



**Department of Human Services  
Online Directives Information  
System**

**Index: POL3240  
Revised: 04/18/19  
Next Review: 04/18/21**

**SUBJECT: Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program**

The policy of the Department of Human Services is to support projects that lessen poverty in communities, address the needs of low-income individuals including the homeless and the elderly and provide services and activities addressing employment, education, better use of available income, housing, nutrition, emergency services and health.

**A. Authority**

[Code of Federal Regulations 45 CFR Part 96](#)

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/resource/statute>

<https://www.congress.gov/105/plaws/publ285/PLAW-105publ285.htm>

**B. References**

[https://www.ssa.gov/OP\\_Home/comp2/F097-035.html](https://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/comp2/F097-035.html)

<http://uscode.house.gov/statutes/pl/103/252.pdf>

**C. Applicability**

The Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services, Office of Family Independence, Community Action Agencies and some county governments fulfill the requirements of the Community Services Block Grant Program.

**D. Definitions**

1. Low-Income Individual or Family – Any person or groups of persons whose income is equal to or less than 125% of the federal poverty level.
2. Eligible Entity – A private non-profit agency or public organization such as a county or local government that has been designated by legislation to receive funding through the Community Services Block Grant Program.
3. Community Action Agencies/Private Eligible Entities – Agencies created by local communities, designated by local government, approved by the Governor's office and funded by the federal government to provide a wide range of services as part of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. In Georgia, there are 20 private, non-profit Community Action Agencies serving all but four counties in the state.

4. Un-Capped Counties/Public Eligible Entities – Four county governments in Georgia (Cobb, Henry, Newton, Spalding) are designated as eligible entities to provide services directly under the program.
5. Georgia Community Action Association – The entity that serves to support the Community Action Agencies and Eligible Entities in the state. The Association is made up of the twenty Community Action Agencies and works with the Department of Human Resources to coordinate service delivery.

#### **E. Responsibilities**

The Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services, Office of Family Independence is responsible for issuing and updating the policies and procedures to implement CSBG. Interested individuals from the community are invited to review and comment of the annual programmatic state plan.

#### **F. Evaluation**

The outcomes of this directive are evaluated by the Office of Family Independence based on required reporting under the CSBG Act. The data collected will be used to determine how the program impacted the lives of low-income households and how the program can find better ways to service the citizens of Georgia.