

OFFICE OF
SOCIOECONOMIC
AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
ODSEC



DRAFT

**PUERTO RICO STATE PLAN
COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT
(CSBG)
FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025**





ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
 Office of Community Services

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

State Plan

CSBG Cover Page (SF-424M)

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THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13): Through this information collection, ACF is gathering information about planned activities related to and funded by CSBG for the upcoming fiscal year. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 31 hours per grantee, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and reviewing the collection of information. This is a mandatory collection of information (Sec. 676, Pub. L. 105-285, 112 Stat. 2735 (42 U.S.C. § 9908)). An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB # is 0970-0382 and the expiration date is 08/31/2024. If you have any comments on this collection of information, please contact M. Monique Alcantara at melania.alcantara@acf.hhs.gov.

Instructions

The CSBG State Plan is currently under review through the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) clearance per the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. OCS created this fillable form as a tool for CSBG grantees as they plan for the administration of CSBG for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. CSBG grantees can use this tool for planning purposes including, but not limited to: consultation with stakeholders, and meeting public and legislative hearing requirements (Section 676(a)(2)(B) and Section 676(a)(3) of the CSBG Act).

Once the CSBG State Plan receives clearance through OMB and the CSBG State Plan is available through GrantSolutions.gov, CSBG grantees may copy and paste their answers into the online form.

This form allows for the following types of responses:

☐ **Checkbox** – Select the box to choose an option.

Choose an item. **Dropdowns** – Select the box, and then click the down arrow that appears to select an available option.

Click or tap to enter a date. **Date Picker:** Select the box, and then click the down arrow that appears to select an available option.

Click or tap here to enter text. **Narrative Text Field (No Characters Limit).** Click the box to start entering text.

Narrative Text Field (Character Limit). Start typing within the gray square to enter text. These fields only allow for a certain character limit as described in the [blue](#) instructive text.

Tables: Some tables allow you to add additional rows as needed. To add a row within this form: place your cursor within any column of the table, and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row.

- For the purposes of this form, tables 5.1, 7.2, and 10.1 allows you to add rows. However, within OLDC, you will be unable to add or delete rows and Column 1 of each table will be read-only.

Please note: There is no requirement for CSBG grantees to use this tool. This tool cannot be submitted in lieu of the CSBG State Plan within GrantSolutions.gov neither can this tool be attached within GrantSolutions.gov as the official submission.

SECTION 1: CSBG Administrative Information

1.1. Identify whether this is a one-year or a two-year plan. Choose an item.

1.1a. Provide the federal fiscal years this plan covers: **Year One** 2024
Year Two Choose an item.

GUIDANCE: If a state indicates “One-Year” under 1.1., they will only have to provide a response for “Year One”.

1.2. Lead Agency and Authorized Official: Update the following information in relation to the lead agency and authorized official designated to administer CSBG in the state, as required by Section 676(a) of the CSBG Act. Information should reflect the responses provided in the Application for Federal Assistance, SF-424M.

Has information regarding the state lead agency and authorized official changed since the last submission of the State Plan? ☐ Yes ☐ No No

If yes, select the fields that have changed. [\[Check all the apply\]](#)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lead Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Department Type | <input type="checkbox"/> Department Name |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Authorized Official | <input type="checkbox"/> Street Address | <input type="checkbox"/> City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zip Code | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Number | <input type="checkbox"/> Fax Number |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Website | |

1.2a. Lead agency [\[Narrative, 150 Characters\]](#)

GUIDANCE: Please only provide the exact name of the CSBG state lead agency as designated within the designation letter and an acronym (as applicable).

EXAMPLE: Office of Community Services (OCS)

1.2b. Cabinet or administrative department of this lead agency [\[Check one and provide a narrative where applicable\]](#)

- ☐ Community Affairs Department
- ☐ Community Services Department
- ☐ Governor’s Office
- ☐ Health Department
- ☐ Housing Department
- ☐ Human Services Department
- ☐ Social Services Department
- ☒ Other, describe: Socioeconomic and Community Development Office

1.2c. Cabinet or Administrative Department Name: Provide the name of the cabinet or administrative department of the CSBG authorized official [\[Narrative, 100 Characters\]](#) Office for the Socioeconomic and Community Development

- 1.2d. Authorized Official of the Lead Agency:** The authorized official could be the director, secretary, commissioner etc. as assigned in the designation letter (attached under item 1.3.). The authorized official is the person indicated as the authorized representative on the SF-424M and the official recipient of the Notice of Award per Office of Grant Management requirements. [\[Narrative, 50 characters each\]](#)

Name Thais M. Reyes Serrano, Esq.

Title Executive Director

- 1.2e. Street Address** [\[Narrative, 200 characters\]](#) 1208 Ave. Roosevelt
- 1.2f. City** [\[Narrative, 50 characters\]](#) San Juan
- 1.2g. State** [\[Dropdown\]](#) Puerto Rico
- 1.2h. Zip Code** [\[Numerical Response, 5 digits\]](#) 00920
- 1.2i. Telephone Number** [\[Numerical Response, 10-15 digits\]](#) 787-977-7060
- 1.2j. Fax Number** [\[Numerical Response, 10 digits\]](#) 787-977-7058
- 1.2k. Email Address** [\[Narrative, 150 characters\]](#) treyes@odsec.pr.gov
- 1.2l. Lead Agency Website** [\[Narrative, 200 characters\]](#) N/A

Note: Item 1.2. pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item A.1.

- 1.3. Designation Letter:** Attach the state's official CSBG designation letter. A new designation letter is required if the chief executive officer of the state and/or designated agency has changed. [\[Attach a document.\]](#)

GUIDANCE: The designation letter should be updated whenever there is a change to the designee.

INSTRUCTIONAL NOTE: The letter should be from the chief executive officer of the state and include, at minimum, the designated state CSBG lead agency (office, department, or bureau) and title of the authorized official of the lead agency who is to administer the CSBG grant award.

- 1.4. CSBG Point of Contact:** Provide the following information in relation to the designated state CSBG point of contact. The state CSBG point of contact should be the person that will be the main point of contact for CSBG within the state.

Has information regarding the state point of contact changed since the last submission of the State Plan? ☐ Yes ☐ No No

If yes, select the fields that have changed. [\[Check all the apply\]](#)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agency Name | <input type="checkbox"/> Point of Contact | <input type="checkbox"/> Street Address | <input type="checkbox"/> City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State | <input type="checkbox"/> Zip Code | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Number | <input type="checkbox"/> Fax Number |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Website | | |

1.4a. Agency Name [\[Narrative, 150 characters\]](#) Socioeconomic and Community Development Office

1.4b. Point of Contact Name [\[Nadia Torres Ortiz\]](#)

Name Nadia Torres Ortiz

Title Special Assistant, CSBG Manager

1.4c. Street Address [\[Office for the Socioeconomic and Community Development\]](#)

1.4d. City [\[San Juan\]](#)

1.4e. State [\[Dropdown\]](#) Puerto Rico

1.4f. Zip Code 00920

1.4g. Telephone Number 787-977-7060 ext. 2018

1.4h. Fax Number N/A

1.4i. Email Address nortiz@odsec.pr.gov

1.4j. Agency Website N/A

1.5. Provide the following information in relation to the State Community Action Association.

There is currently a state Community Action Association within the state.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Yes

Has information regarding the state Community Action Association changed since the last submission of the State Plan?

☐ Yes ☐ No

No

If yes, select the fields that have changed. [\[Check all the apply\]](#)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agency Name | <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Street Address | <input type="checkbox"/> City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State | <input type="checkbox"/> Zip Code | <input type="checkbox"/> Office Number | <input type="checkbox"/> Fax Number |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Website | <input type="checkbox"/> RPIC Lead | |

1.5a. Agency name [\[Narrative, 150 characters\]](#) Association of Community Agencies of Puerto Rico (PRCAA)

1.5b. Executive Director or Point of Contact [\[Narrative, 50 characters each\]](#)

Name Normary Silva-Soto

Title Executive Director

1.5c. Street Address [\[Narrative, 200 characters\]](#) C/17 Final, Jardines de Country Club Antigua Escuela María López Ponce

1.5d. City [\[Narrative, 50 characters\]](#) Carolina

1.5e. State [\[Dropdown\]](#) Puerto Rico

1.5f. Zip Code [\[Numerical Response, 5 digits\]](#) 00983

- 1.5g. Telephone Number** [Numerical Response, 10 – 15 digits] 787-520-5847
- 1.5h. Fax Number** [Numerical Response, 10 digits] N/A
- 1.5i. Email Address** [Narrative, 150 characters] praacasoc@gmail.com
- 1.5j. State Association Website** [Narrative, 200 characters]
<http://www.facebook.com/praccpr>
- 1.5k. State Association currently serves as the Regional Performance Innovation Consortia (RPIC) lead** ☐ Yes ☐ No No

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SECTION 2: State Legislation and Regulation

- 2.1. **CSBG State Legislation:** State has a statute authorizing CSBG. ☐ Yes ☐ No Yes
- 2.2. **CSBG State Regulation:** State has regulations for CSBG. ☐ Yes ☐ No Yes
- 2.3. **Legislation/Regulation Document:** Attach the legislation and/or regulations or provide a hyperlink(s) to the documents indicated under Items 2.1. and/or Item 2.2. [\[Attach a document and/or provide a link, 1500 characters\]](#)

GUIDANCE: The labeling of all attachments should include the question number for which the document provides supplementary information, the question heading, and the type of document provided. As an example, a state statutory document could be labeled as:

2.3. Legislation/Regulation Document, Washington D.C. Statute

- 2.4. **State Authority:** Select a response for each of the following items about the state statute and/or regulations authorizing CSBG:
- 2.4a. **Authorizing Legislation:** State legislature enacted authorizing legislation or amendments to an existing authorizing statute last federal fiscal year. ☐ Yes ☐ No No
- 2.4b. **Regulation Amendments:** State established or amended regulations for CSBG last federal fiscal year. ☐ Yes ☐ No Yes

SECTION 3: State Plan Development and Statewide Goals

3.1. CSBG Lead Agency Mission and Responsibilities: Briefly describe the mission and responsibilities of the state agency that serves as the CSBG lead agency. [\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

As the lead agency, the Office for Socioeconomic and Community Development of Puerto Rico (ODSEC) has the mission and responsibility to collaborate with a network of community services, including eligible entities, community-based organizations, the Association of Puerto Rico Community Action Agencies, and all levels of government. ODSEC's mission is to implement the goals of the CSBG Act by overseeing fund utilization and establishing a comprehensive service delivery system. This system aims to promote economic development, improve quality of life, and foster self-sufficiency among low-income populations.

ODSEC was created with the purpose of:

- a. Foster an inclusive environment among municipalities, nonprofit organizations, and communities.
- b. Simplify, streamline, and standardize processes.
- c. Eliminate duplication of efforts and services.
- d. Enhance service delivery efficiency.
- e. Generate comprehensive statistics on services, beneficiaries, and outcomes.
- f. Improve the management efficiency of assigned federal funds.
- g. Promote a government that facilitates rather than paternalizes.
- h. Advance Puerto Rico's socioeconomic development through the organizational strengthening of municipal governments, communities, and nonprofit organizations.

