

**State Small Business Credit Initiative
Investing in America Small Business Opportunity Program
(SSBCI Investing in America SBOP)**

Pre-Application Webinar II

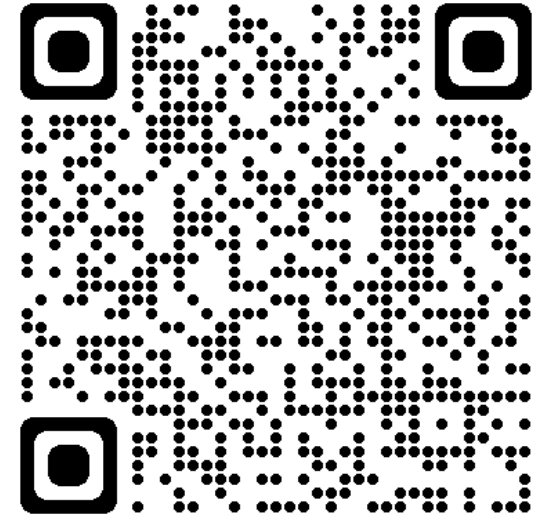
January 17, 2024 @ 4:00 pm Eastern Time



Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Summary
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4. Program Overview
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 - f) Application Submission
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Scan QR Code for NOFO



Webinar Disclaimer

This presentation does not contain the full text of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP. Before applying, eligible applicants should thoroughly review the NOFO (see [link](#) or scan QR code above), as well as FAQs and other guidance published on Treasury's website.

SSBCI Technical Assistance (TA) Program Team

- ❖ Jeffrey Stout, *SSBCI Director*
- ❖ Jamie Lipsey, *Senior Policy Advisor*
- ❖ Karyn Bruggeman, *Senior Policy Advisor*
- ❖ Peter Gillen, *Program Manager*

- ❖ Terrie Riley, *Grants Manager*
- ❖ Carmen Reed, *Grants Manager*
- ❖ Terry Valladares, *Program Manager (contract support)*

Summary

Investing In America Small Business Opportunity Program

Funding opportunity: \$75 million in **discretionary** grants of \$5 to \$10 million for technical assistance to underserved and businesses with fewer than 10 employees. Eligible applicants include states, territories, and Tribal governments. Eligible uses include legal, accounting, and financial advisory services. [See NOFO here](#).

Program goals:

1. Connect eligible businesses to financing
2. Reach sectors related to the Investing In America agenda (CHIPS, BIL, IRA)
3. Incentivize innovative partnerships
4. Scale programs with non-federal match

Application Portal: Expected to open for application submission in **Spring 2024**

Deadline: **60 calendar days** after application portal opens

Updates: [PDF of draft application \(application materials\)*](#)

[FAQ document](#)

[SBOP one-pager](#)

**Publication of this draft version of the application does not open the application submission window or start the 60-calendar day application deadline clock referenced in the NOFO.*

The Investing in America Agenda

President Biden's [Investing in America](#) Agenda includes legislation that is mobilizing historic levels of public and private investments in infrastructure, manufacturing, and clean energy, and together present an opportunity to ensure new projects build wealth and opportunity for underserved entrepreneurs and small business owners.

| | |
|---|--|
| <p><u>American Rescue Plan</u> \$1.9T for local governments, schools, broadband, housing, small business, public health & more</p> | <p><u>CHIPS and Science Act</u> Private companies have announced \$234B for semiconductors and electronics</p> |
| <p><u>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law</u> \$550B in new funding for roads, airports, ports, mass transit, water, broadband, and climate resiliency</p> | <p><u>Inflation Reduction Act</u> Funding to incentivize clean energy manufacturing, batteries/EVs, clean power, and climate resiliency</p> |

Learn More

[Office of Capital Access](#)
[U.S. Treasury](#)

[Build.gov](#)
[The White House](#)

[CHIPS for America](#)
[NIST](#)

[CleanEnergy.gov](#)
[The White House](#)

Program Overview

- Through the **SSBCI Investing in America SBOP**, which is a competitive grant program, Treasury intends to award grant funding to support programs that propose **innovative and high-impact models** for delivering TA in the areas of legal, accounting, and financial advisory services (**TA services**) to **very small businesses (VSBs)** and businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (**SEDI-owned businesses**), as defined in the NOFO, particularly those in the infrastructure, manufacturing, and clean energy space.
- VSBs and SEDI-owned businesses applying for jurisdiction SSBCI capital programs and other federal or other jurisdiction small business programs are collectively referred to as “eligible beneficiaries.”
- This program is related to and supports the **SSBCI Capital Program** and the allocation formula-based **SSBCI TA Grant Program**.

