

New York Building Recreational Infrastructure for Communities, Kids Seniors (NY BRICKS) Round 2- Public Questions Received and Answers		
Please note that these answers are offered solely for clarification purposes and are each based on the interpretation of the submitted question, devoid of further context. These answers do not guarantee eligibility or point allocation, do not modify the requirements of the Request for Applications, and are not legal advice. Questions with identifying information have been anonymized.		
Category	Question Received	Response
Eligibility	Can a Community Center primarily serving low-income individuals with I/DD qualify for NY BRICKS funding if the facility is open to the broader community but certain I/DD services require eligibility, registration, or controlled access	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a "Community" is "a common geographic area such as a neighborhood," and a Community Center is a "building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Community Center does not include standalone facilities that primarily function as libraries, schools, gyms, daycare facilities, houses of worship, food pantries, or health care facilities." To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. Open to the public means that the facility or organization does not bar entry based on private selectiveness and that anyone from the community has an opportunity to enter, apply, or register for available programs, activities, or services.
Eligibility	Does “open to the public” require unrestricted access to the entire facility, or can individual programs and spaces have reasonable eligibility and safety requirements?	Open to the public means that the facility or organization does not bar entry based on private selectiveness and that anyone from the community has an opportunity to enter, apply, or register for available programs, activities, or services.
Eligibility	Can low-income individuals with I/DD, their families, and local community members constitute a defined underserved community for purposes of the NY BRICKS Community Need criteria	All applicants will be evaluated according to the same criteria as set forth in the RFA. Applicants must use the project location when calculating Community Need. Applicants will be scored based on their responses to application questions. "For purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, Underserved Communities shall be those that score 20 points or more on the “Community Need” portion of the Application (Worksheet 1) utilizing the following three measures: [t]he Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs) –To determine the Percent Below Poverty Level of the project location; Disadvantaged Community (DAC) - To determine if a project location is designated as a DAC; ESD Distressed Community - To determine if a project location is designated as an ESD Distressed Community."
Eligibility	Can the City partner with a Non-Profit organization on an eligible project?	Yes, however only one Applicant can be listed on the Application for NY BRICKS Round 2. All responses should be answered from the perspective of the Applicant. The Applicant must demonstrate site control of the Project Location.
Eligibility	Must the Community Center be owned and controlled by the City or can it be owned or controlled by the Non-Profit organization	Both Municipalities and Not-for-profit Entities are invited to apply for NY BRICKS Round 2 Grants for Community Center projects. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2; applicants must meet all eligibility requirements.
Eligibility	Could you please confirm if a senior center would be considered a community center and therefore be eligible for funding? If so, are there any specific requirements or limitations that would apply?	The wording of the question suggests that the senior center is a standalone facility that does not operate as a Community Center. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a "Community" is "a common geographic area such as a neighborhood," and a Community Center is a "building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Community Center does not include standalone facilities that primarily function as libraries, schools, gyms, daycare facilities, houses of worship, food pantries, or health care facilities." To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. Open to the public means that the facility or organization does not bar entry based on private selectiveness and that anyone from the community has an opportunity to enter, apply, or register for available programs, activities, or services.
Eligibility	Our Town intends to apply for NY BRICKS funding to support the development of a community center in a currently unused building that previously housed the Town Hall. Would this project be considered a new community center or renovation of an existing community center?	Given the example in the question- that suggests the applicant is not currently operating an active Community Center and will not be so doing at the time of application submission- the applicant is proposing a new Community Center (Priority Levels 1 or 2). The Community Center must meet all eligibility criteria set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, including the definition of the Community Center. As described in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, "the Applicant must attest that the facility identified in the application meets the [listed] eligibility criteria. For facilities not yet built, Applicants will answer according to the planned use of the facility." A NY BRICKS Round 2 grant may not be used to acquire real property.
Eligibility	Is a project which supports the rehabilitation or construction of a building which meets the definition of a community center, but also functions as a Village Hall/Boardroom/Courtroom eligible?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. If the Community Center is co-located in a building that serves other purposes, the NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center project. The applicant must demonstrate site control of the project location.

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Eligibility	Appendix 2, page 2. The third question says, “The primary function of the facility is not as a commercial enterprise, library, school, gym, daycare facility, house of worship, food pantry, or health care facility.” If that is true, and the facility’s primary function is none of the above, do we answer yes or no?	If the applicant is affirming that “[t]he primary function of the facility is not as a commercial enterprise, library, school, gym, daycare facility, house of worship, food pantry, or health care facility” - then the applicant would be answering, "Yes."
Eligibility	For context, the Town is moving its Town Hall from one location to another, and major renovations are needed to accommodate the administrative offices as well as the community center. However, the application would only cover the portion of renovations dedicated to the center (i.e., HVAC, electrical, roof, etc.), and the work would not overlap with the renovation for any separate municipal offices.	This submission does not contain a question.
Eligibility	I'm looking for clarity on eligibility. Since a NYC agency was previously awarded a BRICKS grant, would all other NYC agencies be ineligible to apply this year unless the prior awardee drew down their entire award or withdrew the award? Does “municipality” encompass all NYC agencies or can individual agencies be considered their own applicant?	For the purposes of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, the term Municipality shall only mean a County, City, Town, Village, or Indian Nation. A Municipality encompasses all agencies operating under the authority of that subunit of government. As set forth in Section 4.1 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, “If an organization applied previously for a grant under a prior BRICKS round and received an award, they can only apply for an award under this RFA if: [t]he Awardee has received an executed Grant Disbursement Agreement (GDA) and has drawn down 100% of the award or has notified DASNY, in writing, that the project has been completed and no further requisitions will be submitted; or [t]he Awardee has formally withdrawn from the previous BRICKS award in writing prior to the application deadline under this RFA.”
