOFA for expenses that, in the determination of the Fund, are deemed to be ongoing operating expenses rather than non-recurring expenses. The Fund will consider requests for use of TA to pay for staff salary only when the applicant demonstrates, to the Fund's satisfaction, that:

(i) The staff salary relates directly to building the applicant's capacity to serve its target market;

(ii) The proposed staff time to be paid for by the TA grant will be used for a non-recurring activity that will build the applicant's capacity to achieve its objectives as set forth in its application;

(iii) The proposed capacity-building activity would otherwise be contracted to a consultant or not be undertaken; and

(iv) The staff person assigned to the proposed task has the competence to successfully complete the activity. The Fund may consider funding requests for other staff salary uses, deemed appropriate by the Fund in its sole discretion, particularly for applicants that have been in operation 24 months or less as of the date of application. Further guidance on the limited uses of TA grants for staff salary expenditures is available on the Fund's Web site at <http://www.cdfifund.gov>.

III. Application

Applicants under this NOFA must submit all materials described in the applicable application form. An application must include a valid and current Employer Identification Number, issued by the Internal Revenue Service, or the application will be rejected as incomplete and returned to the sender.

IV. Evaluation

For purposes of this NOFA, the Fund will evaluate applications through a merit-based, qualitative application process, as they are submitted and in the order in which they are submitted, until such point as all appropriated funds allocated for this NOFA are obligated or May 31, 2004, whichever occurs first. Applications submitted after that point will not be considered for funding; said applications will be rejected and returned to the sender.

All applications will be reviewed for eligibility and completeness. If determined to be eligible and complete, the Fund will conduct the substantive review of each application in