3.2. State Plan Goals: Describe the state's CSBG-specific goals for state administration of CSBG under this State Plan. [\[Narrative, 3000 characters\]](#)

The CSBG-specific goals under the Puerto Rico State Plan have been designed to align ODSEC's strategic initiatives with the three CSBG National Goals, and the agency tailored Theory of Change. The main objectives are to diminish the effects of poverty, enhance the quality of life for low-income families, foster community integration and participation in gathering feedback for better implementation of the Puerto Rico State Plan. Additionally, ODSEC aims to strengthen its capacity through strategic partnerships with eligible entities and community organizations. The specific goals are as follows:

- 1) Develop and implement strategies that address the needs of low-income individuals as identified in the State Needs Assessment. Implement Law 84-2021, the "Public Policy Act to Combat Child Poverty and Social Inequality," which mandates that the government, its entities, municipalities, legislative, and judicial

branches develop and implement strategies to reduce child poverty and social inequality in Puerto Rico by fifty percent (50%) by 2032. The progress of this initiative will be measured every three years by analyzing and comparing holistic social determinants of health.

2) Implement the "Community Leaders Training Academy" to train leaders who can organize their communities to work together to address local issues. The academy will equip participants with the tools to become agents of change, fostering sustainable development in disadvantaged communities. Success will be measured by the increase in organized low-income communities.

3) Expand the network of eligible entities in Puerto Rico to better serve low-income individuals and families in underserved areas.

4) Collaborate with the Labor Development Program (PDL) under the WIAO ACT and the MOU between ODSEC and PDL to provide job training for low-income individuals, promoting their economic development, self-sustainability, and integration into the workforce.

5) Establish new alliances with public and private sectors to maximize resources, avoid duplication of efforts, and promote collaboration with eligible entities and other state initiatives.

6) Implement a data analysis system to address state needs more directly and effectively, particularly in training and technical assistance.

7) Provide training and technical assistance to ensure eligible entities meet federal organizational standards, aiming for a minimum compliance rate of 60%. This will be measured through audits and evaluation reports.

8) Distribute funds promptly and in accordance with federal and state regulations, by maintaining and analyzing annual metrics of disbursements.

9) Monitor compliance with the Corrective Action Plans of eligible entities in accordance with the monitoring results conducted during the previous year.

10) Offer technical assistance to eligible entities to enhance their performance and ensure compliance with all state and federal requirements. This will be measured through ongoing monitoring and performance evaluations of entities.

GUIDANCE: States should consider feedback from OCS, their eligible entities, and the ACSI survey completed by eligible entities when creating their State Plan goals.

Instructional Note: For examples of "goals," see State Accountability Measure 1Sa(i).

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 1Sa(i) and pre-populates the state's Annual Report, Module 1, Item B.1.

3.3. State Plan Development: Indicate the information and input the state accessed to develop this State Plan.

3.3a. Analysis of state-level tools [Check all that applies and provide additional information where applicable]

- ☒ State Performance Indicators and/or National Performance Indicators (NPIs)
- ☒ U.S. Census data
- ☒ State Performance Management Data (e.g., accountability measures, ACSI survey information, and/or other information from annual reports)
- ☒ Monitoring Visits/Assessments
- ☒ Tools Not Identified Above (specify) [Narrative, 500 characters]

It must be directed to the Needs Study where the population, geographical area, and the need and/or problem that must be addressed are delimited. Among the prominent populations are children, youth and the elderly.

3.3b. Analysis of local-level tools [Check all that applies and provide additional information where applicable]

- ☒ Eligible Entity Community Needs Assessments
- ☒ Eligible Entity Community Action Plans
- ☐ Public Hearings/Workshops
- ☒ Tools Not Identified Above (e.g., state required reports) [specify] [Narrative, 500 characters]

3.3c. Consultation with [Check all that applies and provide additional information where applicable]

- ☒ Eligible Entities (e.g., meetings, conferences, webinars; not including the public hearing)
- ☒ State Association
- ☒ National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP)
- ☐ Community Action Partnership (NCAP)
- ☐ Community Action Program Legal Services (CAPLAW)
- ☐ CSBG Tribal Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) provider
- ☐ Regional Performance Innovation Consortium (RPIC)
- ☐ Association for Nationally Certified ROMA Trainers (ANCRT)
- ☒ Federal CSBG Office
- ☐ Organizations not identified above (specify) [Narrative, 500 characters]

See Memorandum CSBG Num. 02-2023

3.4. Eligible Entity Involvement

3.4a. State Plan Development: Describe the specific steps the state took in developing the State Plan to involve the eligible entities. [\[Narrative, 3000 Characters\]](#)

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 1Sa(ii) and may pre-populate the state's annual report form.

3.4b. Performance Management Adjustment: Describe how the state has adjusted its State Plan development procedures under this State Plan, as compared to previous State Plans, in order to 1) encourage eligible entity participation and 2) ensure the State Plan reflects input from eligible entities? Any adjustment should be based on the state's analysis of past performance in these areas, and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any adjustments, provide further detail. [\[Narrative, 3000 Characters\]](#)

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 1Sb(i) and (ii) and pre-populate the Annual Report, Module 1, Item B.1.

The State will build on the changes implemented last year, which included sending a memorandum to eligible entities requesting their comments and recommendations as a contractual requirement. This year, to further encourage citizen participation, we will provide more time for public comments and announce the public hearing well in advance, following the recommendations of the OCS. We will also leverage social media to increase awareness and participation in public hearings.

3.5. Eligible Entity Overall Satisfaction: Provide the state's target for eligible entity Overall Satisfaction during the performance period. 40 **Year One** x **Year Two**

Instructional Note: The state's target score will indicate improvement or maintenance of the states' Overall Satisfaction score from the most recent American Customer Survey Index (ACSI) survey of the state's eligible entities.

Note: Item 3.5 is associated with State Accountability Measure 8S and may pre-populate the state's annual report form.

GUIDANCE: The targets reported here should match the future target set in the Annual Report, Section B, Table B.2.

GUIDANCE: Review the [ACSI IM](#) about setting targets for your eligible entity overall satisfaction that are realistic, reasonable, attainable, and possible.

SECTION 4: CSBG Hearing Requirements

- 4.1. Public Inspection:** Describe the steps taken by the state to disseminate this State Plan to the public for review and comments prior to the public hearing, as required under Section 676(e)(2) of the Act. [\[Narrative, 2500 Characters\]](#)

GUIDANCE: Under this question, detail how the state provided the State Plan to the public, including providing sufficient time (ideally no fewer than 30 days) for the public to provide feedback prior to the public hearing. Distribution to the public should include distribution directly to the eligible entities (e.g. via email or publication on a public website with specific notification to the eligible entities) in the state as well as any other interested parties.

- 4.2. Public Notice/Hearing:** Describe how the state ensured there was sufficient time and statewide distribution of notice of the public hearing(s) to allow the public to comment on the State Plan, as required under 676(a)(2)(B) of the CSBG Act. [\[Narrative, 2500 Characters\]](#)

- 4.3. Public and Legislative Hearings:** In the table below, specify the date(s) and location(s) of the public and legislative hearing(s) held by the designated lead agency for this State Plan, as required under Section 676(a)(2)(B) and Section 676(a)(3) of the Act.

Instructional Note: A public hearing is required for each new submission of the State Plan. The date(s) for the public hearing(s) must have occurred in the year prior to the first federal fiscal year covered by this plan. Legislative hearings are held at least every three years, and must have occurred within the last three years prior to the first federal fiscal year covered by this plan.

Date <i>[Select a Date]</i>	Location <i>[Provide the facility and city – Narrative 100 characters]</i>	Type of Hearing <i>[Select an option]</i>	If a Combined Hearing was held confirmed that the public was invited.
Click or tap to enter a date.		Choose an item.	<input type="checkbox"/>

NOTE: ADD-A-ROW function – States can add rows as needed for each hearing as needed. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row.

GUIDANCE: A combined hearing refers to having one joint public and legislative hearing.

- 4.4.** Attach supporting documentation or a hyperlink for the public and legislative hearings.
[Attach supporting documentation or provide a hyperlink(s), 500 characters]

GUIDANCE: Supporting documentation may include, but is not limited to, agendas, sign-in sheets, transcripts, and notices/advertisements of the hearings. All attachments should include the question number, question heading, type of document and the date of the hearing/meeting (as applicable).

EXAMPLE NAMING CONVENTION: 4.4. Public and Legislative Hearings Agenda 062117

SECTION 5: CSBG Eligible Entities

5.1. CSBG Eligible Entities: In the table below, indicate whether each eligible entity in the state is public or private, the type(s) of entity, and the geographical area served by the entity.

CSBG Eligible Entity		Geographical Area Served (by county) [Provide all counties]	Public or Nonprofit	Type of Entity [Choose all that apply]
Click or tap here to enter text.			Choose an item.	Choose an item.
¹	Acción Social de Puerto Rico, Inc.	Island Wide - Puerto Rico (except Bayamon and San Juan Municipalities)	Non-Profit	Community Action Agency
²	Instituto Socioeconómico Comunitario, Inc.	Island Wide - Puerto Rico (except Bayamón and San Juan Municipalities)	Non-Profit	Community Action Agency
³	Municipality of Bayamon	Bayamon	Public	Community Action Agency
⁴	Municipality of San Juan	Municipality of San Juan	Public	Community Action Agency

NOTE: WITHIN OLDC, you will not be able to add-a-row. Any additions/deletions to the Eligible Entity List should be made within the CSBG Eligible Entity List within OLDC prior to initializing a new CSBG State Plan within OLDC. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row. Geographical Area Served allows for 550 characters.

Note: Table 5.1. pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Table C.1.

GUIDANCE: Under *Type of Entity*, select more than one type by holding down the CTRL key while making selections.

NOTE: Whether nonprofit or public, entities that receive CSBG funds are generally considered to be Community Action Agencies for the purpose of administering CSBG. The only specific exceptions outlined in the CSBG Act are Limited Purpose Agencies, Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker organizations, and Tribes and Tribal Organizations

INSTRUCTIONAL NOTE: Limited Purpose Agency refers to an eligible entity that was designated as a limited purpose agency under Title II of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 for fiscal year 1981, that served the general purposes of a community action agency under Title II of the Economic Opportunity Act, that did not lose its designation as a limited purpose agency under Title II of the Economic Opportunity Act as a result of failure to comply with that Act and that has not lost its designation as an eligible entity under the CSBG Act.

INSTRUCTIONAL NOTE: 90 percent funds are the funds a state provides to eligible entities to carry out the purposes of the CSBG Act. As described under Section

675C of the CSBG Act, a state must provide to the eligible entities “not less than 90 percent” of their CSBG allocation “made available to a state under Section 675A or 675B.

5.2. Total number of CSBG eligible entities: 4

[Within OLDC, this will automatically update based on Table 5.1.]

5.3. Changes to Eligible Entities List: Within the tables below, describe any changes that have occurred to the eligible entities within the state since the last federal fiscal Year (FFY), as applicable.

One or more of the following changes were made to the eligible entity list: [\[Check all that apply\]](#).

- ☐ Designation and/or Re-Designation
- ☐ De-Designations and/or Voluntary Relinquishments
- ☐ Mergers
- ☒ No Changes to Eligible Entities List

GUIDANCE: The following three questions will only need to be answered based on your response to 5.3.

5.3a. Designation and Re-Designation: Identify any new entities that have been designated as eligible entities, as defined under Section 676A of the Act, since the last federal fiscal year. Include any eligible entities designated to serve an area previously not served by CSBG as well as any entities designated to replace another eligible entity that was terminated (de-designated) or that voluntarily relinquished its status as a CSBG eligible entity.

CSBG Eligible Entity	Type	Start Date	Geographical Area Served
Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	

NOTE: ADD-A-ROW FUNCTION – states can add rows as needed within OLDC. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row. Geographical Area Served allows for 550 characters.