Eligibility	During the 2025 RFA process, DASNY confirmed that a Community Center could serve a specific community population rather than the general public. DASNY directed applicants to the applicable definition, which states that the facility provides programming to “the Community it serves.” The 2026 RFA includes a 17-question Community Center Affirmation Document. Question 6 states: “The facility is open to the public and serves the community in which it is located.” For a Community Center designed to serve a specific population—for example, individuals with vision impairments—how should the requirement that the facility be “open to the public” and “serve the community in which it is located” be interpreted? Specifically: a. Must the facility be accessible to all individuals with vision impairments who reside in the surrounding county or counties, or may access be limited to certain individuals or groups with vision impairments? b. May the facility be restricted at all times to individuals with vision impairments who are known to, registered with, or otherwise identified by the operator, rather than being open to any individual with a vision impairment who resides in the surrounding county or counties? c. Alternatively, may the facility designate certain hours for access by residents of the surrounding county or counties with vision impairments, while reserving other hours for specific programs or groups serving individuals with vision impairments who may reside elsewhere in New York State? Please clarify what level of public accessibility is required for a facility serving a specific community population to satisfy the Community Center definition and the 2026 Community Center Affirmation.	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a "Community" is "a common geographic area such as a neighborhood," and a Community Center is a "building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Community Center does not include standalone facilities that primarily function as libraries, schools, gyms, daycare facilities, houses of worship, food pantries, or health care facilities." To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. Open to the public means that the facility or organization does not bar entry based on private selectiveness and that anyone from the community has an opportunity to enter, apply, or register for available programs, activities, or services.
Scoring/Review Process	What elements are required to meet the point standard for construction documents v. design development documents?	Construction Documents (CD), Design Development (DD) Documents, and Schematic Design (SD) Documents are the terms used by the Architecture and Engineering industry and represent the sequential progression of design documents (i.e., SD is preliminary, DD is refinement, and CD is finalized). Please consult with the design professional who has worked on the project. Any design document submitted must be accompanied by a signed and dated letter from the designer of record on business letterhead that indicates the most advanced stage of design. Given the question, it is suggested that the applicant does not have evidence of SD.
Eligibility	We see in section 4.2 that "Applicants may only submit ONE application for ONE Community Center at ONE Project Location." Can two buildings on the same "civic campus" be considered "one project location?" We would like to propose a municipal community center expansion project that includes renovating two buildings within our civic campus. The two buildings have their own street addresses/Tax IDs, but the properties they sit on are contiguous and the buildings are only 150 feet apart. We can only meet the \$312,500 minimum project cost if we renovate both buildings.	Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA states, "Applicants may only submit ONE application for ONE Community Center at ONE Project Location. If multiple Applications are received from the same Applicant, only the first Application will be reviewed and scored." A Project Location is a specific site for which the applicant can demonstrate site control. A project site has a single physical footprint that may include multiple parcels or buildings that are adjoining under a unified or contiguous boundary. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2. NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center. The question appears to describe two separate project locations; it is unclear if both locations meet the definition of a Community Center as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA.
Eligibility	We are considering submitting a BRICKS application for a proposed community-based youth center. The facility would be operated by our organization and would provide regularly scheduled programming, published hours, and a range of educational, recreational, social, and supportive services primarily for youth. In addition to serving youth, programming would also involve family members and caregivers, including adults and, in some cases, seniors who are connected to participating youth. For purposes of the Community Center eligibility criteria, would a youth-focused facility that serves youth and their families be considered to satisfy the requirements that programming serves youth, adults, and seniors? Or is it the expectation that the facility offer distinct programming specifically targeted to each of those age groups? Any clarification regarding how these criteria are interpreted for youth-centered facilities would be greatly appreciated.	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a "building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Community Center does not include standalone facilities that primarily function as libraries, schools, gyms, daycare facilities, houses of worship, food pantries, or health care facilities." To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2.

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Eligibility	Section 4.2 requires applicants to attest that programming at the facility serves youth, adults, and seniors. Must an eligible Community Center provide programming to all three age groups, or may a facility qualify if its primary programming serves one or two of these populations while otherwise meeting the definition of a Community Center? If all three populations must be served, is there a minimum level or frequency of programming required for each population?	Yes, applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. No, the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA does not set forth a minimum level or frequency of programming required for each population.
Eligibility	For purposes of Section 4.2, what does "open to the public" mean? May a Community Center primarily serve a defined population within the community—for example, public-school students participating in free educational and after-school programming—or must any member of the general public be permitted to access the facility and its programming?	Open to the public means that the facility or organization does not bar entry based on private selectiveness and that anyone from the community has an opportunity to enter, apply, or register for available programs, activities, or services. While the examples that are raised in the question may be services offered at a Community Center, Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Community Center does not include standalone facilities that primarily function as libraries, schools, gyms, daycare facilities, houses of worship, food pantries, or health care facilities. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative.
Eligibility	Section 4.2 separately lists social, educational, recreational, and cultural activities among the eligibility criteria. Must an eligible Community Center offer programming in each of these four categories, or are these examples of the range of programming that may be offered?	Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2.
Eligibility	Section 4.2 states that programming includes activities “such as” meetings by neighborhood or community organizations and delivery of wraparound services, including behavioral health supports. Are these examples of programming an eligible Community Center may provide, or must an applicant currently provide both types of activities to satisfy the eligibility criteria?	Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. With regard to the specific activities offered at the Community Center, the applicant must attest that "programming offered includes activities such as meetings by neighborhood or community organizations" and that "programming offered includes activities such as the delivery of wraparound services." For facilities not yet built, Applicants will answer according to the planned use of the facility.
Eligibility	For an existing Community Center undergoing renovation, must all Section 4.2 programming criteria be satisfied as of the application date, or may an applicant satisfy those criteria through programming that will be implemented at the facility upon completion of the proposed project?	If the capital project to be funded by NY BRICKS Round 2 is a renovation of an existing Community Center and as a result of the renovation there will be new activities and services provided at the Community Center, the applicant will answer the attestation as set forth in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA according to the planned use of the facility.
Site Control	Our organization currently has an active five-year lease for the property where the proposed project would take place, and we intend to remain at the site long-term. Would our current five-year lease, accompanied by a letter of intent from the property owner/leasing agency confirming the parties' intent to renew the lease and enter into a new lease with a term of at least 10 years, be sufficient to demonstrate site control at the time of application? If not, would the 10-year lease need to be fully executed prior to submitting the application?	The Lease agreement must satisfy the required term at the time of application. Information about Eligible Project Locations is set forth in Section 4.3 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA. Not-for-profit Entities demonstrate site control by submitting: "...the full lease or rental agreement must be provided, including any exhibits, amendments or riders. If not provided, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. The lease or rental agreement must show that it is in effect for at least ten (10) years from the date the Application is submitted. The lease term will be verified at the time of the execution of the Grant Disbursement Agreement to ensure that a significant period of time remains on the lease term. If the term of the lease or rental agreement does not meet this requirement, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Documentation of the property owner's support for the Project must be submitted with the Application, or the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Include a letter on the landlord or lease agency's letterhead granting permission to complete the Project at the project location. The letter must be dated and signed by an Authorized Officer of the landlord or leasing agency."
