

Informational Webinar

How to Apply to be a
Host Organization

June 7, 2023

ECONOMIC
RECOVERY
CORPS

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Webinar Agenda

- Welcome
- About the Economic Recovery Corps (ERC)
- Purpose and Goals
- Program Activities
- Host Benefits + Responsibilities
- Who Should Apply?
- Application Instructions
- Key Deadlines
- Webinars, FAQs, Contact Us
- Questions?

ECONOMIC
RECOVERY
CORPS





INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL

IEDC's is the world's leading economic development association and operates the gold standard for economic development certification and training.

Its mission is to provide leadership and excellence in economic development for our communities, members, and partners in the United States and around the world through training courses, technical assistance, research publications and conferences.



www.iedconline.org

ECONOMIC RECOVERY CORPS

The Economic Recovery Corps Program (ERC) is a multi-year, collaborative initiative designed **to accelerate recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic** in distressed communities and regions throughout the U.S. **by connecting organizations with the talent and capacity needed to advance new ways of doing economic development** that promote economic resilience and transformative change.



OUR PARTNERS

The ERC is funded by the **Economic Development Administration (EDA)** under the CARES Act and led by the **International Economic Development Council (IEDC)** in partnership with six other leading national organizations:

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Why this Initiative? Why Now?

The ERC was created to address long-standing economic issues in America that surfaced during the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly for historically under-resourced communities, that led to vastly different outcomes and continue to impact recovery efforts.



A New Partnership for Economic Transformation

Over the next four years, IEDC and its partners will build a nationwide corps of diverse, highly-skilled cross-sector talent who will promote connectivity, innovation, and knowledge-sharing across rural, urban, and tribal areas throughout the U.S. in a way that elevates new practice and transforms the field of economic development.



Our Goals

To **build capacity** in under-resourced communities or regions to **accelerate their economic development** work and **drive more equitable economic outcomes**

To build a pipeline of the next generation of economic development leaders **equipped** with the skills and practice to **promote a new era of economic prosperity** where no one gets left behind.

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Program Structure

Two-Way Learning
+ Exchange



Key Benefits For Hosts

- Selected host organizations will receive **2.5 years (30 months) of dedicated technical assistance, planning, and capacity-building support** from a highly trained fellow.
- **Fellows will be experienced early to mid-career professionals**, equipped to help identify and advance innovative, locally-driven initiatives to build stronger, more resilient, and inclusive economies.
- **Hosts will** have the opportunity to **interview and participate in the fellow selection process.**
- **There is no cost to an organization or community to host a fellow.** Fellows will be paid and overseen by IEDC.

Other Benefits For Hosts

Beyond the on-site capacity-building support and technical assistance provided by the fellow, hosts will have numerous opportunities to strengthen their own capacity and resources. These include:

- **Quarterly virtual peer learning exchanges** with subject matter experts
- **Annual networking gatherings** with other host communities
- **Three years of complimentary IEDC membership benefits** including conference discounts, professional development, access to IEDC's online member directory, publications, and more.

Who Should Apply?

We are a community of less than 2,000 people – are we too small to participate in this program?

No! This program is designed to support communities and organizations of all sizes.

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) and its partners are seeking to **place up to 65 Economic Recovery Corps (ERC) Fellows** within partnering organizations **to activate economic development projects or plans** that generate new practices and paradigms for equitable and inclusive change.

Ideal host placement partners are organizations or communities:

- **Ready to advance a local or regional economic development strategy** or transformative project but have struggled to find the resources to bridge the gap between planning and implementation.
- **Have leadership teams that are action-oriented**, and dedicated to building stronger, more resilient and reimagined local economies.
- **Are located within a geography or regional context that aligns with the EDA's Investment priorities** related to Equity, Recovery and Resilience: <https://www.eda.gov/funding/investment-priorities>

Types of Organizations

*Are there any organizations that are **ineligible** to receive a fellow?*

Yes. Congressional or U.S. Senator Offices, and other federally elected officials *are not* eligible to host a fellow.

Private companies should check in with our team to evaluate eligibility.

The ERC program is open to a **broad range of public and nonprofit community and economic development organizations**. Some examples include, but are not limited to:

- **A state, local or tribal government**; United States territory, or other political subdivision of a state or local government like a **regional planning organization** or **economic development district (EDD)**
- **An institution of higher education** or a **consortium of institutions** of higher education
- **A public or private non-profit organization** like a **Chamber of Commerce**, community development corporation, or **economic development organization**
- **A Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI)**
- **A regional, municipal, or multi-stakeholder collaboration** formed to advance a shared economic development goal or strategy

Selection Criteria

Three Key Lens

- EDA Investment Criteria
- “Readiness” to host a fellow
- Strength of Project Idea

Host sites will be selected based on a variety of factors including, but not limited to:

- **A clearly demonstrated project need** that is ready for delivery through the support of an ERC Fellow.
- **The capacity to participate in planning and implementation** of economic development strategies.
- **A dedicated leadership team, committee or advisory board committed to collaboration** and building robust and inclusive partnerships with diverse stakeholder groups.
- **A good understanding of regional assets and issues** that will enable (or constrain) a fellow’s work in your community.

Host Responsibilities

Do organizations have to provide matching funds to receive a fellow?

