# FY24 Community Health and Safety Works
## Frequently Asked Questions
*Updated 3.29.2024*

1. **Are we eligible to apply for the same project in this upcoming cycle? Does the previous award type, amount, or project site determine what we are eligible to apply for in this cycle?**

Requests for the continuation of previously funded projects are allowed.

2. **Does the neighborhood association have to be a non-profit to apply?**

Applicants must be tax exempt nonprofit organizations or local governments. If you are not a tax exempt nonprofit, you may apply with a fiscal sponsor that is a tax exempt nonprofit. If you are applying with a fiscal sponsor, they must provide you with their tax exempt determination letter, evidence of good standing, signed W9 form, and a letter of support to upload with your application.

3. **Can a tax exempt nonprofit act as a fiscal sponsor to more than one applicant?**

Yes.

4. **Can we include indirect costs in the budget?**

No. The budget must contain direct project expenses only, which are the costs incurred in connection with the design and delivery of projects and activities in your application.

5. **Is the application on a first come first serve basis?**

No, this funding round is not on a first come, first serve basis.

6. **Is a match required?**

A funding match is not required.

7. **Can nonprofits apply for funding to provide cameras, lighting and other safety services for businesses?**

The CHSW program has funded communities in the past that wish to distribute funds to businesses and organizations within their community for surveillance and lighting technology.

8. **Is there operation support for small offices that don't have the capacity for managing projects and programs?**

Technical assistance may be available to support organizations without the capacity to design or implement a project but it is not set up for operating support.

9. **Can the funding be for maintenance of cameras and other safety technology to maintain expenses that were made from prior rounds of CSW funding?**

Preference will be given to applications that are implementing new technology. Maintenance of technology funded from a prior award may be funded alongside a new project.

10. **What is the minimum and maximum award amount?**

The minimum award amount is $35,000 and the maximum award amount is $100,000 for each funding category except Technical Assistance. The Technical Assistance track does not have a maximum award but is based on the project scope for each awardee.

11. **Can we fundraise privately if the funds awarded don't account for all of the proposed expenses?**

Yes, and that is encouraged if it would aid a community in completing a project where DHCD funds are insufficient to cover the entire cost.

12. **Can the grant be used for an assessment of where surveillance can be located?**

As long as implementation of that technology is also part of the project. Contractors can typically provide free estimates for surveillance technology. Organizations and communities in Baltimore City can work with the Baltimore Police Department to find the right locations for technology.

13. **What happened to the facilities funding track for up to $25,000 in funding?**

DHCD has made some updates to the funding categories in this round of funding. Though this round does not include a Facilities category, your community may request funding for safety improvements to facilities through the Cameras, Lighting and Related Safety Services application. The application must demonstrate that the facilities improvements support the community's overall safety goals.

14. **We are applying as a City, therefore no board. Should we discuss the makeup of City Council? Or staff leadership instead?**

You can discuss the makeup of the staff leadership.

15. **Is an application any less likely to receive funding if it's requesting support for the same initiative that has been funded in previous years? We have an ongoing safety**

**and security program in our downtown, which needs consistent funding year over year in order to keep it running.**

Applications for the same initiative are welcome and won't be scored differently. Be sure to describe how the initiative has been successful in the past and why it needs continued funding.

**16. Our project is to discourage illegal dumping and will definitely involve cameras, but maybe more work at the site. How do I determine if we should apply here or the environmental health category?**

Please reach out to us with specific project questions if you are unsure which funding categories to apply for.

**17. Can you define what "Related Safety Services" means in the application?**

Related Safety Services can be anything that best improves the safety of your community. Be creative! Past awardees have implemented improved facility security systems, contracted safety personnel, and installed decorative grates on business facades, among other safety improvements. Be sure to explain how improvements to facilities improve community safety overall in the targeted area.

**18. Our organization is located just outside of the Sustainable Communities boundary but our project site is located within the Sustainable Community area. Are we ineligible for funding?**

As long as the project address is located in a Sustainable Community, you are eligible to apply.

**19. How do we know which crime data to use from the suggested links in our application?**

DHCD has provided links to publicly available crime and environmental health and justice data in links in the applications. You are not required to use the data here; it is provided as a resource. Depending on the project and location of your project, you may gather data from other relevant sources. Examples could include reaching out to your local police precinct for data about a hot spot for criminal activity in your community or reaching out to the appropriate local government department to see if they monitor requests for service to a dumping hot spot (Baltimore City organizations can look at 311 service requests). We ask that you use data to demonstrate your community's crime, safety or environmental health needs but it does not need to be just from the data links we included in the application. The [Community Health and Safety Works Resource & Inspiration Guide](#) includes other data sources, though the list is not exhaustive.