Eligibility	The City owns and operates an existing community recreation facility and has completed a preliminary feasibility study identifying a preferred major renovation and expansion concept. The City is considering applying for NY BRICKS Round 2 funding to advance the selected capital project through architectural and engineering design, including schematic design, design development, construction documents, specifications, permitting, final cost estimating, and bid-ready documents. Construction of the improvements would be undertaken through a subsequent phase and would not be included in the current NY BRICKS funding request. Does a project consisting solely of these design and engineering services qualify as an Eligible Project under Section 4.2 and an Eligible Use of Funds under Section 4.4, provided the work constitutes capital design costs rather than preliminary planning? Or must an application seeking reimbursement for design/engineering costs also include construction or renovation costs within the same NY BRICKS Project?	An applicant may submit an application that is for a project that is limited to design and engineering services. Ultimately, the goal of NY BRICKS Round 2 is to fund capital construction or renovation; and design and engineering services that do not result in stamped construction documents are not priorities for NY BRICKS Round 2. If the capital project to be funded by NY BRICKS Round 2 is a renovation of an existing Community Center and as a result of the renovation there will be new activities and services provided at the Community Center, Applicants will answer the attestation as set forth in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA according to the planned use of the facility. All Applicants will be evaluated according to the same criteria as set forth in the RFA, and given the example in the question, the Applicant will likely not be able to demonstrate evidence of Project Planning or Construction Readiness. Eligible Projects must comply with all State and local laws and regulations at all times.

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Eligibility	If an application consisting solely of eligible architectural and engineering design services is permitted, would the “Project” and “Project Total Costs” for purposes of the 20% match requirement and Project Viability/Committed Funding scoring consist only of the design phase for which NY BRICKS funding is requested, or would the Applicant be required to identify and demonstrate funding for the subsequent construction phase as part of the Project?	The scope of the project would be related to design services only; all responses to application questions would relate to the project.
Scoring/Review Process	If a design-only project is eligible, how will the application be evaluated under the Construction Readiness component of Project Viability when the purpose of the requested funding is specifically to advance the project to construction-ready status? Will an Applicant be disadvantaged for not yet possessing construction documents when development of those documents is the purpose of the NY BRICKS funding request?	All applicants will be evaluated according to the same criteria as set forth in the RFA, and given the example in the question, the Applicant will likely not be able to demonstrate evidence of Project Planning or Construction Readiness.
Application Process/Materials	The RFA states that acceptable evidence of planning for Worksheet 2 consists of Schematic Design, Design Development, or Construction Documents, accompanied by a letter from the designer of record identifying the most advanced stage of design. If an Applicant has completed a feasibility study containing conceptual site plans, floor plans, defined program elements, conceptual cost estimates, and a recommended development scenario, can the designer of record determine and certify whether those materials constitute Schematic Design for purposes of Worksheet 2, or must Schematic Design documentation have been produced as a separate formal design phase?	Construction Documents (CD), Design Development (DD) Documents, and Schematic Design (SD) Documents are the terms used by the Architecture and Engineering industry and represent the sequential progression of design documents (i.e., SD is preliminary, DD is refinement, and CD is finalized). Please consult with the design professional who has worked on the project. Any design document submitted must be accompanied by a signed and dated letter from the designer of record on business letterhead that indicates the most advanced stage of design. Given the question, it is suggested that the applicant does not have evidence of SD.
Application Process/Materials	The proposed project involves substantial renovation of an existing Community Center while also constructing an addition that would increase the facility’s square footage. For purposes of the Grant Funding Levels, should a project involving both renovation of an existing facility and expansion through additional square footage be submitted under Priority 2 (“Expansion for additional square footage”) or Priority 3 (“Renovation of existing Community Center Projects”)? If the current NY BRICKS request is limited to design/engineering for that future renovation and expansion, which Priority Level applies?	Priority 2
Eligibility	If an Applicant receives a NY BRICKS Round 2 award solely for the design/engineering phase of a Community Center project, would receipt and completion of that award preclude the Applicant from seeking NY BRICKS funding in a future round for construction of the same project, assuming the prior award has been fully completed and closed out?	It is not possible to speculate on the requirements for future grant opportunities.
Eligibility	Our architect has included a 12% construction contingency in our cost estimate. Is this an allowable expense for this grant?	Contingency costs up to 10% can be included in the project budget for costs not yet incurred.
Eligibility	Under section 4.4 of the RFA, we see that ineligible costs include "Grant writing, administration, legal, insurance and other fees." Would we be able to include a contracted Grant Administrator to assist with finalizing our grant contract and required grant reporting? If this is not an eligible grant expense, could we include it in the required match portion?	Costs for a contracted Grant Administrator to assist with finalizing a grant contract and required grant reporting are considered administrative costs and are not eligible. Matching funds represent the 20% of the capital project costs that are not covered by an awarded grant and that are needed to complete the funded capital project.
Scoring/Review Process	We see that 30 awards were made for the first round of BRICKS funding. Could you tell us how many applications you received in that round?	Consistent with Section 1.5 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, questions should relate to the RFA.
Project Timeline	Could you please define "Project Start Date?" We see that the matrix assigns 2 points if the "project start date is prior to 12/31/2026." We are wondering if securing the building permit would count for this, or, if having building materials delivered to the site would count?	Project Start Date is associated with the incurring of costs. To incur costs means that you have taken action so that you are obligated to pay for a service or product. Refer to NYBRICKS Round 2 RFA Section 4.2 for more information about eligible project costs.
Eligibility	Would a contracted (external) Capital Project Manager be an eligible grant expense? This person would assist with tasks required to complete the capital project, specifically: grant contract execution, bidding and selection of contractors, project scheduling, fiscal tracking, and required grant reporting.	Capital Project Manager tasks that are specific to the capital work or purpose are eligible for reimbursement through a grant award; any tasks that are administrative in nature, including grant contract execution and required grant reporting, etc. are not eligible for reimbursement through a NY BRICKS Round 2 grant award.