GUIDANCE: A designation refers to an entity that was not receiving funding in the previous federal fiscal year(s) and/or was not included in the previous CSBG State Plan. Re-designation refers to an entity that is already designated/receiving funds but is now receiving funds to serve an additional geographic area previously served by another entity. A permanent re-designation **must be conducted -in line with procedures outlined in Section 676A of the CSBG Act.** An interim re-designation may be noted when an entity has been identified to provide services after a voluntary relinquishment pending official designation of a permanent entity consistent with the requirements of Section 676A. See CSBG Act 676A, *Designation and Redesignation...*, for more information.

- 5.3b. De-Designations and Voluntary Relinquishments:** Identify any entities that are no longer receiving CSBG funding. Include any eligible entities have been terminated (de-designated) as defined under Section 676(c) and Section 676C of the Act, or voluntarily relinquished their CSBG eligible entity status since the last federal fiscal year.

CSBG Eligible Entity	Reason
Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.

NOTE: ADD-A-ROW FUNCTION – states can add rows as needed within OLDC. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row.

- 5.3c. Mergers:** In the table below, provide information about any mergers or other combinations of two or more eligible entities that were individually listed in the prior State Plan.

Original CSBG Eligible Entities	Surviving CSBG Eligible Entity	New Name (as applicable)	DUNS No.
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

NOTE: ADD-A-ROW FUNCTION – states can add rows as needed within OLDC. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row.

GUIDANCE: This question refers to the merger or other combinations of two or more existing CSBG eligible entities only.

Under 5.3c, please only include two or more **previously designated** eligible entities that have merged or combined in order to provide CSBG services.

SECTION 6: Organizational Standards for Eligible Entities

Note: Reference IM 138, *State Establishment of Organizational Standards for CSBG Eligible Entities*, for more information on Organizational Standards. Click [HERE](#) for IM 138.

6.1. Choice of Standards: Confirm whether the state will implement the CSBG Organizational Standards Center of Excellence (COE) organizational standards (as described in IM 138) or an alternative set during the federal fiscal year(s) of this planning period. [\[Select one\]](#)

- ☒ COE CSBG Organizational Standards
- ☐ Modified Version of COE CSBG Organizational Standards
- ☐ Alternative Set of organizational standards

Note: Item 6.1. pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item D.1.

6.1a. Modified Organizational Standards: In the case that the state is requesting to use modified COE-developed organizational standards, provide the proposed modification for the FFY of this planning period including the rationale.

[\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

6.1b. Alternative Organizational Standards: If using an alternative set of organizational standards, attach the complete list of alternative organizational standards. [\[Attachment \(as applicable\)\]](#)

6.1c. Alternative Organizational Standards: If using an alternative set of organizational standards: 1) provide any changes from the last set provided during the previous State Plan submission; 2) describe the reasons for using alternative standards; and 3) describe how they are at least as rigorous as the COE- developed standards.

☒ There were no changes from the previous State Plan submission [\[If not selected, provide a narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

Provide reason for using alternative standards [\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

Describe rigor compared to COE-developed Standards [\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

6.2. Implementation: Check the box that best describes how the state officially adopted organizational standards for eligible entities in a manner consistent with the state’s administrative procedures act. If “Other” is selected, provide a timeline and additional information, as necessary. [\[Check all that applies and provide a narrative \(as applicable\)\]](#)

- ☒ Regulation
- ☒ Policy
- ☒ Contracts with Eligible Entities
- ☐ Other, describe: [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

6.3. Organizational Standards Assessment: Describe how the state will assess eligible entities against organizational standards this federal fiscal year(s). [\[Check all that applies\]](#)

- ☐ Peer-to-Peer Review (with validation by the state or state-authorized third party)
- ☒ Self-Assessment (with validation by the state or state-authorized third party)
- ☐ Self-Assessment/Peer Review with State Risk Analysis
- ☐ State-Authorized Third-Party Validation
- ☒ Regular On-Site CSBG monitoring
- ☐ Other [\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

6.3a. Assessment Process: Describe the planned assessment process. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Eligible Entities are required to complete a self-assessment form to identify their compliance with CSBG requirements. The State will review and validate the responses provided by each entity and prepare a tailored technical assistance plan as needed. In addition, regular monitoring will be conducted to ensure the proper use of funds, adherence to the proposed Community Action Plan, and compliance with all other requirements outlined in the CSBG Act, applicable sections of the Code of Federal Regulations, including 2 CFR Part 200, OCS Memorandums, and State regulations.

GUIDANCE: Descriptions should also include improvements to the process made since the previous year including any new processes to increase efficiency or consistency of assessments.

- 6.4. Eligible Entity Exemptions:** Will the state make exceptions in applying the organizational standards for certain eligible entities due to special circumstances or organizational characteristics (as described in IM 138)? ☐ Yes ☐ No No

GUIDANCE: You will only need to respond to the following question if you responded “yes” to 6.4.

- 6.4a.** Provide the specific eligible entities the state will exempt from meeting organizational standards and provide a description and a justification for each exemption. Total Number of Exempt Entities: [Auto – calculated] **Note: this form will not auto-calculate, please enter the number of exempt entities:** Click or tap here to enter text.

CSBG Eligible Entity	Description/Justification
Click or tap here to enter text.	

NOTE: ADD-A-ROW FUNCTION – states can add rows for each additional exception. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row. The Description/Justification allows for 2500 characters.

- 6.5. Performance Target:** Provide the percentage of eligible entities that the state expects to meet all the state-adopted organizational standards for the FFY(s) of this planning period. [Insert a percentage] **Year One** 60 % **Year Two** Click or tap here to enter text. %

Note: Item 6.5. is associated with State Accountability Measures 6Sa and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Table D.2.

GUIDANCE: Prior to setting the target, states should review [IM 138](#), review previous performance, and collaborate with the eligible entities and the state association to identify targets

SECTION 7: State Use of Funds

Eligible Entity Allocation (90 Percent Funds) [Section 675C(a) of the CSBG Act]

7.1. Formula: Select the method (formula) that best describes the current practice for allocating CSBG funds to eligible entities. [\[Check one\]](#)

- ☐ Historic
- ☐ Base + Formula
- ☒ Formula Alone
- ☐ Formula with Variables
- ☐ Hold Harmless + Formula
- ☐ Other [\[Narrative, 1500 characters\]](#)

7.1a. Formula Description: Describe the current practice for allocating CSBG funds to eligible entities. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

The State allocates funds based on a predetermined formula, with 90% designated for Eligible Entities. The distribution is as follows: ASPRI receives 39%, INSEC gets 32%, the Municipality of San Juan is allocated 15%, and the Municipality of Bayamon receives 4%.

7.1b. Statute: Does a state statutory or regulatory authority specify the formula for allocating “not less than 90 percent” funds among eligible entities?

☐ Yes ☐ No

No

7.2. Planned Allocation: Specify the percentage of your CSBG planned allocation that will be funded to eligible entities and in accordance to the “not less than 90 percent funds” requirement as described under Section 675C(a) of the CSBG Act. In the table, provide the planned allocation for each eligible entity receiving funds for the fiscal year(s) covered by this plan. **Year One** 90% **Year Two** [Click or tap here to enter text.%](#)

Planned CSBG 90 Percent Funds – Year One

CSBG Eligible Entity	Funding Amount (\$)
Accion Social de Puerto Rico, Inc.	\$12,474,241.65
Instituto Socioeconomico Comunitario, Inc.	\$10,235,275.20
Municipality of Bayamon	\$1,279,409.40
Municipality of San Juan	\$4,797,785.25
Total (Auto-calculated)	\$ 28,786,711.500.00

NOTE: WITHIN OLDC, the add-a-row function will not be available on this table and the first column is read-only. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row. To auto-calculate, select the “\$0.00”, right-click, and then select “Update Field”.

Planned CSBG 90 Percent Funds – Year Two

CSBG Eligible Entity	Funding Amount (\$)
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Total (Auto-calculated)	\$ 0.00

NOTE: WITHIN OLDC, the add-a-row function will not be available on this table and the first column is read-only. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row. To auto-calculate, select the "\$0.00", right-click, and then select "Update Field".

Note: This information pre-populates the state's Annual Report, Module 1, Table E.2.

7.3. Distribution Process: Describe the specific steps in the state's process for distributing 90 percent funds to the eligible entities and include the number of days each step is expected to take. Please include information about state legislative approval or other types of administrative approval (such as approval by a board or commission).

[Narrative, 4000 characters]

The State follows a structured process to distribute 90% of the funds to Eligible Entities. First, funding is requested based on the established distribution formula. Upon receiving the award notification, the CSBG Program consults with the Finance Division to assess the budget impact and allocate the funds. The Finance Division then distributes the funds according to the formula and manages the accounts. Once the funds are distributed, the CSBG Program sends notifications to the Eligible Entities regarding their allocations for the new Fiscal Year. Subsequently, the CSBG Program's Legal Advisor prepares the necessary contracts for fund delegation. Finally, these contracts are signed between the Executive Director of ODSEC and the Eligible Entities.

7.3a. Distribution Method: Select the option below that best describes the distribution method the state uses to issue CSBG funds to eligible entities:

- ☐ Reimbursement
- ☒ Advance
- ☐ Hybrid
- ☐ Other [Narrative, 4000 characters]

7.4. Distribution Timeframe: Does the state intend to make funds available to eligible entities no later than 30 calendar days after OCS distributes the federal award?

☐ Yes ☐ No Yes

7.4a. Distribution Consistency: If no, describe state procedures to ensure funds are made available to eligible entities consistently and without interruption.

[Narrative, 4000 characters]

Note: Item 7.4 is associated with State Accountability Measure 2Sa and may pre-populate the state's annual report form.

- 7.5. Distribution of Funds Performance Management Adjustment:** Describe the state’s strategy for improving grant and/or contract administration procedures under this State Plan as compared to past plans. Any improvements should be based on analysis of past performance and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any improvements, provide further detail. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

The State continues to utilize the MIP accounting system to enhance efficiency in fund disbursement requests, account reconciliation, and report generation. In Puerto Rico, the Department of the Treasury manages the accounts for most government agencies, and the ODSEC Finance Division staff handles these requests. The CSBG Program provides Eligible Entities with an annual calendar outlining deadlines for submitting fund requests, adjustments, and various reports.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 2Sb and may pre-populate the state’s annual report form.

Administrative Funds [Section 675C(b)(2) of the CSBG Act]

- 7.6. Allocated Funds:** Specify the percentage of your CSBG planned allocation for administrative activities for the FFY(s) covered by this State Plan.

Year One 5 % **Year Two** [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) % **[Numeric response, specify %]**

Note: This information pre-populates the state’s Annual Report, Module 1, Table E.4.

- 7.7. State Staff:** Provide the number of state staff positions to be funded in whole or in part with CSBG funds for the FFY(s) covered by this State Plan.

Year One 16 **Year Two** [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) **[Numeric response, 0.00 – 99.99]**

- 7.8. State FTEs:** Provide the number of state Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) to be funded with CSBG funds for the FFY(s) covered by this State Plan?

Year One 11 **Year Two** [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) **[Numeric response, 0.00 – 99.99]**

Use of Remainder/Discretionary Funds [Section 675C(b) of the CSBG Act]

- 7.9. Remainder/Discretionary Funds Use:** Does the state have remainder/discretionary funds as described in Section 675C(b) of the CSBG Act? ☐ Yes ☐ No Yes

GUIDANCE: “No” should only be selected if the percentages provided under 7.2. and 7.6. equal 100%.