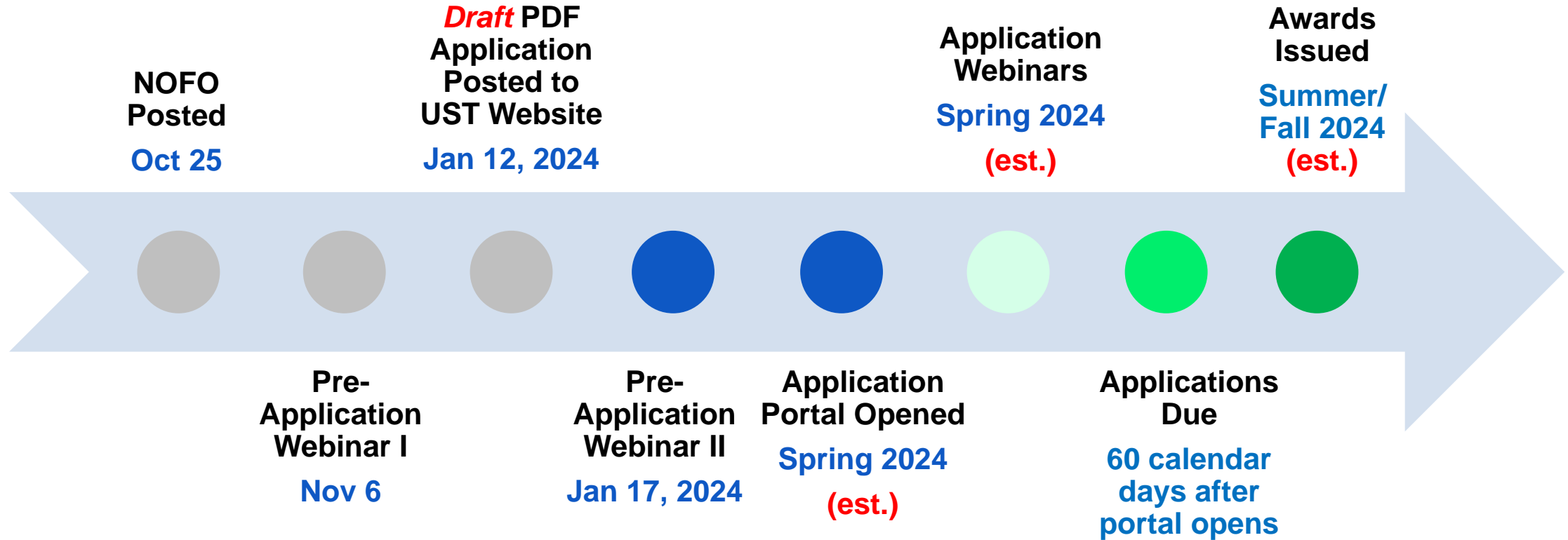
Overview of SSBCI Capital and Technical Assistance Programs

Overall, SSBCI supports small businesses and entrepreneurship in communities across the country by providing capital and technical assistance to promote small business stability, growth, and success.

The following programs are under the SSBCI authorization and statute:

| Program Name | Overview | Application Deadline |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| SSBCI Capital Program | Provides funding to states, the District of Columbia, territories, and Tribal governments to expand access to capital for small businesses emerging from the pandemic, build ecosystems of opportunity and entrepreneurship, and create high-quality jobs. | Deadline passed |
| SSBCI TA Grant Program | Allocation formula-based grant program that funds the provision of TA LAF services to eligible small businesses applying for SSBCI funding and other government small business programs. | Deadline passed |
| Investing in America SBOP | Competitive grant program seeking to provide grant funding to applications that propose innovative and high-impact models for delivering TA LAF services to underserved and VSBs. | Application opens: Spring 2024 |
| MBDA Capital Readiness Program | Competitive grant program that funds technical assistance to help minority and other underserved entrepreneurs grow and scale their businesses | Deadline passed |

Key Dates/ Milestones



Frequently Asked Questions

- How is the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP different from the SSBCI TA Grant Program awards that are already being distributed to eligible recipients?