Other	Question about priority level. Is converting existing clinical and office space into a new community center a "Priority 3 – Renovation of existing Community Center" project? Or does it fall under Priority 2, which now reads "New Construction or Expansion"? Round 1’s Priority 1 and 2 language included "Acquisition," and Round 2 dropped it. Neither category clearly fits this project.	Given the example in the question - that suggests the applicant is not currently operating an active Community Center and will not be so doing at the time of application submission- the applicant is proposing a new Community Center (Priority Levels 1 or 2). The Community Center must meet all eligibility criteria set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, including the definition of the Community Center. As described in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, "the Applicant must attest that the facility identified in the application meets the [listed] eligibility criteria. For facilities not yet built, Applicants will answer according to the planned use of the facility." A NY BRICKS Round 2 grant may not be used to acquire real property.

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Site Control	Question about deed name. The deed is to the "New York State Association for Retarded Children, Inc." and the county lists the owner as NYSARC Inc. The applicant name does not match and is a Chapter. What explanation will be accepted?	The applicant should submit complete information and supporting documentation to demonstrate site control and to describe the relationship between the building owner and the applicant who is an occupant. Section 4.3 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA describes the documentation that may demonstrate site control. Given the information in the question, it is suggested that the applicant intends to submit a deed that does not list the applicant's legal name. It is unclear if the applicant name is listed by the Department of State as a DBA for the building owner. If it is not an official DBA, the applicant must submit other documentation to demonstrate site control, e.g., a lease.
Eligibility	Question about shared use. Can a community center share a parcel or building with the NFP organization existing IDD programs if the community center space itself is dedicated?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. If the Community Center is co-located in a building or on property that serves other purposes, the NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center project. The applicant must demonstrate site control of the project location.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	The RFA states that Project Costs cannot be financed through long-term debt, bonds, or other long-term financial instruments. Does this restriction apply to the required 20% matching contribution as well, or would an applicant be permitted to use proceeds from a conventional bank loan to satisfy the match requirement, provided the NY BRICKS grant funds themselves are not used to repay or service the debt?	No, the restriction does not apply to the required 20% matching contribution. If applicants will be using bonds, long-term debt, or other long-term financial instruments for the 20% matching requirement, please be sure to provide a clear explanation and provide the necessary documents showing proof of the match.
Eligibility	Our proposed project is located in a building that previously utilized tax credits (back in 2018) for development. However, the proposed NY BRICKS project will not utilize tax credits or any other similarly structured financing arrangement, and NY BRICKS funds will not be used toward costs funded through any tax credit structure. Would the building's historical use of tax credits render the proposed project ineligible under the RFA's prohibition on projects that are part of an existing or proposed tax credit structure, or would this restriction apply only where the proposed project is part of an active or proposed tax credit financing arrangement?	No, the buildings historical use of tax credits would not render the proposed project ineligible, however, the Project itself cannot be funded in whole or in part by an existing or proposed tax credit structure (e.g., New Market Tax Credits, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, etc.) or other similarly structured financing arrangements, nor can Project Costs serve as an eligible basis to generate Tax Credits.
Scoring/Review Process	A municipality would like to renovate their 41,000 sf community center to make 13,000 sf of unused space operational, construct a new stand-alone 1,500 sf building for additional community space and field restrooms, and connect the two with parking striping and reorganization. Which priority level would this project fall under?	Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA states, "Applicants may only submit ONE application for ONE Community Center at ONE Project Location. If multiple Applications are received from the same Applicant, only the first Application will be reviewed and scored." A Project Location is a specific site for which the applicant can demonstrate site control. A project site has a single physical footprint that may include multiple parcels or buildings that are adjoining under a unified or contiguous boundary. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2. NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center. The question appears to describe two separate project locations; it is unclear if both locations meet the definition of a Community Center as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA. Given the description of the project presented in the question, the applicant is proposing a project for the construction of a new Community Center and should select either Priority Level 1 or 2 depending on the Grant Funding Level being sought.
Eligibility	Our organization meets eligibility requirements for a nonprofit with full site control, primary operator, schedule coordinator, etc. for the BRICKS Round 2 opportunity. The site under consideration is the gymnasium and adjacent recreation facility at a college—it is also the designated emergency shelter space for the local town and is currently open to the public for recreational purposes. We propose significant improvements to recreational offerings and equipment onsite with enhanced opportunities for public use, particularly youth and seniors. Improvements will also greatly improve basic infrastructure needs for community members sheltering in place during an emergency (e.g., shower/restroom facilities, etc.). The facility will remain available for student use as well. Is this “multi-use” scenario compatible with the BRICKS Round 2 opportunity?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a "Community" is "a common geographic area such as a neighborhood," and a Community Center is a "building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Community Center does not include standalone facilities that primarily function as libraries, schools, gyms, daycare facilities, houses of worship, food pantries, or health care facilities." To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. Open to the public means that the facility or organization does not bar entry based on private selectiveness and that anyone from the community has an opportunity to enter, apply, or register for available programs, activities, or services.

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Eligibility	Our site will offer multiple free recreation opportunities, including sports day clinics for youth (e.g., soccer, volleyball, basketball, rock climbing), gym/workout facilities for youth, adults and seniors, pickleball, etc. May we also offer fee-based programming for example, week-long summer sports clinics for youth, to supplement expenses for the sustainability of the operation moving forward?	Yes, a nonprofit applicant may charge reasonable fees for individuals participating in programs, however the community center must be open to the public. Open to the public means that the facility or organization does not bar entry based on private selectiveness and that anyone from the community has an opportunity to enter, apply, or register for available programs, activities, or services. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a "Community" is "a common geographic area such as a neighborhood," and a Community Center is a "building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Community Center does not include standalone facilities that primarily function as libraries, schools, gyms, daycare facilities, houses of worship, food pantries, or health care facilities." To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2.
