



**FREQUENTLY ASKED
QUESTIONS (FAQ's)
on Congressionally Directed
Spending (CDS)**



1. When does the next CDS process kick off?

The Senate is expected to begin consideration of FY25 appropriations bills in the spring of 2024. Deadlines from the various members of Congress vary. CDS applications submissions do typically occur in the spring. WCA will keep you posted on when those deadlines are. Do not hesitate to contact the WCA Government Affairs Staff for assistance.



WCA

2. I think this account (Funding Source) may be a good fit for my project. What's next?

WCA staff is available to discuss CDS eligibility requirements, give examples of past successful requests and provide feedback for FY25 CDS requests before submission. We will also work to your members of Congress and with NACo to determine the appropriate funding source for your CDS project. Successful CDS request typically identify an appropriate and eligible funding source.



WCA

3. Can I request funding for “bricks and mortar” projects?

It depends on the funding source. Limited exceptions include the Economic Development Initiative under the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Facilities Construction under the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and Rural Development Community Facilities Grants under the Department of Agriculture (USDA).



WCA

4. Do all accounts have matching requirements?

No. It varies depending on the statutory requirements for each account, which all CDS requests will be expected to meet. In some cases, a local match may be required. Further, the member of Congress who you are working with may expect some local buy in.



5. How important are examples of community engagement?

Demonstrating community support for your project is critical to a successful submission. Support from businesses, stakeholders and community members of interest is critical to successfully having a CDS request fulfilled.

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6. How much funding should I request?

Ultimately, this will vary by account. WCA can provide examples of past successful requests and help provide guidance on an appropriate range. Generally, you should not request more assistance than you need or can realistically be provided.



7. If my project is funded, will I receive the full amount I requested?

It depends on the availability of funding and competitiveness of the project requests in each account. There are circumstances where you may receive a portion of the requested amount. Our goal at WCA is to maximize the return on our dollars from Washington DC. If partial funding is offered, we do view that as a win.



WCA

8. Should I submit my request to multiple members of the Wisconsin delegation?

We encourage you to submit project requests to each of your delegation offices and reach out to other members in the Congressional delegation for more information on their submission process. WCA will work with you to determine the appropriate members of Congress for you to submit your CDS request.



9. How do members choose which projects to submit?

The process prioritizes requests that fulfill each federal requirement and provides strong justifications on the need for federal funding. We anticipate the CDS process to be very competitive. Members of the Wisconsin delegation will likely receive many more eligible and worthy requests for funding than they can ultimately support.



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10. If a member of the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation submits my request, will it be approved? When will I know?

We are expecting the overall the CDS process to be very competitive. Therefore, we can't be certain that submissions will be included in appropriations legislation ultimately signed into law. Having a member of Congress submit your request does dramatically improve the odds of having that request fulfilled. We encourage you to explore other funding sources in addition to your CDS request and WCA staff is available to help. WCA is always happy to discuss additional federal funding, resources, and opportunities.



WCA

11. What if I miss a member of Congress's CDS submission deadline?

Given that there is very limited time to consider requests before final submission to the Committees are due, most members of the Wisconsin delegation will likely not be able to accept requests after their deadline. Deadlines for the submission of CDS projects to be appropriated in 2024 and funded in FY 2025 will be in the first few months of 2024. WCA will keep you posted on which members of the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation are accepting CDS applications and with the deadlines for submission are.