No, there is no cost to host a fellow beyond the time commitment required to mentor and support a fellow.

Do hosts have to provide fellows with housing?

No, but we do expect hosts to help fellows get connected to housing and other resources if they are relocating to the area.

- **Hosts will be required to provide fellows with a main point of contact at the host site** who will help mentor and coach the fellow to ensure that project milestones are moving forward and being met.
- We recommend this person be able to **provide between 5-7 hours per week for check-ins, consultation, and to provide ongoing supportive coaching** to the Fellow over the 30-month period.
- **Fellows will be paid and overseen by IEDC.** ERC Partners will also support fellows and hosts with monthly coaching and peer learning opportunities for each sub cohort.
- **There are no financial costs for organizations to host a Fellow.** Fellows will be provided with all the tools necessary to carry out their work during their Fellowship, including a laptop, travel stipend, and other software or tools for collaboration.
- **Hosts are not required to provide a Fellow with office space.**

"Fellows will serve as a powerful resource for organizations looking to drive sustainable economic growth, revitalize their community, and build long-term resilience," said IEDC President & CEO Nathan Ohle. "These talented, passionate fellows will help drive more equitable economic outcomes for a brighter future and be felt for generations to come."

Fellow Profile + Benefits

- Fellows will be early to mid-career professionals, equipped to help identify and advance innovative, locally-driven initiatives to build stronger, more resilient, and inclusive economies.
- This role is designed as a fellowship and NOT to fill a specific role within an organization (i.e. grant writer, loan officer, associate)
- 1099 contractor, \$7,500 per month + additional benefits





Host Application Instructions

ECONOMIC **RECOVERY** CORPS

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Program Timeline + What to Expect

From Idea to Fellow Placement

1

Share your Project Idea
(Expression of Interest)

Deadline: June 30, 2023

**Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis*

2

Interviews | July 17 - August 3, 2023

**Organizations will be contacted by July
14th to schedule an interview*

3

**Project Accelerator | (Virtual)
August 21 - September 30, 2023**

4

**Host-Fellow Matching + Interviews
October 1 - December 15, 2023**

Fellowship Period

2024

January Bootcamp
Placements Begin (Feb/Mar)
Quarterly Peer Learning +
Networking (Virtual)

2025

January Training Retreat
Quarterly Peer Learning
+ Networking

2026

IEDC Leadership
Conference (Winter
2026)
Fellowship Ends (June)

Expression of Interest (EOI)

It starts with an idea...

Potential hosts should think through core questions around their need for a Fellow.

- What problem is your community / region trying to solve?
- What resource gaps exist in your community?
- What strategic interventions or initiatives have lacked capacity?
- What types of change would your communities both benefit from and support?

Think big and be bold!

Applying is Easy!

Download a worksheet
and full list of EOI
questions to help prepare
your online submission;
review FAQs

Access the online
EOI Form Here

Contact IEDC for
additional support

www.iedconline.org/ERC-Hosts

Deadline: June 30, 2023 @ 11:59pm Hawaii Standard Time (HST)



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Apply to be a Host Organization

Submit your project idea by June 30, 2023!

Hosts can initiate the application process by clicking the “Submit Expression of Interest” button below. You will have the opportunity to tell us more about your community / region and share your ideas for a project that a Fellow could help advance during the 30-month fellowship.

To help you prepare your online submission, review the following information:

- Review the **full EOI application questions** in advance
- Use or download **this worksheet** to help prepare your answers as a guide
- Review the **program FAQs** and timeline below
- Email any questions to the ERC team at erc@iedconline.org
- Apply at the button below before June 30

APPLY TO BE A HOST

All submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis and must be received by **11:59 pm Hawaiian Standard Time (HST) on Friday, June 30, 2023.**

ERC@iedconline.org



What We *Aren't* Looking For

The purpose of the ERC Fellow is to help drive new strategies, build collaborative networks, and expand capacity to attract new resources to a community / region. This is **NOT** an opportunity to fill an existing position / role within your organization or hire a grant writer.

What Makes a Good Project?

- Regionally-focused
- Collaborative
- Demonstrates an innovative approach to economic development
- Promotes equity, sustainability, and inclusion
- Strategic, locally-driven, builds on a region's strengths
- Presents a compelling model for scale / supporting other like communities or regions

A background image showing two women in a professional setting, possibly a meeting or office. The image is darkened with a blue overlay. The woman on the left has blonde hair and is wearing a light blue shirt. The woman on the right has dark hair and is wearing a dark top. They are both looking towards the camera.

What to Expect Next

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Still Need More Guidance?

Contact Us!

Learn More
&
Get Assistance

Email IEDC's ERC team directly:

erc@iedconline.org

Interest Form - Stay in Touch:

https://www.iedconline.org/ERC_updates

Read our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

www.iedconline.org/ERC-Hosts

**Set up a brief meeting with IEDC's ERC team [here](#)
before you submit your EOI by June 30**



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THANK YOU

We are thrilled of your interest in the **Economic Recovery Corps (ERC)** program!
Thank you for joining today's webinar.

Remember to submit your host EOI by June 30!

Questions? Please contact erc@iedonline.org or visit www.iedonline.org/ERC