If yes, provide the allocated percentage and describe the use of the remainder/discretionary funds in the table below. **Year One** 5 % **Year Two** [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) %

Note: This response will link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.2.

INSTRUCTIONAL NOTE: The assurance under 676(b)(2) of the Act (Item 14.2 of this State Plan)

specifically requires a description of how the state intends to use remainder/discretionary funds to “support innovative community and neighborhood-based initiatives related to the purposes of [the CSBG Act].” Include this description in Item 7.9f of the table below and/or attach the information.

If a funded activity fits under more than one category in the table, allocate the funds among the categories. For example, if the state provides funds under a contract with the State Community Action association to provide training and technical assistance to eligible entities and to create a statewide data system, the funds for that contract should be allocated appropriately between Items 7.9a. – 7.9c. If allocation is not possible, the state may allocate the funds to the primary category with which the activity is associated.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 3Sa and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Table E.7.

Use of Remainder/Discretionary Funds – Year One

Remainder/Discretionary Fund Uses (See 675C(b)(1) of the CSBG Act)	Planned \$	Brief Description of Services and/or Activities
7.9a. Training/Technical Assistance to eligible entities	\$50,000.00Click or tap here to enter text.	These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Item 8.1 [Read-Only]
7.9b. Coordination of state-operated programs and/or local programs	Click or tap here to enter text.	These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Section 9, State Linkages and Communication [Read-Only]
7.9c. Statewide coordination and communication among eligible entities	Click or tap here to enter text.	These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Section 9, State Linkages and Communication [Read-Only]
7.9d. Analysis of distribution of CSBG funds to determine if targeting greatest need (Briefly describe under Column 4)	Click or tap here to enter text.	
7.9e. Asset-building programs (Briefly describe under Column 4)	Click or tap here to enter text.	
7.9f. Innovation programs/activities by eligible entities or other neighborhood groups (Briefly describe under Column 4)	Click or tap here to enter text.	
7.9g. State Charity tax credits (Briefly describe under Column 4)		
7.9h. Other activities (Specify these other activities under Column 4)	\$1,599,261.75	Programs created by ODSEC consistent with the CSBG eligible activities. Also, can be delegated funds to nonprofit organizations,

Remainder/Discretionary Fund Uses (See 675C(b)(1) of the CSBG Act)	Planned \$	Brief Description of Services and/or Activities
		municipalities, community-based organizations to implement this Programs.
Totals (Auto-Calculated)	\$ 0.00	

To auto-calculate, select the "\$0.00", right-click, and then select "Update Field". Each description allows for 4000 characters.

Use of Remainder/Discretionary Funds – Year Two

Remainder/Discretionary Fund Uses (See 675C(b)(1) of the CSBG Act)	Planned \$	Brief Description of Services and/or Activities
7.9a. Training/Technical Assistance to eligible entities	Click or tap here to enter text.	These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Item 8.1 [Read-Only]
7.9b. Coordination of state-operated programs and/or local programs	Click or tap here to enter text.	These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Section 9, State Linkages and Communication [Read-Only]
7.9c. Statewide coordination and communication among eligible entities	Click or tap here to enter text.	These planned services/activities will be described in State Plan Section 9, State Linkages and Communication [Read-Only]
7.9d. Analysis of distribution of CSBG funds to determine if targeting greatest need (Briefly describe under Column 4)	Click or tap here to enter text.	
7.9e. Asset-building programs (Briefly describe under Column 4)	Click or tap here to enter text.	
7.9f. Innovation programs/activities by eligible entities or other neighborhood groups (Briefly describe under Column 4)	Click or tap here to enter text.	
7.9g. State Charity tax credits (Briefly describe under Column 4)	Click or tap here to enter text.	
7.9h. Other activities (Specify these other activities under Column 4)	Click or tap here to enter text.	
Totals (Auto-Calculated)	\$ 0.00	

To auto-calculate, select the "\$0.00", right-click, and then select "Update Field". Each description allows for 4000 characters.

GUIDANCE: If the percentages provided under 7.2. and 7.6. do not equal 100%, the remaining percentage should be reported under 7.9. If the state does not have any remainder/

discretionary fund activities (as listed in 7.9a. – 7.9g.), the remainder should be described in 7.9h.

7.10. Remainder/Discretionary Funds Partnerships: Select the types of organizations, if any, the state intends to work with (by grant or contract using remainder/discretionary funds) to carry out some or all the activities in Table 7.9. [\[Check all that applies and narrative where applicable\]](#)

- ☐ The State Directly Carries Out All Activities (No Partnerships)
- ☒ The State Partially Carries Out Some Activities
- ☐ CSBG Eligible Entities (if checked, include the expected number of CSBG eligible entities to receive funds) [\[Numeric response, 0 – 100\]](#) [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)
- ☒ Other Community-based Organizations
- ☒ State Community Action Association
- ☐ Regional CSBG Technical Assistance Provider(s)
- ☐ National Technical Assistance Provider(s)
- ☒ Individual Consultant(s)
- ☐ Tribes and Tribal Organizations
- ☒ Other [\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

Nonprofit Organizations

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance in Item 14.2.

7.11. Use of Remainder/Discretionary Funds Performance Management Adjustment: Describe any adjustments the state will make to the use of remainder/discretionary funds under this State Plan as compared to past State Plans? Any adjustment should be based on the state's analysis of past performance, and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any adjustments, provide further detail. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 3Sb and may pre-populate the state's annual report form.

The State will allocate discretionary funds to proposals that align with ODSEC's priorities and the results of the 2022 Needs Studies, which defines population needs within specific geographic areas. These funds will also address the identified need to enhance administrative and fiscal tools, staff training, and initiatives for the most vulnerable populations. Additionally, feedback from public hearings, legislative sessions, and eligible entities will be considered in the decision-making process.

SECTION 8: State Training and Technical Assistance

8.1. Training and Technical Assistance Plan: Describe the state's plan for delivering CSBG-funded training and technical assistance to eligible entities under this State Plan by

completing the table below. The T/TA plan should include all planned CSBG-funded T/TA activities funded through the administrative or remainder/discretionary funds of the CSBG award (as reported in Section 7). The CSBG T/TA plan should include training and technical assistance conducted directly by the state or through partnerships (as specified in 8.3). Add a row for each activity: indicate the timeframe; whether it is training, technical assistance, or both; and the topic.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 3Sc and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Table F.1.

Training and Technical Assistance – Year One

Planned Timeframe	Training, Technical Assistance, or Both	Topic	Brief Description of “Other”
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters	Both	ROMA	
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters	Both	Organizational Standards - General	
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters	Technical Assistance	Reporting	
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters	Both	Governance/Tripartite Boards	
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters	Training	Other	Disaster recovery
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters	Training	Other	Continuity plans in case of emergency
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters	Both	Other	Evidence-based practice models
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters	Technical Assistance	Fiscal	
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters	Technical Assistance	Community Assessment	

NOTE: ADD-A-ROW FUNCTION – States can add rows for each additional training. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row. Brief Description of “Other” allows for 500 characters.

Training and Technical Assistance – Year Two

Planned Timeframe	Training, Technical Assistance, or Both	Topic	Brief Description of “Other”
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters			
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters			

Ongoing/Multiple Quarters			
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters			
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters			
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters			
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters			
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters			
Ongoing/Multiple Quarters			
Planned Timeframe	Training, Technical Assistance, or Both	Topic	Brief Description of "Other"
Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	

NOTE: ADD-A-ROW FUNCTION – States can add rows for each additional training. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row. Brief Description of "Other" allows for 500 characters.

8.1a. Training and Technical Assistance Budget: The planned budget for all training and technical assistance:

Year One 50,000.00 **Year Two** [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

8.1b. Training and Technical Assistance Collaboration: Describe how the state will collaborate with the State Association and other stakeholders in the planning and delivery of training and technical assistance. [\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

ODSEC reached out to the Eligible Entities via email to gather their input on areas needing Technical Assistance and Training (T&TA). This request was also extended to our Specialists, who are aware of their own strengths and weaknesses. The collected information was then shared with the State Association (PRCAA). PRCAA conducted its own needs assessment among the Eligible Entities to determine their training requirements. ODSEC and PRCAA are collaborating closely to provide the necessary T&TA. ODSEC will offer financial support and encourage Entities to actively participate in PRCAA's activities, emphasizing the value of the association. The T&TA work plan is organized on a fiscal year basis.

8.2. Organizational Standards Technical Assistance: Does the state have Technical Assistance Plans (TAPs) in place for all eligible entities with unmet organizational standards, if appropriate? ☐ Yes ☐ No No

Note: 8.2 is associated with State Accountability Measure 6Sb. The state should put a TAP in place to support eligible entities with one or more unmet organizational standards.

8.2a. Address Unmet Organizational Standards: Describe the state's plan to provide T/TA to eligible entities to ensure they address unmet Organizational Standards. [\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

8.3. Training and Technical Assistance Organizations: Indicate the types of organizations through which the state intends to provide training and/or technical assistance as described in Item 8.1, and briefly describe their involvement. (Check all that apply.) **[Check all that applies and narrative where applicable]**

- ☐ All T/TA is conducted by the state
- ☐ CSBG eligible entities (if checked, provide the expected number of CSBG eligible entities to receive funds) [\[Numeric response, 0 – 100\]](#) [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)
- ☐ Other community-based organizations
- ☒ State Community Action Association
- ☐ Regional CSBG technical assistance provider(s)
- ☐ National technical assistance provider(s)
- ☒ Individual consultant(s)
- ☐ Tribes and Tribal Organizations
- ☐ Other [\[Narrative, 1000 characters\]](#)

8.4. CSBG-Funded T/TA Performance Management Adjustment: Describe adjustments the state made to the training and technical assistance plan under this State Plan as compared to past plans. Any adjustment should be based on the state's analysis of past performance, and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any adjustments, provide further detail. [\[Narrative, 2500 Characters\]](#)

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 3Sd and may pre-populate the state's annual report form.

The State has completed onsite monitoring for all eligible entities. Based on the findings and recommendations outlined in the final report, we have identified key topics to include in this year's Technical Assistance and Training (T&TA) plan. These topics encompass the correct use of funds, ROMA (Results-Oriented Management and Accountability), Tripartite Boards, organizational standards, and other relevant areas.

SECTION 9: State Linkages and Communication

Note: This section describes activities that the state may support with CSBG remainder/discretionary funds, described under Section 675C(b)(1) of the CSBG Act. The state may indicate planned use of remainder/discretionary funds for linkage/communication activities in Section 7, State Use of Funds, items 7.9(b) and (c).

- 9.1. State Linkages and Coordination at the State Level:** Describe the linkages and coordination at the state level that the state intends to create or maintain to ensure increased access to CSBG services to low-income people and communities under this State Plan and avoid duplication of services (as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(5)). Describe additional information as needed. [\[Check all that apply from the list below and provide a Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance, Item 14.5. In addition, this information is associated with State Accountability Measure 7Sa and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.1.

- ☒ State Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) office
- ☒ State Weatherization office
- ☒ State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) office
- ☐ Head Start State Collaboration offices
- ☒ State public health office
- ☒ State education department
- ☒ State Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) agency
- ☒ State budget office
- ☒ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- ☐ State child welfare office
- ☒ State housing office
- ☒ Other

ODSEC is the government agency responsible for addressing community matters in Puerto Rico. With 20 years of dedicated experience working with the island's most vulnerable communities and their leaders, ODSEC plays a crucial role in community development. The agency manages community plans for over 752 communities across Puerto Rico, providing a comprehensive tool for assessing community needs and tracking their progress. This tool is essential for planning priorities and developing strategies to better serve those in greatest need.