The existing SSBCI TA Grant Program is an allocation formula-based grant program, which means that funds were allocated to all eligible jurisdictions. Under the formula TA Grant Program, all eligible jurisdictions that submitted complete and approvable applications are generally recommended for funding. Treasury works closely with jurisdictions throughout the award approval process.

Unlike the formula TA Grant Program, the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP is a competitive grant program, which means that complete and timely applications from eligible applicants are evaluated based on the criteria specified in the NOFO, and only certain applicants will be selected for funding. Out of fairness to all applicants, Treasury staff cannot provide strategic assistance to prospective applicants and anticipates answering common applicant questions via publication of updates to the FAQs.

Frequently Asked Questions

- What are some examples of opportunities resulting from or aligned with investments under recent federal legislation?

As noted above, one objective of the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP is to support eligible businesses as they connect and scale into opportunities resulting from or aligned with investments under new federal legislation. Examples of such opportunities are:

- ✓ *Business opportunities related to BIL include high-speed internet expansion, road construction, airport modernization, power grid updates, and public transit expansion, all of which may include construction, engineering, installation, and manufacturing work.*
- ✓ *Business opportunities related to CHIPS include fabrication of semi-conductors, including the related supply chain logistics and needed service providers.*
- ✓ *Business opportunities related to the IRA include the development or installation of renewable energy technologies; building weatherization and energy efficiency services; and manufacturing of batteries, solar, and wind parts and the development of technologies like carbon capture systems and electrolyzers to make hydrogen, all of which may include construction, engineering, manufacturing, supply chain, and logistics work.*

Frequently Asked Questions

- How directly must programs align with federal investments?

Through the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP, Treasury seeks to advance programs that “support eligible businesses as they connect and scale into opportunities resulting from or aligned with investments under federal legislation” (see Section A.3 of the NOFO). Treasury expects that the strongest applications will identify specific opportunities to connect businesses to capital needed to participate in an existing economic development cluster or to participate in manufacturing, supply chain, or contracting opportunities, particularly including opportunities generated by recent federal legislation (see the evaluation criteria in Section E.1 of the NOFO).

Frequently Asked Questions

- Must applicants develop new programs and partnerships for SSBCI, or may they apply to expand work on existing programs and partnerships?

There is no requirement in the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP NOFO that an applicant propose a new program or new partnerships. An applicant may propose an expansion of existing work with existing partners. However, please review the evaluation criteria in Section E.1 of the NOFO carefully; one application criterion is how the application effectively provides TA for SEDI-owned businesses and VSBs and identifies how the proposed project will improve outcomes from prior efforts.

For example, if an applicant proposes to expand work under existing programs or partnerships, the applicant may wish to describe what it will do differently to effectively reach SEDI-owned businesses and VSBs, which may include such as engaging new partners and/or developing a new outreach strategy.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Our jurisdiction does not currently have relevant TA programs in place, can it still apply for a grant under the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP?

Yes. There is no requirement that a jurisdiction have relevant TA programs in place to be eligible to apply for a grant under this program. Please review the evaluation criteria in Section E.1 of the NOFO carefully.

- Our jurisdiction is relatively small. Can we compete with larger jurisdictions that have established programs?

Treasury will take into consideration the geographic coverage of awards, including a diversity of service area types, and whether potential recipients represent a range of sizes (by jurisdiction population) and poverty rates.