Eligibility	We have two questions regarding the “program specific eligibility criteria” in Appendix 2: A. Must the applicant answer “yes” to every question in the first table on pp. 1 and 2? B. Please clarify the final question in the table referenced above: Does “commercial” pertain to each of the categories, i.e., commercial enterprise, commercial library, commercial school, commercial gym, etc.	Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. Applicants will attest to the eligibility criteria by answering questions presented in Appendix 2 in table that is presented on page 1 and at the top of page 2. The last criteria is "The primary function of the facility is not as a commercial enterprise, library, school, gym, daycare facility, house of worship, food pantry, or health care facility." This should be read as the primary function of the facility is not as a commercial enterprise; is not as a library; is not as a school; is not as a gym; etc. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a "Community" is "a common geographic area such as a neighborhood," and a Community Center is a "building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Community Center does not include standalone facilities that primarily function as libraries, schools, gyms, daycare facilities, houses of worship, food pantries, or health care facilities."
Site Control	We are two 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that have entered into a formal legal partnership with one another to create a new community center. One of our organizations owns the building and has site control. The other organization will be the leaseholder and operator of the facility, responsible for its management, administration, and day-to-day operations and is ultimately responsible for the activities conducted there. In addition, this other organization (the leaseholder/operator) is the parent company in the formal legal partnership. Our question is: Can we apply with both of our organizations as the lead applicant?	Only one Applicant can be listed on the Application for NY BRICKS Round 2. All responses should be answered from the perspective of the Applicant. The Applicant must demonstrate site control of the Project Location.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	We are two 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that have entered into a formal legal partnership with one another to create a new community center. One of our organizations owns the building and has site control. The other organization will be the leaseholder and operator of the facility, responsible for its management, administration, and day-to-day operations and is ultimately responsible for the activities conducted there. In addition, this other organization (the leaseholder/operator) is the parent company in the formal legal partnership. Our question is: Can we count grants awarded to both agencies as part of the total project cost and match?	Only one Applicant can be listed on the Application for NY BRICKS Round 2. All responses should be answered from the perspective of the Applicant. The Applicant must demonstrate site control of the Project Location.
Site Control	We are two 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that have entered into a formal legal partnership with one another to create a new community center. One of our organizations owns the building and has site control. The other organization will be the leaseholder and operator of the facility, responsible for its management, administration, and day-to-day operations and is ultimately responsible for the activities conducted there. In addition, this other organization (the leaseholder/operator) is the parent company in the formal legal partnership. Our question is: how do we answer the Y/N questions you have about site control and daily operations, as one agency has site control and the other will do daily operations?	Only one Applicant can be listed on the Application for NY BRICKS Round 2. All responses should be answered from the perspective of the Applicant. Given the information presented in the question, the operator holds a Lease for the Project Location which suggests the operator can demonstrate site control.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	We are two 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that have entered into a formal legal partnership with one another to create a new community center. One of our organizations owns the building and has site control. The other organization will be the leaseholder and operator of the facility, responsible for its management, administration, and day-to-day operations and is ultimately responsible for the activities conducted there. In addition, this other organization (the leaseholder/operator) is the parent company in the formal legal partnership. Our question is: What are eligible expenses? Can we include furniture, fixtures, or equipment? We saw you listed design, construction, major renovation, and equipping. What does equipping entail? Do you have a preference that FFE not be included?	Eligible capital costs may include accessibility improvements, such as accessible entrances and restrooms. For purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Capital Cost is defined as costs for a Capital Work or Purpose as defined in State Finance Law § 67-a (4). Pursuant to the RFA, the NY BRICKS Round 2 program seeks to support capital construction projects and does not prioritize equipment purchases that are not included as part of a construction project. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2.

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Site Control	A New York 501(c)(3) nonprofit exploring a community education, digital literacy, youth/family resource, and intergenerational community center project in Brooklyn. If the nonprofit does not own the building, can it apply using leased, licensed, donated, or partner-provided space?	Information about Eligible Project Locations is set forth in Section 4.3 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA. Not-for-profit Entities demonstrate site control by submitting: "...the full lease or rental agreement must be provided, including any exhibits, amendments or riders. If not provided, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. The lease or rental agreement must show that it is in effect for at least ten (10) years from the date the Application is submitted. The lease term will be verified at the time of the execution of the Grant Disbursement Agreement to ensure that a significant period of time remains on the lease term. If the term of the lease or rental agreement does not meet this requirement, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Documentation of the property owner's support for the Project must be submitted with the Application, or the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Include a letter on the landlord or lease agency's letterhead granting permission to complete the Project at the project location. The letter must be dated and signed by an Authorized Officer of the landlord or leasing agency." Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. If the Community Center is co-located in a building that serves other purposes, the NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center project. The applicant must demonstrate site control of the project location.
Site Control	If the project space is located inside a church, school, library, CAMBA/community organization, or other partner facility, but the NY BRICKS-funded activities would be nonsectarian and open to the community, what site-control documentation would be required?	Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA states, "Applicants may only submit ONE application for ONE Community Center at ONE Project Location." Information about Eligible Project Locations is set forth in Section 4.3 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA. Not-for-profit Entities demonstrate site control by submitting: (1) "a deed, in the name of the Applicant organization, for the proposed project location. If the name of the property owner reflected in the deed differs from the Applicant (if the Applicant's name or d/b/a changed, for example), a satisfactory explanation is required. If the name is different and no satisfactory explanation is provided, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application"; and/or (2) "...the full lease or rental agreement must be provided, including any exhibits, amendments or riders. If not provided, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. The lease or rental agreement must show that it is in effect for at least ten (10) years from the date the Application is submitted. The lease term will be verified at the time of the execution of the Grant Disbursement Agreement to ensure that a significant period of time remains on the lease term. If the term of the lease or rental agreement does not meet this requirement, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Documentation of the property owner's support for the Project must be submitted with the Application, or the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Include a letter on the landlord or lease agency's letterhead granting permission to complete the Project at the project location. The letter must be dated and signed by an Authorized Officer of the landlord or leasing agency." Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. If the Community Center is co-located in a building that serves other purposes, the NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center project.