- 9.2. State Linkages and Coordination at the Local Level:** Describe how the state is encouraging partnerships and collaborations at the state level with public and private sector organizations, to assure the effective delivery and coordination of CSBG services to transform low-income communities and avoid duplication of services (as required by assurances under Section 676(b)(5) – (6)). [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurances, Items 14.5 and 14.6, and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.2.

ODSEC continues to develop training programs and forge alliances with government entities and non-profit organizations to address community needs effectively. Our approach focuses on delivering services in a coordinated and integrated manner, which enhances efficiency by reducing bureaucracy and avoiding the duplication of resources and efforts. We aim to foster a multisectoral approach that promotes solidarity and tackles social inequality and marginalization. This approach aligns with the responsibilities outlined in Article 3.2 of ODSEC's organic law, Law No. 10-2017, as amended.

We have identified key challenges, including insufficient training, education, and motivation among leaders, distrust in government processes, and a lack of community belonging. To address these issues, we are implementing the Community Leaders Training Academy. This initiative will train leaders to organize their communities, participate in problem-solving, make decisions, and drive sustainable development. This year, we will select the first group of community leaders, whose feedback will guide future improvements.

The Community Leaders Training Academy will offer several educational modules divided into three main components: Community Leadership, Community Organization, and Evaluation, Development, and Mentoring. This structured training will provide leaders with the skills needed to effectively address their communities' needs. The program will also involve collaborative agreements with Central Government agencies, municipalities, and non-profit organizations, ensuring coordination with eligible entities that receive Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) funds and discretionary funds supporting national goals.

CSBG's programmatic and administrative activities are designed to assist families below the poverty level by providing training, employment opportunities, and better income management. Our goal is to remove barriers to self-sufficiency and strengthen community planning and coordination for federal assistance. This aligns with the Academy's philosophy and objectives. By adopting an interagency and multisectoral approach, with community leaders playing a central role, we aim to establish a pioneering Academy with a teaching model tailored to Puerto Rican communities. The design and implementation of courses, methodologies, and technological resources will be shaped through active participation from community leaders and their communities.

9.3. Eligible Entity Linkages and Coordination

9.3a. State Assurance of Eligible Entity Linkages and Coordination: Describe how the state will assure that eligible entities will partner and collaborate with public and

private sector organizations to assure the effective delivery and coordination of CSBG services to low-income people and communities and avoid duplication of services (as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(5)). [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance, Item 14.5. and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.3a.

To ensure effective coordination and delivery of CSBG services to low-income individuals and communities, the State requires that Eligible Entities formalize collaboration agreements with both local government agencies and private and public organizations as part of their fund delegation contract. Entities must provide copies of these agreements and report on their outcomes. To prevent duplication of services, these agreements will be subject to periodic monitoring and evaluation of their execution process.

9.3b. State Assurance of Eligible Entity Linkages to Fill Service Gaps: Describe how the eligible entities will develop linkages to fill identified gaps in the services, through the provision of information, referrals, case management, and follow-up consultations, according to the assurance under Section 676(b)(3)(B) of the CSBG Act. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance, Item 14.3b. and pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.3b.

The poverty needs assessment is conducted every three years and updated annually to identify gaps with information, issues, individual and community needs, and areas with limited access. This process helps develop a comprehensive plan that includes specific linkages and coordination strategies to address these identified needs. State programs require Eligible Entities, through their service contracts, to conduct assessments of low-income population needs. The contracts also mandate a detailed plan to address service gaps through case management, referrals, and follow-ups. Additionally, Eligible Entities must provide quarterly reports on fund coordination with public and private organizations, including formal agreements. This reporting is required from all four entities once a year. To ensure effective linkages and address service gaps, the State will implement a regular monitoring and evaluation plan. (See attachment: CSBG Memorandum 02-2023, Needs Assessment.)

9.4. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Employment and Training

Activities: Does the state intend to include CSBG employment and training activities as part of a WIOA Combined State Plan, as allowed under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(5) of the CSBG Act)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Yes

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance, Item 14.5.

- 9.4a. WIOA Combined Plan:** If the state selected yes under Item 9.4, provide the CSBG-specific information included in the state's WIOA Combined Plan. This information includes a description of how the state and the eligible entities will coordinate the provision of employment and training activities through statewide and local WIOA workforce development systems. This information may also include examples of innovative employment and training programs and activities conducted by community action agencies or other neighborhood-based organizations as part of a community antipoverty strategy. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

ODSEC has established a partnership with the Workforce Development Program (PDL) under the Department of Economic Development and Trade. This agreement focuses on collaborating to enhance the services provided by PDL to residents in our most disadvantaged and vulnerable communities. These services include training, skill development, and employment opportunities, among others. Additionally, Eligible Entities maintain collaboration agreements with various local PDL offices to further support these initiatives.

- 9.4b. Employment and Training Activities:** If the state selected no under Item 9.4, describe the coordination of employment and training activities, as defined in Section 3 of WIOA, by the state and by eligible entities providing activities through the WIOA system. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

- 9.5. Emergency Energy Crisis Intervention:** Describe how the State will assure, where appropriate, that emergency energy crisis intervention programs under title XXVI (relating to Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) are conducted in each community in the State, as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(6) of the CSBG Act). [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This response will link to the corresponding CSBG assurance, Item 14.6.

The Energy Assistance Program, part of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), is managed by the "Administración de Desarrollo Socioeconómico de la Familia del Departamento de la Familia." The state is committed to promoting the LIHEAP Program to ensure that low-income individuals and communities can access its benefits. This year, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be established to formalize this commitment.

- 9.6. Faith-based Organizations, Charitable Groups, and Community Organizations:** Describe how the state will assure local eligible entities will coordinate and form partnerships with other organizations, including faith-based organizations, charitable groups, and community organizations, according to the state's assurance under Section 676(b)(9) of the CSBG Act. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: this response will link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.9

Annually, the state will require eligible entities to use their Community Action Plan to identify, coordinate, and develop partnership activities that address the needs of low-income individuals and enhance service accessibility. In the upcoming fiscal year, eligible entities will be required to demonstrate the results of these partnerships.

9.7. Coordination of Eligible Entity 90 Percent Funds with Public/Private Resources:

Describe how the eligible entities will coordinate CSBG 90 percent funds with other public and private resources, according to the assurance under Section 676(b)(3)(C) of the CSBG Act. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Eligible entities coordinate with municipal agencies and private organizations to secure the use of local facilities at no cost, access in-kind resources, and identify additional available funds to address the needs of the low-income population.

Note: This response will link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.3c.

9.8. Coordination among Eligible Entities and State Community Action Association:

Describe state activities for supporting coordination among the eligible entities and the State Community Action Association. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This information will pre-populate the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.5.

We have been working in coordination with PRCAA for the trainings that are being provided regarding ROMA. Similarly, we have remained in communication and continue to work hand in hand to coordinate training that meets the needs of eligible entities and the state.

9.9. Communication with Eligible Entities and the State Community Action Association: In the table below, detail how the state intends to communicate with eligible entities, the State Community Action Association, and other partners identified under this State Plan on the topics listed below.

For any topic that is not applicable, select *Not Applicable* under Expected Frequency.

Communication Plan

Subject Matter	Expected Frequency	Format	Brief Description of "Other"
Upcoming Public and/or Legislative Hearings	Triennial	Public Notice	Newspaper and website public Notice. The State will be assessing the possibility of carrying out such an annual process.
State Plan Development	Annually	Other	Refunding Application.

Subject Matter	Expected Frequency	Format	Brief Description of "Other"
Organizational Standards Progress	Annually	Other	CSBG Organizational Standards Guide, progress report and In-site visits to CAA'S.
State Accountability Measures Progress	Annually	Other	Trough letters, emails, phone calls, meetings and presentations.
Community Needs Assessments/Community Action Plans	Annually	Other	Refunding Application.
State Monitoring Plans and Policies	Annually	Other	Through letters and Procedures and Norms Manual (in revision), and the monitoring Guide four CSBG Program.
Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) Plans	Annually	Other	Trough letters, emails, phone calls, meetings and presentations.
ROMA and Performance Management	Annually	Other	Trough letters, emails, phone calls, meetings and presentations.
State Interagency Coordination	Annually	Other	Refunding Application and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
CSBG Legislative/Programmatic Updates	Annually	Public Notice	Newspaper public Notice.
Tripartite Board Requirements	Annually	Other	Refunding Application, letters, visits, meetings and emails.
Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	

Note: ADD-A-ROW FUNCTION – States can add rows for each additional communication topic. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row. Brief Description of "Other" allows for 250 characters.

9.10. Feedback to Eligible Entities and State Community Action Association: Describe how the state will provide information to local entities and State Community Action Associations regarding performance on State Accountability Measures. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 5S(iii) and will pre-populate the Annual Report, Module 1, Item G.6.

GUIDANCE: Under this question, include how the state will provide information to local entities and state associations within 60 days of receiving feedback from OCS.

ODSEC shares information through emails, official communications such as information memorandums, quarterly group and individual meetings, phone calls, and additional meetings as needed.

9.11. Communication Plan Performance Management Adjustment: Describe any adjustments the state made to the Communication Plan in this State Plan as compared to past plans. Any adjustment should be based on the state's analysis of past performance, and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any adjustments, provide further detail. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measures 7Sb; this response may pre-populate the state's annual report form.

The State's communication plan for interacting with Eligible Entities has remained consistent, utilizing emails, official communications, memorandums, group or individual meetings, and phone calls. However, communication is now more continuous, direct, and open. We will hold several meetings with ODSEC's advisory group and employees to develop solutions and make necessary adjustments to improve the integration of Eligible Entities.

SECTION 10: Monitoring, Corrective Action, and Fiscal Controls

Monitoring of Eligible Entities (Section 678B(a) of the CSBG Act)

- 10.1.** Specify the proposed schedule for planned monitoring visits - including full on-site reviews; on-site reviews of newly designated entities; follow-up reviews - including return visits to entities that failed to meet State goals, standards, and requirements; and other reviews as appropriate.

This is an estimated schedule to assist states in planning. States may indicate “no review” for entities the state does not plan to monitor in the performance period.

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 4Sa(i); this response pre-populates the Annual Report, Module 1, Table H.1.

GUIDANCE: Monitoring that is specific to organizational standards should be referenced within Section 6, Item 6.3a.

Monitoring Schedule – Year One

CSBG Eligible Entity		Monitoring Type	Review Type	Target Quarter	Start Date of Last Full Onsite Review	End Date of Last Full Onsite Review	Brief Description of "Other"
1	Acción Social de Puerto Rico, Inc.						
2	Instituto Socioeconómico Comunitario, Inc.						
3	Municipality of Bayamon						
4	Municipality of San Juan						

NOTE: WITHIN OLDC, the add-a-row function will not be available on this table and the first column is read-only. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row. A Brief Description of Other allows for 500 characters.

Monitoring Schedule – Year Two

CSBG Eligible Entity	Monitoring Type	Review Type	Target Quarter	Start Date of Last Full Onsite Review	End Date of Last Full Onsite Review	Brief Description of "Other"
Click or tap here to enter text.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap to enter a date.	

NOTE: WITHIN OLDC, the add-a-row function will not be available on this table and the first column is read-only. To add a row within this form: highlight the row and then select the plus sign (+) at the end of the row. A Brief Description of Other allows for 500 characters.