The Competitive NOFO at a Glance



Program Summary

Type of awards: Discretionary grants

Estimated total program funding: \$75 million

Estimated award ceiling: \$10 million*

Estimated award floor: \$5 million*

Estimated number of awards: 8 to 15

Period of performance: Up to 36 months (3 years)**

Application deadline: 60 calendar days from the date the application is available***

Application submission: must be via the forthcoming UST portal at
<https://portal.treasury.gov/cares/s/ssbci-home-page>

**Treasury anticipates that larger awards will have a regional focus that involves collaboration between jurisdictions. The ranges are provided only for your information and may prove useful for planning purposes. Actual amounts awarded may be higher or lower, based on availability of funds.*

***The length of the period of performance should be based on the assessed needs of the jurisdiction's eligible small businesses and must be clearly articulated in all budget documents.*

****Treasury will publish a separate notification when the program application is published that **specifies the application deadline** and will update the NOFO accordingly.*

NOFO Key Points



- An application will receive **more points** in the review process if it:
 - ✓ Includes high-quality existing or proposed collaborations with **project partners**, which may include other jurisdictions, cities, or other political subdivisions, educational institutions, community-serving organizations, and industry stakeholders
 - ✓ Leverages public or private **cash matching commitments** that will contribute to successful outcomes and project long-term sustainability
 - ✓ Is designed to **serve eligible small businesses on a regional basis** as described in the NOFO.
- Recipients may **make subawards** to other organizations to act in an administrative role. Please review the NOFO carefully for requirements applicable to TA providers, which must be either jurisdiction entities or legal, accounting, or financial advisory firms (LAF firms).

Competition Overview – Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include:

1. Any jurisdiction that has been **approved as a participating jurisdiction in the SSBCI Capital Program**.
2. Jurisdictions that are not yet approved as participating jurisdictions in the SSBCI Capital Program, but **that have submitted complete and timely SSBCI Capital Program applications** (or are part of a joint Tribal government application), are also eligible to apply; however, to receive an SSBCI Investing in America SBOP award, a jurisdiction must be approved as a participating jurisdiction in the SSBCI Capital Program.
3. **Groups of Tribal governments may apply jointly** (i.e., in consortia).
4. States, territories, and the District of Columbia **may not apply jointly**, but an application from these applicants or from Tribal governments will receive more points if the TA program is designed to serve eligible small businesses on a **regional basis** as described in the NOFO. See **Section C.1** and the “Project Reach” evaluation criterion in **Section E.1** of the NOFO.
 - The NOFO describes 4 ways an applicant may be considered for regional collaboration points.

Competition Overview – Eligible Beneficiaries

-  Eligible beneficiaries (i.e., businesses eligible to receive TA services under this program) are **VSBs and SEDI-owned businesses** that are applying for a jurisdiction's SSBCI Capital Program or other federal or other jurisdiction small business program. VSBs and SEDI-owned businesses are defined in the NOFO **Section A.2 – Key Terms**.
-  Some businesses **may qualify as both VSBs and SEDI-owned businesses**. A recipient can consider these businesses as VSBs, SEDI-owned businesses, or both for all purposes for grants made under the SSBCI Investing In America SBOP NOFO.

Competition Overview – Eligible TA Providers

A recipient may:

1. **Provide TA services itself** under an award,
2. **Make a subaward** for an entity of the recipient (e.g., a state agency or government corporation) or an LAF firm to provide TA services under an award,
3. **Contract with third-party LAF firms** to provide TA services, or
4. **Make a subaward to a non-federal entity** (as defined at [2 CFR § 200.1](#)) that is not an entity of the recipient (e.g., a state entity or other jurisdiction entity) or LAF firm, if the subrecipient acts in an administrative role and will contract with or make subawards to jurisdiction entities or LAF firms that serve as TA providers.

See **Section C.3** of the NOFO.

Competition Overview – Eligible TA Services



Funds are for the provision of **legal, accounting, and financial advisory** services (i.e., TA services) intended to help eligible beneficiaries applying for SSBCI capital or for other federal or other jurisdiction programs that support small businesses. Such services include a wide variety of assistance throughout the business life cycle.

A list of example TA services can be found in **Section C.4 of the NOFO**.

Competition Overview – Non-Federal Matching Funds

- **Non-federal matching funds** (also referred to as cost sharing or third-party funds) are not required under the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP; however, applicants are encouraged to demonstrate an ability to leverage additional sources of funding to increase the impact of the award.
 - Examples of matching fund sources could include **commitments from businesses, non-profits, including philanthropic partners, and the jurisdiction's own non-federal funds.**
- Any proposed matching funds must be:
 - ✓ **Cash;**
 - ✓ **Included in the project budget;** and
 - ✓ **Available at the time of award, committed to the project, and not encumbered in any way** that would preclude their use for the applicant's proposed project.
- **In-kind contributions are prohibited as match** under the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP.

