

Delaware CEDS

*a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
for the State of Delaware*



Process for Developing the State of Delaware Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

an introduction prepared by the
Institute for Public Administration
University of Delaware

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Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

- CEDS Guidelines prescribed by EDA
- Planning document required by EDA
- Develops a strategy for furthering economic development in region
- Completed CEDS also required for designation as an Economic Development District

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What Does a CEDS Do?

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

- Analyzes local conditions.
- Identifies problems and opportunities.
- Defines the vision and goals of the community.
- Designs strategies to accomplish goals and identifies projects for implementation.
- Provides process for plan evaluation and updates.

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The CEDS Process...

...is intended to “help create jobs, foster more stable and diversified economies, and improve living conditions” for the area in question.

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Preparing the CEDS

- **CEDS Guidelines provide recommendations for types of community interests to be represented on CEDS committees.**
- **Committees provide “broad based and diverse community participation.”**
- **Delaware CEDS process involves three county committees and one state committee.**

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Adopted Strategies Should...

- Address the overall economic growth of the region, with emphasis given to economically distressed areas and needs of traditionally underrepresented populations.
- Emphasize sustainable development and smart growth.

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Major Elements of a CEDS

1. Description of staffing and organization
2. Detailed analysis of local economy
3. Vision statement for long-term development of region
4. Action plan for achieving desired results
5. Process for evaluating progress towards CEDS goals

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1. Staffing and Organization

- **Establish participatory planning process to develop CEDS and facilitate implementation.**
- **State committee will be ongoing and develop strategy updates.**
- **Staff support will be provided by IPA, DEDO, and OSPC.**

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2. Economic Analysis

- Addresses “Where are we now?”
- Conducted by UD’s Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research (CADSR)
- Includes:
 - Background Information
 - Issues Covered



Background Information

- Demographic and socioeconomic data
- Geographic, climatic, environmental, and natural resources profile
- Infrastructure of area
- Overview of major sectors of economy
- Relationship of economy to larger region
- Factors that directly/indirectly affect economic performance

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Issues Covered

- **State of the regional economy**
- **External trends and forces**
- **Partners for economic development**
- **Resources for economic development**



3. Vision Statement

- Addresses “Where do we want to be?”
- Sets forth goals and objectives that maximize the region’s opportunities and minimize the impact of its economic development problems.
- Incorporates SWOT analysis, understanding of issues, and review of other studies/plans.
- Establishes priorities/ranking of goals.

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4. Action Plan

- Describes “How do we get there?”
- Two parts:
 1. Prioritization of Programs and Activities
 2. Implementation Schedule



Proposed Projects

- **Action Plan will include a list of proposed projects resulting from Project Proposal process.**
- **Local governments and nonprofit partners may submit Project Proposals**
- **Proposed projects must be consistent with EDA Investment Policy Guidelines and State Strategies.**



5. Evaluation Process

- An evaluation process is required to determine progress made towards achieving adopted goals and vision.
- It includes the development of performance measures.

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EDA Approval of a CEDS

- CEDS documents must be approved by EDA regional office (Philadelphia)
- An approved CEDS is a precondition for EDA assistance for:
 1. Public-works and economic-adjustment grants
 2. EDD designation
 3. EDA ongoing planning grants

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Updating a CEDS

- Once the initial CEDS is approved, an updated CEDS must be submitted to EDA for approval every five years.
- Annual updates are also required by EDA to demonstrate progress on strategies.
- The state CEDS committee will have an active, ongoing role in plan updates.

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For more information...

- EDA's website:

www.doc.gov/eda/pdf/cedsguide.pdf

- EDA's Investment Policy Guidelines:

[www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/
Inpolguideline.xml](http://www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Inpolguideline.xml)