

REGIONAL CITIES INITIATIVE

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Beginning in 2015, the state will financially partner with regions that demonstrate a commitment to excellence in quality of place through a cohesive and collaborative vision for the region.

The IEDC will accept, review, and determine which communities will receive matching state funds. The competitive process requires regions to form a Regional Development Authority which then submits a plan to the IEDC.

IDENTIFY THE REGION

- » Identify your unique region and the communities contained within it.
- » Determine which communities within the region will participate in the development and implementation of an plan for transformative growth.
- » Engage both public and private sector leadership.

FORM A REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (RDA)

The fiscal bodies of local units participating in the establishment of the RDA must adopt an ordinance authorizing the unit to participate.

Units eligible to participate in the establishment of an RDA include:

- » Counties
- » Second Class Cities
- » Cities or towns that are eligible for second class city status, but have not yet taken the administrative steps necessary to obtain that legal status.

If a county participates in the establishment of an RDA, all second class and third class cities within its borders automatically become members.

Once an RDA is established, it must promptly notify the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) in writing.

For full details, refer to IC 36-7.6-2-3 (establishment), and IC 36-7.6-2-5 (length of participation).

APPOINT THE RDA BOARD

Participating members of the RDA must, by written agreement of their executives, appoint a five (5) member board that will serve as the governing body for the RDA.

These board members:

- » Cannot be an elected official or an employee of a participating local unit.
- » Must have at least five (5) years of experience in transportation, regional economic development, business or finance, or private, nonprofit sector, or academia.

There are no residency requirements for the board. The board should represent your unique community and vision.

For full details, refer to IC 36-7.6-2-7 through 12 (RDA board & organization).

DEVELOP A REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (RDP)

- » Craft an RDP designed to cultivate excellence in quality of place and focused on transformative growth.
- » For full details, refer to the Guidelines for Regional Development Plans.

OBTAIN STAKEHOLDER APPROVAL OF THE RDP

Stakeholders—including but not limited to elected officials, private sector leaders, and the members of the development board—must sign off on the plan once it is developed.

SUBMIT PLAN TO THE IEDC (JULY 1)

1. The Strategic Review Committee will examine the RDPs and make recommendations.
1. The RDPs recommended for approval will be reviewed by the State Budget Committee.
1. The IEDC Board will consider recommendations and make final funding determinations.

Applicants whose plans are not selected will receive feedback from the IEDC following the conclusion of the selection process.