Competition Overview – Non-Federal Matching Funds (cont.)

- Applications that can demonstrate how the use of matching funds will be leveraged in conjunction with SSBCI Investing in America SBOP grant funds to make a **significant impact in providing needed TA services** to eligible small businesses **will be prioritized** in the application evaluation criteria. Refer to the **Section E.1** of the NOFO (Budget and Timeline evaluation criterion).
- If an applicant proposes matching funds in the project budget, all such funds **must be documented** by a letter of commitment from each provider of the funds, as applicable, that clearly:
 - **States the amount; and**
 - **States or evidences that the funds are available, committed, and unencumbered.**
- Matching funds that do not have corresponding letters of commitment **will not be considered in the application review process**. See also Slide 31 of this presentation.

Application Information

Summary of the application elements

| Application Documents | |
|-----------------------|---|
| i | Applicant Letter of Designation |
| ii | Delegation of Authority and Joint Tribal Application Designation Documentation (<i>if applicable</i>) |
| iii | Program Design and Substance |
| iv | Budget Narrative (using the budget categories of Form SF-424A “Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs”) |
| v | Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement/Cost Allocation Plan (<i>if applicable</i>) |
| vi | Form SF-LLL “Disclosure of Lobbying Activities” (<i>if applicable</i>) |
| vii | Assurances of Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements |
| viii | SSBCI Investing in America SBOP Assurances and Certifications |
| ix | Other Supporting Documentation (<i>if applicable</i>) |

Application Information – Designation Documents

i. Applicant Letter of Designation

The eligible applicant, which may be a specific department, agency, or political subdivision of the relevant jurisdiction, will be required to submit a **designation letter** on official letterhead signed by the governor of the state, mayor of the District of Columbia, or governing official of the territory or Tribal government stating or evidencing that they have designated the eligible applicant to do the actions listed in **Section D.2.b.i.** of the NOFO on behalf of the jurisdiction.

ii. Delegation of Authority and Joint Tribal Application Designation Documentation (if applicable)

If the Authorized Official named in the application has **delegated the authority to another official** of the applicant jurisdiction to certify and electronically sign the application on behalf of the jurisdiction, documentation evidencing the delegation of authority must be submitted to Treasury on official letterhead. In addition, joint Tribal applications require additional information.

The forthcoming application template (which will be posted on Treasury's website) will provide additional information on both requirements.

iii. Program Design and Substance

- The Program Design and Substance is the section of the application where applicants should detail their project plan for providing TA services to eligible beneficiaries.
- It should be a **maximum of 15 total pages (12-point font, one-inch margins)**, including any exhibits or attachments. ***Material beyond 15 pages will not be read or considered.***

Content and Structure

To be considered complete, the Program Design and Substance must include the following sections:

- **Executive Summary (up to one page)**
- **Description of Project Service Area and Potential to Connect Eligible Beneficiaries to Opportunities**
- **Proposed Solution**
- **Key Partners and Project Support**
- **Organizational Capacity and Experience**
- **Performance Goals and Measures**

For more information about the specific information that should be contained in each section of the Program Design and Substance, please refer to **section D.2.b.iii.b** of the NOFO.

iv. Budget Narrative

Applicants must:

- Provide a budget narrative using Treasury's budget narrative template, which will be posted on Treasury's website.
- Identify and explain how funds in each line item of the budget will be used to support the proposed project. **Reviewers will consider whether the budget aligns with the proposed project.**
- Provide specific justification for all budget categories that apply, including **eligible direct cost categories** (i.e., personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, supplies, contractual, and other), **eligible indirect costs**, and **program income**.
- Explain the **necessity, allowability, reasonableness, and allocability** of proposed costs in accordance with [2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E](#) and other program guidance, including **Section D.2.b.iv** of the NOFO.

iv. Budget Narrative (cont.)

- Each cost category should be treated consistently in like circumstances as direct or indirect costs. Do not **double-count** any costs as both direct and indirect costs.
- Do not repeat information provided in the Program Design and Substance section, but provide additional detail needed to understand the amounts allocated to each budget line item.
- **Include the computation for each budget line item.**
- Clearly identify any non-federal matching funds committed to the proposed project.

iv. Budget Narrative (cont.)