GUIDANCE: Comprehensive monitoring includes a review of program, administrative, fiscal and organizational standards.

If you are monitoring an entity as a follow up to an issue with another program, this can be listed under "Other."

When providing the date of your last full onsite review – this could be for any type of review that took place **onsite**. No dates for desk reviews should be provided here.

- 10.2. Monitoring Policies:** Provide a copy of state monitoring policies and procedures by attaching and/or providing a hyperlink. [\[Attach a document or add a link\]](#)

See the Programmatic Monitoring and Standards Assessment Tool for Administering Awards under the Community Services Block Grant Program to Private CAAs Community Services Block Grant Program - CSBG MONITORING MANUAL.

- 10.3. Initial Monitoring Reports:** According to the state's procedures, by how many calendar days must the state disseminate initial monitoring reports to local entities?

30

Click or tap here to enter text.

Note: This item is associated with State Accountability Measure 4Sa(ii) and may pre-populate the state's annual report form.

Corrective Action, Termination and Reduction of Funding and Assurance Requirements (Section 678C of the Act)

- 10.4. Closing Findings:** Are state procedures for addressing eligible entity findings/deficiencies and the documenting closure of findings included in the state monitoring policies attached under 10.2? ☐ Yes ☐ No Yes

10.4a. Closing Findings Procedures: If no, describe state procedures for addressing eligible entity findings/deficiencies and the documenting closure of findings.
[\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

Monitoring Guide for CSBG Program: The Monitoring Report (p.31) and Findings and Concerns (p.32)

- 10.5. Quality Improvement Plans (QIPs):** Provide the number of eligible entities currently on QIPs, if applicable. [0] [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Note: The QIP information is associated with State Accountability Measures 4Sc.

- 10.6. Reporting of QIPs:** Describe the state's process for reporting eligible entities on QIPs to the Office of Community Services within 30 calendar days of the state approving a QIP? [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This item is associated with State Accountability Measure 4Sa(iii)).

The State uses Information Memorandum No. 116, titled "Corrective Action, Termination, or Reduction of Funding," issued in 2012, as a guide for establishing procedures related to Quality Improvement Plans (QIPs). The delegation of funds contract also includes, in its sixteenth clause, terms and conditions for the termination or suspension of funds. This clause covers issues such as breaches of deadlines, failure to implement corrective action plans, submission of incomplete documents, and improper use of funds. It also outlines the process for notifying entities of any suspension or termination of their contract.

- 10.7. Assurance on Funding Reduction or Termination:** The state assures that "any eligible entity that received CSBG funding the previous fiscal year will not have its funding terminated or reduced below the proportional share of funding the entity received in the previous fiscal year unless, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the record, the state determines that cause exists for such termination or such reduction, subject to review by the Secretary as provided in Section 678C(b)" per Section 676(b)(8) of the CSBG Act. ☐ Yes ☐ No [Choose an item.](#)

Note: This response will link with the corresponding assurance under item 14.8.

Policies on Eligible Entity Designation, De-designation, and Re-designation

- 10.8. Eligible Entity Designation:** Does the state CSBG statute and/or regulations provide for the designation of new eligible entities? ☐ Yes ☐ No Yes

10.8a. New Designation Citation: If yes, provide the citation(s) of the law and/or regulation. [\[Narrative, 2500 Characters\]](#)

When the State terminates the designation of an organization as an eligible entity or reduces its funds, any resulting funding may only be awarded to a new organization that qualifies as an eligible entity for CSBG funds. According to Section 676A of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Act, the State must follow specific procedures for designating and redesignating eligible entities in unserved areas. The State may solicit applications and designate as an eligible entity either:

- 1) A private nonprofit organization located in an unserved area that can provide a broad range of services to eliminate poverty and promote self-sufficiency, and meets the requirements of the CSBG Act; or
- 2) A private nonprofit organization that is geographically near the unserved area and already provides related services there.

The State must prioritize designating an organization that has demonstrated effectiveness in meeting CSBG Act goals and is already providing related services in the unserved area. If no qualified private nonprofit organization is found, the State may designate an appropriate political subdivision to serve as the eligible entity for the area.

Any nonprofit or public agency receiving CSBG funds must comply with the tripartite board requirements specified in Section 676B of the CSBG Act. The process for selecting a new eligible entity may occur while the Health and Human Services Department reviews the State's decision to terminate an organization's eligibility. However, funds cannot be awarded to a new entity until the Department confirms the State's decision or the 90-day federal review period has passed.

10.8b. New Designation Procedures: If no, describe state procedures for the designation of new eligible entities and how the procedures were made available to eligible entities and the public. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

10.9. Eligible Entity Termination: Does the state CSBG statute and/or regulations provide for termination of eligible entities? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ No

10.9a. Termination Citation: If yes, provide the citation(s) of the law and/or regulation. [\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

10.9b. Termination Procedures: If no, describe state procedures for termination of new eligible entities and how the procedures were made available to eligible entities and the public. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

The State's procedures are outlined in the CSBG Programs Standards and Procedures. This fiscal year, the State will implement an updated version of these Standards and Procedures, incorporating the guidelines from CSBG IM#116.

10.10. Eligible Entity Re-Designation: Do the state CSBG statute and/or regulations provide for re-designation of an existing eligible entity? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ No

10.10a. Re-Designation Citation: If yes, provide the citation(s) of the law and/or regulation. [\[Narrative, 2500 Characters\]](#)

10.10b. Re-Designation Procedures: If no, describe state procedures for re-designation of existing eligible entities and how the procedures were made available to eligible entities and the public. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

GUIDANCE: Re-designation implies that an entity that is already designated/receiving funds is now performing the duties and receiving funds that were previously designated to another entity, in addition to the funding that they are already receiving. This is different from a merger as an entity is not absorbing another entity. This re-designation may be permanent (**requires a formula redistribution**) or temporary while the state has officially designated a new entity and has completed a formula redistribution. See CSBG Act 676A, *Designation and Redesignation...*, for more information.

Fiscal Controls and Audits and Cooperation Assurance

10.11. Fiscal Controls and Accounting: Describe how the state's fiscal controls and accounting procedures will a) permit preparation of the SF-425 Federal fiscal reports (FFR) and b) permit the tracing of expenditures adequate to ensure funds have been used appropriately under the block grant, as required by Block Grant regulations applicable to CSBG at 45 CFR 96.30(a). [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

ODSEC is part of the Central Government of Puerto Rico. In compliance with Local Law No. 230, July 23, 1974, as amended, the government has established the PRIFAS System as the accounting framework for Central Government agencies. This system encompasses records, reports, and documentation, as well as the equipment and programming used. Managed by the Puerto Rico Treasury Department, PRIFAS oversees all funds of Central Government agencies, including Federal Financial Assistance. ODSEC has developed a Manual of Procedures and Functions to streamline reporting and compliance with the accounting system. Monthly accounting transactions are recorded in the subsidiaries and reconciled with the PRIFAS system. Internal controls are in place to ensure that disbursements are well-documented and comply with state and federal regulations. This year, a new accounting system will be implemented across the Government of Puerto Rico, which will also apply to ODSEC.

10.12. Single Audit Management Decisions: Describe state procedures for issuing management decisions for eligible entity single audits, as required by Block Grant regulations applicable to CSBG at 45 CFR 75.521. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This information is associated with State Accountability Measure 4Sd.

ODSED periodically review the single audits and request the entity the Corrective Action Plan to address the findings. Also, depending of the findings and the severity or recurrence of the findings, ODSEC consider to implement other actions in accordance with IM #116.

10.13. Assurance on Federal Investigations: The state will “permit and cooperate with Federal investigations undertaken in accordance with Section 678D” of the CSBG Act, as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(7) of the CSBG Act.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Yes

Note: This response will link with the corresponding assurance, Item 14.7

10.13a. Federal Investigations Policies: Are state procedures for permitting and cooperating with federal investigations included in the state monitoring policies attached under 10.2?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Yes

10.14. Monitoring Procedures Performance Management Adjustment: Describe any adjustments the state made to monitoring procedures in this State Plan as compared to past plans? Any adjustment should be based on the state’s analysis of past performance, and should consider feedback from eligible entities, OCS, and other sources, such as the public hearing. If the state is not making any adjustments, provide further detail. [\[Narrative, 2500 Characters\]](#)

Note: This item is associated with State Accountability Measure 4Sb and may pre-populate the state’s annual report form.

ODSEC adopted a new Monitoring Manual and Monitoring Tool for the onsite monitoring required every 3 years. The Monitoring Tool works perfectly and this year we are developing the tool for annual monitoring.

SECTION 11: Eligible Entity Tripartite Board

11.1. Tripartite Board Verification: Verify which of the following measures are taken to ensure that the state verifies CSBG eligible entities are meeting Tripartite Board requirements under Section 676B(a)(2) of the CSBG Act. [\[Check all that applies and narrative where applicable\]](#)

- ☒ Attend Board meetings
- ☒ Organizational Standards Assessment
- ☒ Monitoring
- ☒ Review copies of Board meeting minutes
- ☒ Track Board vacancies/composition
- ☐ Other [\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

11.2. Tripartite Board Updates: Provide how often the state requires eligible entities (which are not on TAPs or QIPs) to provide updates regarding their Tripartite Boards. This includes but is not limited to copies of meeting minutes, vacancy alerts, changes to bylaws, low-income member selection process, etc. [\[Select one and provide a narrative where applicable\]](#)

- ☐ Annually
- ☒ Semiannually
- ☐ Quarterly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ As It Occurs
- ☐ Other [\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

11.3. Tripartite Board Representation Assurance: Describe how the states will verify that eligible entities have policies and procedures by which individuals or organizations can petition for adequate representation on an eligible entity's Tripartite Board as required by the assurance under Section 676(b)(10) of the CSBG Act. [\[Narrative, 2500 Characters\]](#)

Note: This response will link with the corresponding assurance, Item 14.10.

ODSEC adheres to its own policies, rules, and procedures as outlined in its Manual of Rules and Procedures, the Monitoring Guide for the CSBG Program, and the Tripartite Board guidelines, including Board Composition and the roles of Elected Public Officials, Low-Income Representatives, and Private Sector Representatives. In contracts with eligible entities, ODSEC requires strict compliance with all relevant laws, regulations, rules, and procedures governing CSBG and ODSEC. This includes meeting information requirements and certifications mandated by ODSEC and/or CSBG Programs. Specifically, entities must provide all necessary documentation for contract signing, fund disbursement, proposal evaluation, budget adjustments, utilization reports, expense descriptions, monitoring and audits, resource use, operating and administrative expenses, human resources, property management, needs assessments, participant information, Tripartite Board requirements, WIOA Act compliance, and adherence to report delivery deadlines. Additionally, entities must actively participate in the preparation and development of the State Plan, Annual Report, and related documents, fulfilling mandatory and non-delegable responsibilities.

11.4. Tripartite Board Alternative Representation: Does the state permit public eligible entities to use, as an alternative to a Tripartite Board, "another mechanism specified by the state to assure decision-making and participation by low-income individuals in the development, planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs" as allowed under Section 676B(b)(2) of the CSBG Act? ☐ Yes ☐ No Yes

11.4a. If yes, describe the mechanism used by public eligible entities as an alternative to a Tripartite Board. [\[Narrative, 2500 Characters\]](#)

See attachment.

SECTION 12: Individual and Community Income Eligibility Requirements

12.1. Required Income Eligibility: Provide the income eligibility threshold for services in the state. [\[Select one item below and numeric response where applicable.\]](#)

- ☐ 125% of the HHS poverty line
- ☒ X % of the HHS poverty line (fill in the threshold): [Click or tap here to enter text.%](#)
[\[200%\]](#)
- ☐ Varies by eligible entity [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

GUIDANCE: Under *Varies by eligible entity*, provide the threshold and the reason that it varies by entity.