Site Control	Would a nonprofit be eligible if it operates community programming in a shared facility but does not own the full building?	Information about Eligible Project Locations is set forth in Section 4.3 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA. Not-for-profit Entities demonstrate site control by submitting: (1) "a deed, in the name of the Applicant organization, for the proposed project location. If the name of the property owner reflected in the deed differs from the Applicant (if the Applicant's name or d/b/a changed, for example), a satisfactory explanation is required. If the name is different and no satisfactory explanation is provided, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application"; and/or (2) "...the full lease or rental agreement must be provided, including any exhibits, amendments or riders. If not provided, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. The lease or rental agreement must show that it is in effect for at least ten (10) years from the date the Application is submitted. The lease term will be verified at the time of the execution of the Grant Disbursement Agreement to ensure that a significant period of time remains on the lease term. If the term of the lease or rental agreement does not meet this requirement, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Documentation of the property owner's support for the Project must be submitted with the Application, or the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Include a letter on the landlord or lease agency's letterhead granting permission to complete the Project at the project location. The letter must be dated and signed by an Authorized Officer of the landlord or leasing agency." Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. If the Community Center is co-located in a building that serves other purposes, the NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center project. The applicant must demonstrate site control of the project location.

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Eligibility	Our Village is exploring whether NY BRICKS Round 2 could support a project that creates or improves dedicated community-center space within Village Hall. Although our population is small, we have a large number of residents over the age of 60. Many residents have lived into their mid-90s, and some are currently in that age group. We want to support villagers who wish to age in place in Grand View, helping them remain connected, engaged and confident in the community they call home. Our Village is fully engaged in embracing AI in its operations, actively transitioning from traditional, paper-based practices toward more effective uses of technology. We want residents to share in that progress. We are planning educational sessions on technology and AI for interested residents at every experience level, from those taking their first steps with digital tools to those ready to explore more advanced applications. These sessions would emphasize practical uses, online safety, privacy and confidence, with opportunities for neighbors of different generations to learn together. We would welcome the opportunity to serve as a pilot community, demonstrating how a small municipality can adapt existing public space to support aging in place, encourage lifelong learning and make emerging technology approachable. Our size could allow us to work closely with participants, understand what is useful to them and document an approach that other small communities could adapt. Our potential concept would combine accessible gathering space with resident education, cultural activities, intergenerational programs and hands-on technology learning. These are proposed uses and planned activities; we are not representing that all required community-center programming is currently in place. Before developing an application, we would appreciate clarification on the following question. MIXED-USE FACILITY ELIGIBILITY May a dedicated community-center portion of a building qualify if other portions continue to serve as municipal offices? How should an applicant demonstrate the community-center space's "primary or dedicated purpose," and must that space have separate entrances, operating hours or management arrangements?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. If the Community Center is co-located in a building that serves other purposes, the NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center project. The applicant must demonstrate site control of the project location.
Eligibility	EXISTING VERSUS PROPOSED PROGRAMMING For a renovation or conversion project, must the facility already satisfy all community-center programming requirements when the application is submitted, or may an applicant demonstrate compliance through a committed operating plan for the completed project? Please clarify whether every listed programming category and wraparound service is mandatory, and whether services delivered through partner organizations can satisfy those requirements.	All applicants will be evaluated according to the same criteria as set forth in the RFA. Given the example in the question that suggests a building will undergo "renovation or conversion" into a community center, the applicant is not currently operating an active Community Center, and will not be so doing at the time of application submission. The applicant is proposing a new Community Center (Priority Levels 1 or 2). The Community Center must meet all eligibility criteria set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, including the definition of the Community Center. As described in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, "the Applicant must attest that the facility identified in the application meets the [listed] eligibility criteria. For facilities not yet built, Applicants will answer according to the planned use of the facility."
Eligibility	ACCESSIBILITY AND PUBLIC-USE TECHNOLOGY Could eligible capital costs include accessibility improvements associated with the community-center space, such as accessible entrances and restrooms? Could they also include installed audiovisual equipment, assistive-listening systems, network infrastructure or public-use computer equipment supporting resident education and digital-literacy programming, including responsible AI use? We would distinguish those public-use capital improvements from routine municipal office equipment, staffing, software subscriptions and operating expenses.	Eligible capital costs may include accessibility improvements, such as accessible entrances and restrooms. For purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Capital Cost is defined as costs for a Capital Work or Purpose as defined in State Finance Law § 67-a (4). Pursuant the RFA, the NY BRICKS Round 2 program seeks to support capital construction projects and does not prioritize equipment purchases that are not included as part of a construction project. More information will be needed about the Project scope to better understand eligible capital costs, but generally network infrastructure qualifies as a capital cost; computer equipment purchased as standalone items do not qualify as a capital expenses. The other items referenced in the question may not qualify as capital expenses depending on the installation and specific equipment.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	SHARED COSTS AND PROJECT CLASSIFICATION For a mixed-use building, how should applicants allocate improvements that benefit both the community-center space and municipal offices? Would conversion of existing municipal space into a dedicated community center be evaluated as renovation of an existing community center or as creation of a new community center? Thank you for helping us determine whether this concept fits the program before the Village commits resources to developing an application. We would welcome guidance on how to shape an eligible project that supports aging in place and makes community life and technology more accessible to residents of all ages.	Given the example, the applicant is not currently operating an active Community Center and will not be so doing at the time of application submission. The applicant is proposing to construct a new Community Center. The Community Center must meet all eligibility criteria set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, including the definition of the Community Center. As described in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, "the Applicant must attest that the facility identified in the application meets the [listed] eligibility criteria. For facilities not yet built, Applicants will answer according to the planned use of the facility." If the Community Center is co-located in a building that serves other purposes, the NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center project. The applicant must demonstrate site control of the project location. For purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Capital Cost is defined as costs for a Capital Work or Purpose as defined in State Finance Law § 67-a (4).
Eligibility	For construction readiness, what counts as construction start date? If we are in the planning phase but have not broken ground or incurred project costs, does that count as a project having started?	The construction start date is the official point in time when physical work on a building or infrastructure project begins on a site, or when a formal administrative notice authorizes that work to commence. Project planning and design typically occur before construction starts.
Scoring/Review process	For construction readiness, what counts as construction start date? If we are in the planning phase but have not broken ground or incurred project costs, does that count as a project having started?	The construction start date is the official point in time when physical work on a building or infrastructure project begins on a site, or when a formal administrative notice authorizes that work to commence. Project planning and design typically occur before construction starts.
Eligibility	We want to finish the existing basement of an existing community center to use for more community programs. Currently, the basement is raw, unfinished space. This project would expand the usable square footage but not involve adding new extensions. Would this project qualify under priorities 1 or 2?	As described in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section Three, a project that proposes renovation of existing Community Center are Priority 3.