Unallowable Costs (expenses that will not be funded)

- The same unallowable costs identified across the different budget categories are also unallowable under subawards.
- Note that unallowable costs listed below are typically unallowable no matter which category they are placed under.

Unallowable Personnel Costs – If your organization charges an indirect cost, those costs normally include certain positions, and therefore these positions should not be charged as personnel costs to avoid possible duplication.

Unallowable Fringe Benefits – If an applicant's indirect cost rate agreement includes fringe benefits, these costs may not be charged directly to the project.

Unallowable Travel – these include but are not limited to alcoholic beverages, costs exceeding the FTR in the absence of an organizational travel policy, credit card fees, entertainment, and foreign travel.

iv. Budget Narrative (cont.)

Unallowable Supplies – these include but are not limited to conference or event swag, including T-shirts, bags, or mugs, promotional items and memorabilia, shared items between projects (these should be captured in your indirect costs or charged based on the percentage allocation to this project).

Unallowable Contractual Costs – these include but are not limited to compensation of federal employees, building-based construction costs, and costs required for the establishment or reorganization of a recipient, subrecipient, or contractor under an award.

Unallowable Other Costs – these include but are not limited to advertising and public relations designed solely to promote the recipient, costs for audits not required or performed in accordance with the Single Audit Act or 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F, and membership fees to organizations whose primary activity is lobbying.

Application Information – Other Documents

v. Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement/Cost Allocation Plan (if applicable)

If indirect costs are proposed in the budget, such costs must be supported by either a current federally approved Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) or, if the applicant does not have a current NICRA and receives less than \$35 million in direct federal funding per year, the applicant may elect to use the de minimis indirect cost rate, 10 percent of modified total direct costs (MTDC), as defined at [2 CFR § 200.414\(f\)](#).

vi. Form SF-LLL “Disclosure of Lobbying Activities” (if applicable)

Form SF-LLL is required for an applicant to disclose any lobbying activities. If an applicant does not have any lobbying activities to disclose, Form SF-LLL is not a required submission.

Application Information – Other Documents

vii. Assurances of Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements

- If approved, recipients must comply with legal requirements related to nondiscrimination and nondiscriminatory use of federal funds, where such laws are applicable to a recipient and any subrecipient or contractor operating program activities on the recipient's behalf.
- All state, D.C., and territory applicants must download, review, and have the Authorized Official sign the assurances of compliance with civil rights requirements form (which will be made available in Treasury's forthcoming portal or on Treasury's website).
- **Any state, the District of Columbia, or territory that is recommended for funding under this NOFO will be required to undergo a Title VI of the Civil Rights Act pre-award compliance review before being funded and be required to complete a Title VI Narrative form that will be separately provided by Treasury.**
 - ✓ Applicants may, but are not required, to submit a Title VI Narrative form with the application.

Application Information – Other Documents (cont.)

viii. SSBCI Investing in America SBOP Assurances and Certifications

All applicants must review, sign, and submit the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP Assurances and Certifications which will be included with the application and will become part of the grant agreement.

ix. a. Letter(s) of Matching Funds Commitment (if applicable)

If matching funds are proposed in the project budget, they must be documented by a letter of commitment from each provider of the funds, as applicable, that clearly:

- ✓ States the amount; and
- ✓ States or evidences that the funds are available, committed, and unencumbered.

Matching funds that do **not** have corresponding letters of commitment will not be considered in the application review process.

Application Information – Other Documents (cont.)

ix. b. Optional Programmatic Supporting Documentation – Letters of Regional Coordination and/or Letters of Partnership

Applicants may provide documents that substantiate elements of their application and their ability to successfully execute the project. These documents may include:

- ✓ Letters from other jurisdictions, including municipalities, **demonstrating a plan to coordinate on a regional approach** (as consistent with NOFO **Section C.1**); and
- ✓ Letters of **partnership support**, which detail the specific roles and responsibilities of engaged project partners

Application Submission

SAM.GOV® registration:

- All applicants must be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM) and provide a valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) in the application. Applicants may visit [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) to complete the registration and obtain an UEI.
- If you have already registered on SAM.gov, please log on to SAM.gov and confirm that your registration is active with current information and that a UEI has been assigned to the applicant.
- Please also see **Section D.3 of the NOFO** for more information on UEI requirements and SAM.gov.