12.1a. Describe any state policy and/or procedures for income eligibility, such as treatment of income and family/household composition. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

The state requires eligible entities to submit a poverty certification based on the Poverty Income Guidelines to determine applicant eligibility. Eligible entities use the On Result System (ORS) to collect and manage information on income and participant characteristics.

12.2. Income Eligibility for General/Short Term Services: Describe how the state ensures eligible entities generally verify income eligibility for those services with limited intake procedures (where individual income verification is not possible or practical). An example of these services is emergency food assistance. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Verification is conducted either through a participant's income statement or by requesting evidence of health benefits such as Medicaid, TANF, or similar programs.

12.3. Community-targeted Services: Describe how the state ensures eligible entities' services target and benefit low-income communities for those services that provide a community-wide benefit (e.g., development of community assets/facilities, building partnerships with other organizations). [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

The state requires eligible entities to submit a community needs assessment every three years. These assessments are updated annually and evaluated by the CSBG Program. Additionally, entities must provide results from activities, projects, or programs to identify achievements.

SECTION 13: Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) System

13.1. Performance Measurement System: Identify the performance measurement system that the state and all eligible entities use, as required by Section 678E(a) of the CSBG Act and the assurance under Section 676(b)(12) of the CSBG Act. [\[Select one\]](#)

Note: This response will also link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.12. and will pre-populate the Annual Report, Module 1, Item I.1.

- ☒ The Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) System
- ☐ Another performance management system that meets the requirements of Section 678E(b) of the CSBG Act
- ☐ An alternative system for measuring performance and results

13.1a. ROMA Description: If ROMA was chosen in Item 13.1, describe the state's written policies, procedures, or guidance documents on ROMA. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

In Puerto Rico, we have adopted the ROMA Systems, along with the procedures and guidance documents provided by the Office of Community Services (OCS) and the National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCS). The State's guidelines mandate that all eligible entities implement ROMA in their Community Action Plans.

13.1b. Alternative System Description: If an alternative system was chosen in Item 13.1, describe the system the state will use for performance measurement. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

13.2. Outcome Measures: Indicate and describe the outcome measures the state will use to measure eligible entity performance in promoting self-sufficiency, family stability, and community revitalization, as required under Section 676(b)(12) of the CSBG Act. [\[Select one and provide a narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This response will also link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.12.

- ☒ CSBG National Performance Indicators (NPIs)
- ☐ NPIs and others
- ☐ Others

The State and all eligible entities participate in the Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) System, a performance measurement system developed in accordance with Section 678E(b). This system ensures that performance and results meet the requirements of the specified section.

13.3. Eligible Entity Support: Describe how the state supports the eligible entities in using ROMA or an alternative performance management system. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: The activities described under Item 13.3 may include activities listed in “Section 8: Training and Technical Assistance.” If so, mention briefly, and/or cross-reference as needed. This response will also link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.12.

The State has developed training processes, supported by technical assistance, related to the ROMA system. These processes are designed to enhance and strengthen the administrative and programmatic operations of eligible entities. Additionally, the State participates in webinars offered by the Office of Community Services (OCS) and the National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSP) as part of these efforts.

13.4. Eligible Entity Use of Data: Describe how the state intends to validate that the eligible entities are using data to improve service delivery. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This response will also link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.12.

Eligible entities are required to submit quarterly reports on program service results, aligned with their community action plans. Program Evaluation Specialists review these reports, focusing on qualitative and quantitative data, socio-demographic participant characteristics, and notable achievements. Based on this review, CSBG specialists prepare evaluation reports highlighting the organization's strengths and weaknesses to improve service delivery. If needed, the State coordinates and provides technical assistance to address any identified issues.

Community Action Plans and Needs Assessments

13.5. Community Action Plan: Describe how the state will secure a Community Action Plan from each eligible entity, as a condition of receipt of CSBG funding by each entity, as required by Section 676(b)(11) of the CSBG Act. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This response will link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.11.

The State reviews each Community Action Plan to ensure it is supported by a comprehensive Needs Assessment. According to the CSBG Policy and Procedure Manual, which outlines the requirements of the CSBG Act and applicable regulations, no funds are distributed until the State approves the State Plan for each eligible entity and verifies compliance with program requirements.

13.6. Community Needs Assessment: Describe how the state will assure that each eligible entity includes a community needs assessment for the community served (which may be coordinated with community needs assessments conducted by other programs) in each entity's Community Action Plan, as required by Section 676(b)(11) of the CSBG Act. [\[Narrative, 4000 characters\]](#)

Note: This response will link to the corresponding assurance, Item 14.11.

As part of the Community Action Plan, the target population must be specified and aligned with the Needs Assessment. The CSBG Specialist verifies the Community Action Plan to ensure it effectively addresses the needs of the community served.

SECTION 14: CSBG Programmatic Assurance and Information Narrative
(Section 676(b) of the CSBG Act)

14.1. Use of Funds Supporting Local Activities

CSBG Services

14.1a. 676(b)(1)(A) Describe how the state will assure “that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used –

- (A) to support activities that are designed to assist low-income families and individuals, including families and individuals receiving assistance under title IV of the Social Security Act, homeless families and individuals, migrant or seasonal farmworkers, and elderly low-income individuals and families, and a description of how such activities will enable the families and individuals--
 - (i) to remove obstacles and solve problems that block the achievement of self- sufficiency (particularly for families and individuals who are attempting to transition off a State program carried out under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act);
 - (ii) to secure and retain meaningful employment;
 - (iii) to attain an adequate education with particular attention toward improving literacy skills of the low-income families in the community, which may include family literacy initiatives;
 - (iv) to make better use of available income;
 - (v) to obtain and maintain adequate housing and a suitable living environment;
 - (vi) to obtain emergency assistance through loans, grants, or other means to meet immediate and urgent individual and family needs;
 - (vii) to achieve greater participation in the affairs of the communities involved, including the development of public and private grassroots partnerships with local law enforcement agencies, local housing authorities, private foundations, and other public and private partners to –
 - (I) document best practices based on successful grassroots intervention in urban areas, to develop methodologies for widespread replication; and
 - (II) strengthen and improve relationships with local law enforcement agencies, which may include participation in activities such as neighborhood or community policing efforts;

[Narrative, 4000 characters]

The requirements are outlined and requested in both the Refunding Application and the contracts for fund delegation to the Eligible Entities. This information is

verified through the evaluation of quarterly reports, participant characteristics reports, and final result reports. Financial reports are reviewed through fund requests, accrued expense reports, lists of unpaid obligations, bank reconciliations, and closing reports.

Needs of Youth

14.1b. 676(b)(1)(B) Describe how the state will assure “that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used –

- (B) to address the needs of youth in low-income communities through youth development programs that support the primary role of the family, give priority to the prevention of youth problems and crime, and promote increased community coordination and collaboration in meeting the needs of youth, and support development and expansion of innovative community-based youth development programs that have demonstrated success in preventing or reducing youth crime, such as--
 - (i) programs for the establishment of violence-free zones that would involve youth development and intervention models (such as models involving youth mediation, youth mentoring, life skills training, job creation, and entrepreneurship programs); and
 - (ii) after-school child care programs;

[Narrative, 4000 characters]

To comply with Section 676(b)(1)(B), the State verifies the information through the evaluation of the Refunding Application, quarterly results reports, participant characteristics reports, and final results reports. Financial reports are assessed through fund requests, accrued expense reports, lists of unpaid obligations, bank reconciliations, and closing reports. Additionally, verification is conducted through monitoring and single and external audit reviews.

Coordination of Other Programs

14.1c. 676(b)(1)(C) Describe how the state will assure “that funds made available through grant or allotment will be used –

- (C) to make more effective use of, and to coordinate with, other programs related to the purposes of this subtitle (including State welfare reform efforts)

[Narrative, 4000 characters]

To comply with Section 676(b)(1)(C), the State verifies information through the evaluation of the Refunding Application, quarterly results reports, participant characteristics reports, and final result reports. Financial reports are reviewed through fund requests, accrued expense reports, lists of unpaid obligations, bank

reconciliations, and closing reports. Additionally, the State conducts single and external audit reviews.

State Use of Discretionary Funds

- 14.2. 676(b)(2)** Describe “how the State intends to use discretionary funds made available from the remainder of the grant or allotment described in section 675C(b) in accordance with this subtitle, including a description of how the State will support innovative community and neighborhood-based initiatives related to the purposes of this subtitle.”

Note: The State describes this assurance under “State Use of Funds: Remainder/Discretionary,” items 7.9 and 7.10

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 7.9 and 7.10.]

Eligible Entity Service Delivery, Coordination, and Innovation

- 14.3. 676(b)(3)** “Based on information provided by eligible entities in the State, a description of...”

Eligible Entity Service Delivery System

- 14.3a. 676(b)(3)(A)** Describe “the service delivery system, for services provided or coordinated with funds made available through grants made under 675C(a), targeted to low-income individuals and families in communities within the State;”

[Narrative, 4000 characters]

Through collaborative agreements and alliances, ODSEC aims to enhance the service delivery system for low-income individuals, families, and communities. Entities like INSEC and ASPRI have regional offices where they not only provide services to individuals and families but also engage with the community directly. Municipalities such as Bayamón and San Juan operate various service centers within their jurisdictions, serving low-income residents. The service delivery system is further strengthened by signing collaboration agreements and forming alliances with community-based, faith-based, and other organizations that have programs targeting low-income populations.

A detailed description of the service delivery system is required in the programmatic narrative submitted with each fiscal year's refunding application. The community action plan must identify specific needs, describe the services provided to address those needs, project the number of participants impacted, and report on the outcomes. This description includes essential information such as the agency's service area, office locations, accessibility, and intake processes.

Eligible Entity Linkages – Approach to Filling Service Gaps

14.3b. 676(b)(3)(B) Describe “how linkages will be developed to fill identified gaps in the services, through the provision of information, referrals, case management, and followup consultations.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in the State Linkages and Communication section, item 9.3b.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 9.3b.]

Coordination of Eligible Entity Allocation 90 Percent Funds with Public/Private Resources

14.3c. 676(b)(3)(C) Describe how funds made available through grants made under 675C(a) will be coordinated with other public and private resources.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in the State Linkages and Communication section, item 9.7.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 9.7]

The eligible entities coordinate with municipal agencies and private organizations to secure the use of local facilities at no cost, access in-kind resources, and identify additional funding sources to address the needs of low-income individuals.

Eligible Entity Innovative Community and Neighborhood Initiatives, Including Fatherhood/Parental Responsibility

14.3d. 676(b)(3)(D) Describe “how the local entity will use the funds [made available under 675C(a)] to support innovative community and neighborhood-based initiatives related to the purposes of this subtitle, which may include fatherhood initiatives and other initiatives with the goal of strengthening families and encouraging parenting.”

Note: The description above is about eligible entity use of 90 percent funds to support these initiatives. States may also support these types of activities at the local level using state remainder/discretionary funds, allowable under Section 675C(b)(1)(F). In this State Plan, the state indicates funds allocated for these activities under item 7.9(f).