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Eligibility	Are there any restrictions on property that is leased by the applicant from a private LLC? Or must the property owner also be a nonprofit?	No. The property owner does not have to be a nonprofit. Site control must be demonstrated pursuant Section 4.3 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. If the Community Center is co-located in a building that serves other purposes, the NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center project. The applicant must demonstrate site control of the project location.
Eligibility	Do social services like case management or food pantry distributions qualify as “scheduled programming”?	While the examples that are raised in the question may be services offered at a Community Center, Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Community Center does not include standalone facilities that primarily function as libraries, schools, gyms, daycare facilities, houses of worship, food pantries, or health care facilities. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative.
Scoring/Review process	On Worksheet 2, can an applicant receive up to a total of 35 points if acceptable construction documents (20 pts), design documents (10 pts.) and schematic design documents (5 pts) are submitted as evidence of planning?	No, the maximum score available for Project Planning is 20 points as set forth on "Appendix 8- NY BRICKS Round 2- Scoring Matrix." Applicants will receive points for what is indicated as "the most advanced stage of design." Any design document submitted must be accompanied by a signed and dated letter from the designer of record on business letterhead that indicates the most advanced stage of design.
Eligibility	Is an outdoor structure eligible, such as a rink, pavilion or outdoor market?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Community Center does not include standalone facilities that primarily function as libraries, schools, gyms, daycare facilities, houses of worship, food pantries, or health care facilities. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2. Standalone facilities that do not meet the eligibility criteria are not eligible.
Scoring/Review process	Does programming have to cater to all age groups, or is a child or elderly-focused project also accepted?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	Is a federal grant eligible to be used for the match?	Generally, yes federal grants may be used as a match for NY BRICKS Round 2. The Applicant is responsible for ensuring that the conditions related to the Federal Grant- including any restrictions on the use of those funds- are met. State and Municipal Facilities Program Grants are ineligible to be used for the purpose of the match, although they may be used to pay for eligible project costs in excess of the Match amount. Applicants must demonstrate the availability of funds necessary to complete the Project beyond the requested grant amount, including Matching Funds. The financial review will evaluate all committed funds. Documentation for committed funding sources may include, but is not limited to: bank or investment account statements; recently audited financial statements; donor pledges, agreements, or receipts; grant award letters, agreements, or contracts; loan agreements or commitment letters, including terms and conditions; bond documentation; personal service contracts; bills of sale or paid invoices demonstrating payment by the Applicant after April 1, 2026 for an Eligible Project Cost. Pledges or award letters with unsatisfied contingencies, pending loan applications, and other non-final commitments will not be considered secured funding for evaluation purposes. If all funds necessary to complete the Project have not been secured at the time of application, Applicants must provide documentation of the committed funding to date and description of how the remaining funds will be obtained. There is no requirement that matching funds be fully secured by the date of application, but applications will be scored based upon the amount of funds secured and/or the timing of additional funds expected. However, no Grant Disbursement Agreement will be entered into until all matching funds and funds necessary to complete the project have been secured.

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Scoring/Review process	If an applicant purchased a property that was not previously used as a community center and is renovating the property to be used as a community center, is Priority Level 3 the appropriate priority level?	Given the example, the applicant is not currently operating an active Community Center and will not be so doing at the time of application submission. The applicant is proposing to construct a new Community Center. With respect to the information about the "Application Project Priority and Grant Funding Levels" that is described in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section Three, an applicant that proposes a project for the construction of a new Community Center should select either Priority Level 1 or 2 depending on the Grant Funding Level being sought. The Community Center must meet all eligibility criteria set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, including the definition of the Community Center. As described in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, "the Applicant must attest that the facility identified in the application meets the [listed] eligibility criteria. For facilities not yet built, Applicants will answer according to the planned use of the facility."
Site Control	Do Indian Nation applicants need to submit Appendix 4, Certificate of Municipal Site Control? Indian Nations are not mentioned in 1) of the document.	Indian Nations do not need to use the Certificate of Municipal Site Control. Given the unique historical and legal parameters attendant to Indian Nation lands, Indian Nations should submit valid written documentation to satisfy the Site Control requirement. When entering information in the DASNY Grants Application Portal, such valid written documentation may be uploaded under the category of "Certificate of Municipal Site Control."
Application Process/Materials	Does the individual preparing and submitting the application need to have their own Statewide Financial System account, or can an SFS account belonging to another individual at the same organization be used?	Eligible Applicants for NY BRICKS Round 2 are Municipalities and Not-for-profit Entities that operate Community Centers. The organization that is the Applicant needs to be registered and prequalified in the Statewide Financial System, not an individual.
Eligibility	A 501(c)(3) organization focused on entrepreneurship, small-business development, financial readiness, leadership development, and economic mobility. We are exploring becoming the primary operator of dedicated space within a larger nonprofit-owned community development campus. If WWI maintains the required site control over its dedicated space and operates year-round programming that is open to the public, could an entrepreneurship and economic-mobility center within a larger multi-tenant campus qualify as an eligible community center under NY BRICKS?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2.
Project Location-RIN/ZCTA Determination	The NY BRICKS Round 2 Community Need scoring methodology relies heavily on geographic data associated with the project location, including the ZCTA poverty measure, Disadvantaged Community designation, and ESD Distressed Community designation. In our experience working with municipalities across New York State, Census/ACS-based income and poverty data does not always accurately reflect the actual income characteristics of smaller communities, particularly villages and rural municipalities. Several municipalities with which we are currently working have completed formal household income surveys that have been accepted by other New York State funding agencies, including Homes and Community Renewal and the Environmental Facilities Corporation, to establish low- and moderate-income status and document the actual income characteristics of the population being served. Will NY BRICKS allow an applicant to submit a completed and documented income survey, particularly one that has been accepted by another New York State agency, as supplemental or alternative documentation for purposes of Community Need scoring when the applicant believes the ZCTA, DAC, or Distressed Community information identified through the prescribed mapping tools does not accurately reflect the socioeconomic conditions of the community being served?	All applicants will be evaluated according to the same criteria as set forth in the RFA. Applicants must use the Project Location when calculating Community Need. Applicants will be scored based on their responses to application questions.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	We have a project that has already been partially funded through a previous grant from NYSERDA in the past, though work on the rec center is still ongoing and requires further funding. Are we allowed to apply to the NY BRICKS program to fund the remaining phase of the project?	Generally, yes a NYSERDA grant may be used as a match for NY BRICKS Round 2. The Applicant is responsible for ensuring that the conditions related to the NYSERDA Grant- including any restrictions on the use of those funds- are met. Proceeds of NY BRICKS Grants cannot be used to reimburse costs incurred before April 1, 2026. If costs were incurred prior to April 1, 2026, the applicant will need to clearly demonstrate that those costs are part of the 20% match requirement and those costs will not be reimbursed with grant funds. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2.