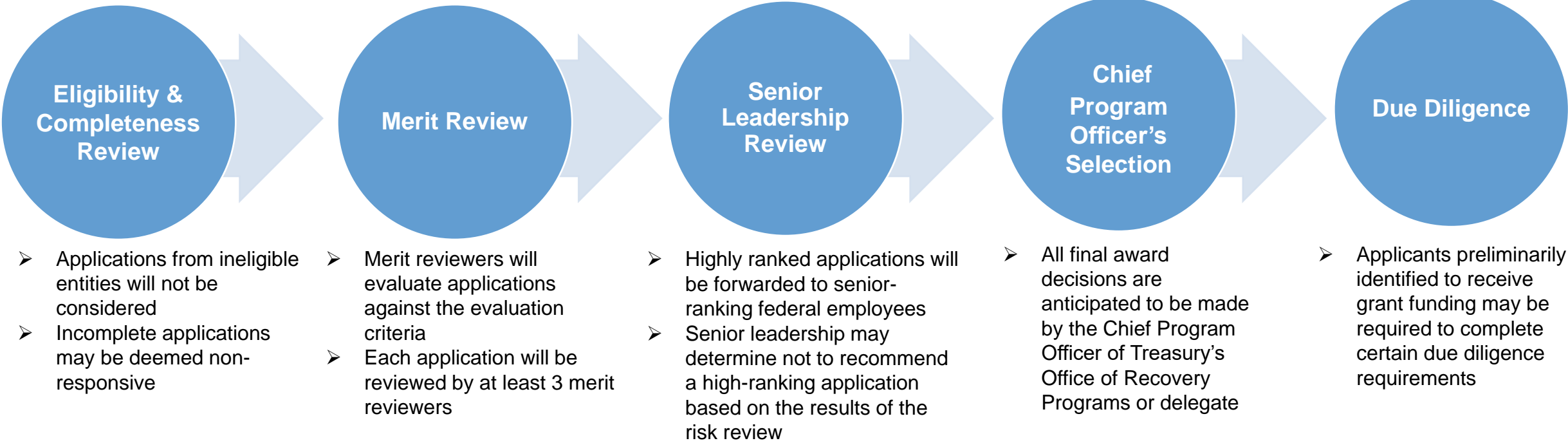
Creating an ID.me account for Treasury Portal access:

- An applicant must create an ID.me account to apply through Treasury's Portal under the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP.
- To get started, visit [Treasury's ID.me](#) "Create Account" page.

Application Submission Portal

- Applications must be submitted through Treasury's forthcoming Portal, which will be available at <https://portal.treasury.gov/cares/s/ssbci-home-page>.
- Treasury **will not accept paper, facsimile, or e-mail transmissions of applications** unless the means of alternate submission has been approved in writing by Treasury prior to the application deadline.
- *For technical support with Treasury's Portal, please e-mail SSBCI_information@treasury.gov.*

Review and Selection Process



Clarification from applicants

Throughout the review and selection process, Treasury reserves the right to seek clarification from applicants whose applications are being reviewed. Treasury may ask applicants to clarify application materials, objectives, and scope of work, or modify budgets or other specifics necessary to comply with federal requirements and the amount of available funding.

Evaluation Criteria

- Submitted applications will be reviewed and scored competitively against 4 main criteria.
- Each criterion is given a weight, based on the points listed.
- Merit reviewers will respond to prompts for the scoring factors under each criterion by indicating the extent to which they agree with the statement as it applies to the application, from “**strongly disagree**” (1 point) to “**strongly agree**” (5 points).



Evaluation Criteria (cont.)