[Narrative, 4000 characters]

The Community Development Program aims to boost community and civic participation by developing strategies and solutions to enhance the socioeconomic conditions of residents and their environments. The organization’s role is to facilitate knowledge transfer, equipping community members with the skills and tools needed to take control of their situations. Interventions will focus on educating families and fostering networks to address service gaps in the

community. Additionally, the Education Program's Schooling Initiative provides tutoring for children and youth struggling with school subjects. This initiative also includes training for parents to support their children's learning at home, reinforcing the idea that parents are the primary educators.

Eligible Entity Emergency Food and Nutrition Services

- 14.4. 676(b)(4)** Describe how the state will assure “that eligible entities in the State will provide, on an emergency basis, for the provision of such supplies and services, nutritious foods, and related services, as may be necessary to counteract conditions of starvation and malnutrition among low-income individuals.”

[Narrative, 4000 characters]

To comply with Section 676(b)(4), the state specifies requirements in both the Refunding Application and the contracts for delegating funds to Eligible Entities. This information is verified through evaluations of quarterly reports, participant characteristics reports, and final results reports. Financial reports are assessed through fund requests, accrued expense reports, lists of unpaid obligations, bank reconciliations, and closing reports. Examples of programs meeting these requirements include, but not limited to:

- Home Nutrition Program: Provides nutrition services to low-income residents aged 60 and older, delivered directly to their homes.
- Mochila Alegre (Cheerful Backpack): Offers nutrition services to low-income children to ensure they have adequate food during weekends, holidays, and summer vacations.
- Food Donations and Distribution: Assists low-income individuals and families by supplying food and equipment.

State and Eligible Entity Coordination/linkages and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Employment and Training Activities

- 14.5. 676(b)(5)** Describe how the state will assure “that the State and eligible entities in the State will coordinate, and establish linkages between, governmental and other social services programs to assure the effective delivery of such services, and [describe] how the State and the eligible entities will coordinate the provision of employment and training activities, as defined in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, in the State and in communities with entities providing activities through statewide and local workforce development systems under such Act.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 9, State Linkages and Communication, specifically under 9.1 – 9.4b.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under Section 9.1 – 9.4b]

State Coordination/Linkages and Low-income Home Energy Assistance

- 14.6. 676(b)(6)** Provide “an assurance that the State will ensure coordination between antipoverty programs in each community in the State, and ensure, where appropriate, that emergency energy crisis intervention programs under title XXVI (relating to low- income home energy assistance) are conducted in such community.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 9, State Linkages and Communication section, items 9.2 and 9.5.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 9.2 and 9.5]

Federal Investigations

- 14.7. 676(b)(7)** Provide “an assurance that the State will permit and cooperate with Federal investigations undertaken in accordance with section 678D.”

Note: The state addresses this assurance in Section 10, Fiscal Controls and Monitoring under 10.13.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 10.13]

Funding Reduction or Termination

- 14.8. 676(b)(8)** Provide “an assurance that any eligible entity in the State that received funding in the previous fiscal year through a community services block grant made under this subtitle will not have its funding terminated under this subtitle, or reduced below the proportional share of funding the entity received in the previous fiscal year unless, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the record, the State determines that cause exists for such termination or such reduction, subject to review by the Secretary as provided in section 678C(b).”

Note: The state addresses this assurance in Section 10 Fiscal Controls and Monitoring under 10.7.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 10.7]

Coordination with Faith-based Organizations, Charitable Groups, Community Organizations

- 14.9. 676(b)(9)** Describe how the state will assure “that the State and eligible entities in the State will, to the maximum extent possible, coordinate programs with and form partnerships with other organizations serving low-income residents of the communities and members of the groups served by the State, including religious organizations, charitable groups, and community organizations.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 9 State Linkages and Communication, under 9.6.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 9.6]

Eligible Entity Tripartite Board Representation

- 14.10. 676(b)(10)** Describe how “the State will require each eligible entity in the State to establish procedures under which a low-income individual, community organization, or religious organization, or representative of low-income individuals that considers its organization, or low-income individuals, to be inadequately represented on the board (or other mechanism) of the eligible entity to petition for adequate representation.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 11 Eligible Entity Tripartite Boards, under 11.3.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 11.3]

ODSEC has defined its policies, rules, and procedures in the Manual of Rules and Procedures (p.52), particularly Section 102, which covers Tripartite Boards. These guidelines are monitored based on the Monitoring Guide for the CSBG Program (p. 7, 27, 30), which details requirements for Tripartite Boards, Board Composition, and the inclusion of Elected Public Officials, Low-Income Representatives, and Private Sector Representatives.

To ensure compliance, ODSEC requires a Corrective Action Plan and follows up to address any vacancies, ensuring the Board is complete and representative of the service area. Additionally, contracts between the eligible entities and the State mandate adherence to all regulations related to the CSBG Program.

Eligible Entity Community Action Plans and Community Needs Assessments

- 14.11. 676(b)(11)** Provide “an assurance that the State will secure from each eligible entity in the State, as a condition to receipt of funding by the entity through a community services block grant made under this subtitle for a program, a community action plan (which shall be submitted to the Secretary, at the request of the Secretary, with the State plan) that includes a community-needs assessment for the community served, which may be coordinated with community-needs assessments conducted for other programs.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 13 ROMA, under 13.5 and 13.6.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 13.5 and 13.6]

State and Eligible Entity Performance Measurement: ROMA or Alternate system

- 14.12. 676(b)(12)** Provide “an assurance that the State and all eligible entities in the State will, not later than fiscal year 2001, participate in the Results Oriented Management and Accountability System, another performance measure system for which the Secretary facilitated development pursuant to section 678E(b), or an alternative system for measuring performance and results that meets the requirements of that section, and [describe] outcome measures to be used to measure eligible entity performance in

promoting self-sufficiency, family stability, and community revitalization.”

Note: The state describes this assurance in Section 13 ROMA under 13.1 – 13.4.

[No response as the state describes this assurance under 13.1 – 13.4]

Validation for CSBG Eligible Entity Programmatic Narrative Sections

14.13. 676(b)(13) Provide “information describing how the State will carry out the assurances described in this section.”

Note: The state provides information for each of the assurances directly in section 14 or in corresponding items throughout the State Plan, which are included as hyperlinks in section 14.

[No response for this item]

- ☒ By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is certifying the assurances set out above.

SECTION 15: Federal Certifications

The box after each certification must be checked by the State CSBG authorized official.

15.1. Lobbying

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

- ☒ By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.

15.2. Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

This certification is required by the regulations implementing the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988: 45 CFR Part 76, Subpart, F. Sections 76.630(c) and (d)(2) and 76.645 (a)(1) and (b) provide that a Federal agency may designate a central receipt point for STATE-WIDE AND STATE AGENCY-WIDE certifications, and for notification of criminal drug convictions. For the Department of Health and Human Services, the central point is: Division of Grants Management and Oversight, Office of Management and Acquisition, Department of Health and Human Services, Room 517-D, 200 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20201.

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (Instructions for Certification)

- (1) By signing and/or submitting this application or grant agreement, the grantee is providing the certification set out below.
- (2) The certification set out below is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. If it is later determined that the grantee knowingly rendered a false certification, or otherwise violates the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, the agency, in addition to any other remedies available to the Federal Government, may take action authorized under the Drug-Free Workplace Act.
- (3) For grantees other than individuals, Alternate I applies.
- (4) For grantees who are individuals, Alternate II applies.
- (5) Workplaces under grants, for grantees other than individuals, need to be identified on the certification. If known, they may be identified in the grant application. If the grantee does not identify the workplaces at the time of application, or upon award, if there is no application, the grantee must keep the identity of the workplace(s) on file in its office and make the information available for Federal inspection. Failure to identify all known workplaces constitutes a violation of the grantee's drug-free workplace requirements.
- (6) Workplace identifications must include the actual address of buildings (or parts of buildings) or other sites where work under the grant takes place. Categorical descriptions may be used (e.g., all vehicles of a mass transit authority or State highway department while in operation, State employees in each local unemployment office, performers in concert halls or radio studios).
- (7) If the workplace identified to the agency changes during the performance of the grant, the grantee shall inform the agency of the change(s), if it previously identified the workplaces in question (see paragraph five).
- (8) Definitions of terms in the Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment common rule and Drug-Free Workplace common rule apply to this certification. Grantees' attention is called, in particular, to the following definitions from these rules:

Controlled substance means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15);

Conviction means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes;

Criminal drug statute means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance;

Employee means the employee of a grantee directly engaged in the performance of work under a grant, including: (i) All direct charge employees; (ii) All indirect charge employees unless their impact or involvement is insignificant to the performance of the grant; and, (iii) Temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the grant and who are on the grantee's payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the grantee (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the grantee's payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).

Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Alternate I. (Grantees Other Than Individuals)

The grantee certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

- (a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
- (b) Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about - -
 - (1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - (2) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - (3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - (4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;
- (c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);
- (d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will - -
 - (1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
 - (2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;
- (e) Notifying the agency in writing, within 10 calendar days after receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;
- (f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted - -
 - (1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
 - (2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;

- (g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).

The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant:

Place of Performance (Street address, city, county, state, zip code) [\[Narrative, 2500 characters\]](#)

- ☐ Check if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here. Alternate II. (Grantees Who Are Individuals)
- (a) The grantee certifies that, as a condition of the grant, he or she will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance in conducting any activity with the grant;
- (b) If convicted of a criminal drug offense resulting from a violation occurring during the conduct of any grant activity, he or she will report the conviction, in writing, within 10 calendar days of the conviction, to every grant officer or other designee, unless the Federal agency designates a central point for the receipt of such notices. When notice is made to such a central point, it shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant.

[55 FR 21690, 21702, May 25, 1990]

- ☒ By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.

15.3. Debarment

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters — Primary Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

- (1) By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out below.
- (2) The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective primary participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.
- (3) The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the department or agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective primary participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.
- (4) The prospective primary participant shall provide immediate written notice to the department or agency to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective primary participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- (5) The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the department or agency to which this proposal is being submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
- (6) The prospective primary participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.
- (7) The prospective primary participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusive-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," provided by the department or agency entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

- (8) A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.
- (9) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
- (10) Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters — Primary Covered Transactions

- (1) The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:
 - (a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded by any Federal department or agency;
 - (b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
 - (c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and
 - (d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
- (2) Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion — Lower Tier Covered Transactions

Instructions for Certification

- (1) By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.
- (2) The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
- (3) The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or had become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- (4) The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meaning set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
- (5) The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.
- (6) The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
- (7) A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.
- (8) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

- (9) Except for transactions authorized under paragraph five of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion — Lower Tier Covered Transactions

- (1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.
- (2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.
- ☒ By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.

15.4. Environmental Tobacco Smoke

Public Law 103227, Part C Environmental Tobacco Smoke, also known as the Pro Children Act of 1994, requires that smoking not be permitted in any portion of any indoor routinely owned or leased or contracted for by an entity and used routinely or regularly for provision of health, day care, education, or library services to children under the age of 18, if the services are funded by Federal programs either directly or through State or local governments, by Federal grant, contract, loan, or loan guarantee. The law does not apply to children's services provided in private residences, facilities funded solely by Medicare or Medicaid funds, and portions of facilities used for inpatient drug or alcohol treatment. Failure to comply with the provisions of the law may result in the imposition of a civil monetary penalty of up to \$1000 per day and/or the imposition of an administrative compliance order on the responsible entity by signing and submitting this application the applicant/grantee certifies that it will comply with the requirements of the Act.

The applicant/grantee further agrees that it will require the language of this certification be included in any subawards which contain provisions for the children's services and that all subgrantees shall certify accordingly.

- ☒ By checking this box, the state CSBG authorized official is providing the certification set out above.