

# INVESTMENT CONNECTION

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of CLEVELAND  
Cleveland | Pittsburgh | Cincinnati

Community Development Investment and Lending Partnership

Dear Community Partner,

The Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland invites your organization to [submit](#) a proposal to our [Investment Connection](#) program, your opportunity to pitch—on-line and in-person—community and economic development projects that are likely to be Community Reinvestment Act (CRA)-eligible to potential funders (banks, foundations, and government agencies).\* If you have a proposal that addresses the needs of low- and moderate-income populations in the Lexington–Eastern Kentucky area,\*\* particularly with respect to **supporting a resilient workforce**, we hope you will take this opportunity and submit it for consideration. For this particular round of Investment Connection, we encourage proposals related to one or both of the following:

- Supporting workers’ ability to prepare for, adapt to, and thrive in changing environments
- Addressing barriers that keep the current and future workforce from reaching their full potential

Additionally, proposals must include activities under one or more of the four CRA Community Development purposes:

1. Affordable housing for low- and moderate-income individuals
2. Community services and facilities targeted to low- and moderate-income individuals
3. Small business development
4. Revitalization or stabilization of low- and moderate-income geographies or certain other underserved, distressed, or disaster areas designated by the government
5. **Response to the needs of low- and moderate-income individuals, small businesses, and small farms affected by COVID-19. Note: funds obtained due to connections made through this program are independent of, and therefore not affiliated with, federally funded relief programs.**

## Register now: Lexington-Eastern Kentucky Region\*\*

- **September 10:** Orientation and CRA Training Webinar
  - 10:00–11:00 am | [Register](#)
- **September 22:** Informational drop-in call to answer questions about the RFP process.
  - 1:00–2:00 pm | [Register](#)
- **October 6:** Deadline to submit your proposal to the [Investment Connection portal](#). Please be sure to attach your most recent reviewed or audited financials and 501 (c) (3) determination letter issued by the IRS.
- **November 10:** Selected proposals will be presented virtually before a virtual audience of funders.
  - 10:00–11:45 am | [Register](#)

All proposals that are likely CRA-eligible will be posted to the Investment Connection portal visible to banks and other funders.\*

For the November 10 event, up to 10 proposals will be selected for presenting. Should your proposal be selected, you will have five minutes to share information about your organization and your specific proposal, utilizing a one-slide PowerPoint template we will provide. Each proposal presentation will be followed by a short period of Q&A. To protect the safety and well-being of our employees and those we serve, this event will be a virtual meeting.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Completed and accepted submission
2. Project meets CRA eligibility\*
3. Project exhibits potential for impact
4. Submission of the following documents:
  - a. Current 501 (c) (3) determination letter
  - b. Board approved 2020 budget
  - c. Reviewed or audited financials
5. Alignment with the targeted geographic area. That is, the organization or project is or will be located within the Lexington-Eastern Kentucky region\*\*

## **SUBMIT TODAY!**

We look forward to learning about your organization and discussing your community and economic development proposal.

Please email any additional questions to [iccleveland@clev.frb.org](mailto:iccleveland@clev.frb.org).

[www.clevelandfed.org/investmentconnection](http://www.clevelandfed.org/investmentconnection)

\*Subject to CRA performance evaluation

\*\* Bath, Bell, Boone, Bourbon, Boyd, Bracken, Breathitt, Campbell, Carter, Clark, Clay, Elliott, Estill, Fayette, Fleming, Floyd, Garrard, Grant, Greenup, Harlan, Harrison, Jackson, Jessamine, Johnson, Kenton, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Lewis, Lincoln, Madison, Magoffin, Martin, Mason, McCreary, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Nicholas, Owsley, Pendleton, Perry, Pike, Powell, Pulaski, Robertson, Rockcastle, Rowan, Scott, Whitley, Wolfe, and Woodford counties.

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*The Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland is not a grant-making organization. The purpose of its presenting the Investment Connection program is to facilitate education, information sharing, and potential opportunities related to the CRA. The Cleveland Fed does not endorse or make any representations as to the propriety or suitability of the participating organizations, investments, or programs. Organizations should perform their own due diligence before engaging in any transactions with these entities to ensure that any such transactions meet the organization's objectives.*