Scoring factors for reviewers to consider

| Proposed Goals and Proposed Solutions (40 points total) | |
|--|------------------|
| To what extent do you agree that the application identifies specific TA opportunities to connect businesses to capital needed to participate in an existing economic development cluster or to participate in manufacturing, supply chain, or contracting opportunities, particularly including opportunities generated by recent federal legislation? | 15 points |
| To what extent do you agree that the application's outreach strategy and partners credibly address the opportunities identified? | 10 points |
| To what extent do you agree that the application effectively provides TA for SEDI-owned businesses and VSBs and identifies how the proposed project will improve outcomes from prior efforts to increase such businesses' ability to secure financing and business opportunities | 10 points |
| To what extent do you agree that the application includes high-quality existing or proposed collaborations with project partners, which may include other jurisdictions, cities, or other political subdivisions, educational institutions, community-serving organizations, and industry stakeholders (e.g., companies, suppliers, and service providers) | 5 points |

Evaluation Criteria (cont.)

Scoring factors for reviewers to consider

| Organizational Capacity (30 points total) | |
|--|------------------|
| To what extent do you agree that the applicant and TA providers have the capacity to execute the plan presented? | 20 points |
| To what extent do you agree that the TA providers have the capacity to provide services in a linguistically and culturally relevant manner? | 10 points |
| Budget and Timeline (25 points total) | |
| To what extent do you agree that the budget line items appear to be reasonable, allowable, and allocable to the proposed project? | 5 points |
| To what extent do you agree that the budget narrative appears to be feasible and aligns with the activities described in the Program Design and Substance section of the application? | 10 points |
| To what extent do you agree that the application is supported by leveraged public or private matching fund commitments that will contribute to successful outcomes and project long-term sustainability? | 10 points |

Evaluation Criteria (cont.)

Scoring factors for reviewers to consider

Project Reach (10 points total)

To what extent do you agree that the proposed project will result in a regional economic benefit beyond the reach of the applicant's standard jurisdiction?

10 points

Notice of Award

- If an application is selected for funding, Treasury will issue a Notice of Award (NoA) document that **includes the award terms and conditions and any special award conditions applicable to the award**, including any specific conditions imposed on the recipient's award because of a pre-award risk assessment.
- The applicant's Authorized Representative must review and accept the award agreement without modification within the specified timeframe indicated in the NoA. Otherwise, Treasury may irrevocably withdraw the grant without any additional notification to the applicant.
- If an applicant is awarded funding, **Treasury is not under any obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with the award or to make any future awards.** Amendment or renewal of an award to increase the grant funding or to extend the period of performance is at the discretion of Treasury.

Award Notification



It is anticipated that awards will be announced **in or after summer 2024**.

Award notification will be sent electronically via **email**.



Any public announcements on awardees will be posted on [Treasury's website](#).

Treasury will provide **written notice** to all applicants informing them whether their application was selected for funding.



All award decisions are **final** and not subject to appeal.

Upcoming Events to Note

Winter 2023/2024 – We intend to host application webinars and portal demos to discuss the application package and how to submit applications via the Treasury Portal.

Winter/Spring 2024 – We intend to host office hours sessions to respond to questions on the application package and portal submission.

Dates and times for the events above will be shared with jurisdictions and interested parties/stakeholders in advance and a registration link provided.

Resources/References

SSBCI Investing in America SBOP

- [Competitive NOFO](#)
- [FAQ document](#)
- [SBOP one-pager](#)
- [PDF of draft application \(application materials\)](#)
- [Assistance Listing 21.034](#)

- **Authorizing Authority:** The statutory authority for the SSBCI Investing in America SBOP is section 3009(e)(1) of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 (SSBCI statute), as added by section 3301(d) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) and codified at [12 U.S.C. § 5708\(e\)\(1\)](#)
- **Appropriation Authority:** This program is funded by section [3301\(a\)\(2\) of ARPA](#).
- **Additional Resources:**
 - [SSBCI Capital Program Policy Guidelines](#)
 - [Technical Assistance Grant Program Reporting Guidance](#)
 - [2 CFR § 200](#) – Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards

Q&A Session

- Please submit relevant questions using the meeting chat feature.
- In case we are unable to answer all questions, or if you have a follow-up question, please email SSBCI_Information@treasury.gov with the subject line *SSBCI Investing in America SBOP*.
- Questions related to the strategic aspects of project creation cannot be answered during the application stage, out of fairness to all applicants. We anticipate addressing common questions via publication of FAQs on Treasury's website.

