

Rural Empowerment and Development (RED) Program Application

Application Instructions

- Applicants will complete this PDF application document and attach the RED Local Team Spreadsheet and Past and Existing Plans Spreadsheet. Note: only submitted applications with attachments will be considered.
- Submit completed applications by October 30 by 12 p.m. ET to info@ocra.in.gov.
- Applicants will receive an acknowledgment of submitted application within two business days. We urge all applicants to contact OCRA at (317) 233-3762 if an acknowledgment is not received after the two-day time period.

General Information:

RED Local Team Name:

RED Local Project Manager Name:

RED Local Project Manager Telephone Number:

RED Local Project Manager Email Address:

Participating Communities

Community Name	CEO	CEO Email Address

IMPORTANT NOTE: Local teams should be led by either a:

- County-wide non-profit or,
- County government

Local teams should also include two or more incorporated local units of government within the county boundary. Any included municipality must have a population under 50,000 to participate. Applicant must not be involved in Stellar Pathways or PreservINg Main Street.



Background:

Q1. Provide a brief overview of the Region that you are requesting to be part of the Rural Empowerment & Development (RED) Program. Specifically, describe the included communities, the size and other relevant features of its population, some of its major community economic development activities and other characteristics that are important to note about this Region. *(limit: 2500 characters)*

RED Local Team:

Q2. How does the local team currently work together and how do you believe each partner compliments each other? *(limit: 2500 characters)*

Q3. How will you ensure the partnership thrives now and into the future? *(limit: 2500 characters)*

Q4. How do you plan to ensure all participating communities benefit from participation in a fair and meaningful way? *(limit: 2500 characters)*

Challenges and Opportunities:

Q5. What general challenges or opportunities is your Region hoping to address through the RED program? *(limit: 2500 characters)*

Q6. What does your Region see as the major benefits for participating in the RED program? Why does now feel like the right time to participate? *(limit: 2500 characters)*

Q7. How will participation bolster ongoing and current economic and community development efforts? *(limit: 2500 characters)*

Community Planning:

Q8. Does your community have a strategic or comprehensive plan that has been developed within the *last three years*?

- Yes
- No

Q9. If **YES**, how will involvement in this RED program align with and support your strategic plan? If **NO**, will your participation in the RED program help jump-start an effort by your community to begin developing a high-quality strategic plan? How? *(limit: 2500 characters)*

Attachments

Note: Application submissions will be INCOMPLETE without these two completed attachments:

Communities will be required to form a RED Local Team of approximately 40 individuals, with flexible participation among team members. **The team doesn't need to consist of the same 40 people throughout the process, as we understand participation will vary, with individuals contributing in different capacities at different times.** However, we believe 40 people provides a sufficient pool to ensure consistent involvement and help the community achieve its goals.

The team will be responsible for coordinating all aspects of the Rural Empowerment & Development (RED) program. It is crucial that team members: (1) represent various interest groups and organizations, (2) reflect the community's population diversity and (3) share a commitment to improving the community.

Applicants will use the OCRA-provided template and submit a spreadsheet of the names and position/affiliation information of the local team with the completed application.

[RED Local Team Spreadsheet](#)

[Past and Existing Plans Spreadsheet](#) ***Plans within the last three years**