

Community Investment Training Eligibility



Small towns, big opportunities.

Who should participate?

- Individuals with an existing or new project idea that has not been fully developed into a proposal
- Community leaders who see project opportunities because of their community volunteerism or organizing
- People working or consulting for grassroots and established community development organizations
- Nonprofits, civic groups, foundations, United Ways or faith-based organizations
- Local and regional economic development organizations
- Local governments including city, town or county staff
- Rural-serving community development financial institutions
- People who support Main Street or small business development
- People involved in community planning processes
- People with authority to make decisions and influence the agenda of an organization or community



Questions?

To learn how to participate, contact Shannon Sansone at Shannon.Sansone@rich.frb.org or 704-641-9468



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Community Investment Training

Project Readiness Assessment

This project readiness self-assessment will help you to determine if you are ready to apply for the Community Investment Training. Please think about your community and the project you would work on during the training when going through the following checklist. You do not have to answer all of the questions below, nor do you need to upload the checklist with your application.

Considering the items below will help you and your community determine if you have the assets and support needed to maximize your participation in the training cohort. If you find that applying at this time is not right for you, the readiness assessment can help you identify areas to continue working on to prepare for the next training cohort.

[Please note: Community Investment Training is not a grant writing training. Projects need to involve multiple types of funding.]

Personal Commitment:

- Is applicant able and prepared to attend all training sessions?
- If accepted into the training program, is applicant able to complete the Community Development Finance 101 course prior to the start of the training?
- Does the applicant's employer support their participation in the training program?

Shared Vision:

Community Context and Impact:

- Does the project benefit the community as a whole (not just an individual or corporation)?
- Is there a demonstration of community need for this project and the value-added?



- Does the project build on community strengths and/or create new opportunities for the community?
- Does the project address local history and culture of the community?

Leadership and Sponsorship:

- Is there existing interest in the project from local government, state government, a foundation, nonprofit, or an investor?
- Is a community-based institution ready to support this project?

Community Engagement:

- Is there a preliminary plan to engage diverse community members and organizations in the activation of the project?
- Is the project part of an existing community development strategy, community needs assessment, or other community planning process?

Challenges and Opportunities:

- Have you identified potential obstacles to designing and implementing the project?
- Have you identified assets and people that could help you overcome barriers to project success?

Technical Assistance and Experts:

- What services and professional help do you think you will need to complete your project? (e.g. market analysis, feasibility study, business plans, engineering study, architectural renderings, etc.)
- Which of the needed services or professional help do you have in your community or region?

Inventory of Assets:

- What are the land and building needs related to this project?
- Do you have estimates of building, structure, square footage, and equipment needs?
- Do you have site control, ownership options, or have potential properties identified?
- Do you have the rights to occupy, use, improve, and sell the property and any improvements?
- What changes would be needed to have those rights? (e.g. zoning or permitting)

Investment Needs:

- How much investment money do you think will be needed for pre-development planning and project development?
- What sources of investment do you think are needed for this project? (e.g. loans, tax credits, grants, in-kind donations)
- What sources of revenue could this project generate?



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