

TA Grant Program eligible beneficiaries are VSBs and SEDI-owned businesses that are applying for, preparing to apply for, or have previously applied for a SSBCI capital program or other federal or other jurisdiction small business program.

A VSB is a business with fewer than 10 employees and includes independent contractors and sole proprietors.

A SEDI-owned business is:

- a business enterprise that certifies that it is owned and controlled by individuals who have had their access to credit on reasonable terms diminished compared to others in comparable economic circumstances, due to (1) membership of a group that has been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice or cultural bias within American society, (2) gender, (3) veteran status, (4) limited English proficiency, (5) disability, (6) long-term residence in an environment isolated from the mainstream of American society, (7) membership of a Federally or state-recognized Indian Tribe, (8) long-term residence in a rural community, (9) residence in a U.S. territory, (10) residence in a community undergoing economic transitions (including communities impacted by the shift towards a net-zero economy or deindustrialization), or (11) membership of an underserved community. (Underserved communities are populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life, as exemplified by the list in the definition of equity. Equity is consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.);²
- a business enterprise that certifies that it is owned and controlled by individuals whose residences are in Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Investment Areas, as defined in 12 C.F.R. § 1805.201(b)(3)(ii);²
- a business enterprise that certifies that it will build, open, or operate a location in a CDFI Investment Area, as defined in 12 C.F.R. § 1805.201(b)(3)(ii); or
- a business enterprise that certifies that it is located in a CDFI Investment Area, as defined in 12 C.F.R. § 1805.201(b)(3)(ii). ² The CDFI Fund evaluates Puerto Rico, but not other territories, in identifying CDFI Investment Areas.

For purposes of the SSBCI, Treasury has also evaluated American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands and has determined that these territories in their entirety constitute CDFI Investment Areas, because each of these territories has a poverty rate of at least 20 percent. See 12 C.F.R. § 1805.201(b)(3)(ii)(D)(1). 4 For purposes of the definition of “SEDI-owned business,” a business is “owned and controlled” by applicable individuals:

- (1) if privately owned, 51 percent or more is owned by such individuals;
- (2) if publicly owned, 51 percent more or of the stock is owned by such individuals;
- and
- (3) in the case of a mutual institution, if a majority of the board of directors, account holders, and the community which the institution services is predominantly comprised of such individuals.

Some businesses may qualify as both a SEDI-owned business and a VSB. An eligible recipient can consider these businesses as SEDI-owned businesses, VSBs, or both for all TA Grant Program purposes.