Site Control	The RFA requires a satisfactory explanation when the name on the deed differs from the applicant. If the applicant is a nonprofit organization and the property is owned by an affiliated LLC that is wholly controlled by the applicant, what documentation or explanation would DASNY consider sufficient to satisfy this requirement? Would documentation establishing the applicant's ownership and control of the affiliated LLC be sufficient, or would the applicant also need to provide an executed lease or other agreement establishing site control for the required term?	A Lease agreement between the LLC and the Applicant that satisfies the term as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA is required. Information about Eligible Project Locations is set forth in Section 4.3 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA. Not-for-profit Entities demonstrate site control by submitting: "...the full lease or rental agreement must be provided, including any exhibits, amendments or riders. If not provided, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. The lease or rental agreement must show that it is in effect for at least ten (10) years from the date the Application is submitted. The lease term will be verified at the time of the execution of the Grant Disbursement Agreement to ensure that a significant period of time remains on the lease term. If the term of the lease or rental agreement does not meet this requirement, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Documentation of the property owner's support for the Project must be submitted with the Application, or the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Include a letter on the landlord or lease agency's letterhead granting permission to complete the Project at the project location. The letter must be dated and signed by an Authorized Officer of the landlord or leasing agency."

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Project Timeline	Is there a required date by which construction of the BRICKS-funded portion of a project must begin or be completed following an award? If there is no specific construction start or completion deadline, are there any required project milestones or timeframes that applicants should incorporate into their proposed construction schedule?	There is no required date by which construction of a NY BRICKS funding project must begin or be completed. However, applicants are cautioned to be mindful of "Section Eight: Rights Reserved" in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA and that DASNY recommends that Grantees do not start their projects until a fully executed Grant Disbursement Agreement (GDA) has been returned to the Grantee. A GDA expires five years from the date of execution.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	If the total project budget falls in the higher project cost category but the funding need is smaller than the \$5,000,000 min, can we apply for less than \$5,000,000?	Yes, applicants can request grant funding within the range of values described as "Grant Funding Levels" in Section Three of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA. For example, under Priority 2 an applicant may request funding between \$1,000,000 and \$5,000,000; and under Priority 3 an applicant may request funding between \$250,000 and \$5,000,000.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	Can the matching funds be state funds from a different agency?	State funds awarded to an applicant from a State Agency may be eligible as Matching Funds unless specifically prohibited by that funding. State and Municipal Facilities Program Grants are ineligible to be used for the purpose of the match, although they may be used to pay for eligible project costs in excess of the Match amount. Per the RFA, section 6.2 Documentation for committed funding sources may include, but is not limited to: Bank or investment account statements, Recently audited financial statements, Donor pledges, agreements, or receipts, Grant award letters, agreements, or contracts.
Eligibility	How do you define "open to the public" hours? Does the facility need to be open to anyone to drop in at any time? Or is it just that anyone from the public can sign up for programs and attend?	Open to the public means that the facility or organization does not bar entry based on private selectiveness and that anyone from the community has an opportunity to enter, apply, or register for available programs, activities, or services.
Site Control	My organization seeks to fund improvements to the gymnasium facility within a community center that we own and operate on land leased from NYC HPD. With last year's application, we provided ownership documents for the building and our ground lease. The ground lease expired early 2026, but we provided a signed document from the Mayor's Office approving a lease extension by HPD through 2051. When we sought feedback, we were informed that this site control documentation was not sufficient. For applicant-owned buildings on leased municipal land, what additional documents must we provide to establish proof of site control?	Information about Eligible Project Locations is set forth in Section 4.3 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA. Not-for-profit Entities demonstrate site control by submitting: (1) "a deed, in the name of the Applicant organization, for the proposed project location. If the name of the property owner reflected in the deed differs from the Applicant (if the Applicant's name or d/b/a changed, for example), a satisfactory explanation is required. If the name is different and no satisfactory explanation is provided, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application"; and/or (2) "...the full lease or rental agreement must be provided, including any exhibits, amendments or riders. If not provided, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. The lease or rental agreement must show that it is in effect for at least ten (10) years from the date the Application is submitted. The lease term will be verified at the time of the execution of the Grant Disbursement Agreement to ensure that a significant period of time remains on the lease term. If the term of the lease or rental agreement does not meet this requirement, the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Documentation of the property owner's support for the Project must be submitted with the Application, or the Application will not be deemed an Eligible Application. Include a letter on the landlord or lease agency's letterhead granting permission to complete the Project at the project location. The letter must be dated and signed by an Authorized Officer of the landlord or leasing agency."
Application Process/Materials	Is there a space in the application for 'additional information'? (for example, our zipcode is NOT an underserved community, however, we are in a peninsula surrounded by an underserved community, and the majority of our usage IS underserved)	Applicants must use the Project Location when calculating Community Need. Applicants will be scored based on their responses to application questions.
Application Process/Materials	Will there be a place in the application portal to upload letters of support?	No. Letters of support will not be considered during the scoring of applications.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	I saw in the RFP that no funds may be reimbursed for any costs prior to April 1, 2026. What costs incurred prior to April 1, 2026 could be considered part of the MATCH requirement? (under the eligibility screening document, construction readiness, quest 2 the reviewer will assign 2 points "if no costs have been incurred; the cost were incurred after 4/1/2026; or those incurred prior to 4/1/2026 can be utilized for the match requirement.")	Proceeds of NY BRICKS Grants cannot be used to reimburse costs incurred before April 1, 2026.If costs were incurred prior to April 1, 2026, the applicant will need to clearly demonstrate that those costs are part of the 20% match requirement and those costs will not be reimbursed with grant funds.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	What constitutes "sufficient committed funding" for viability scoring matrix "financial review" question 2? Are we expected to have bank accounts/ pledges that equal the full amount of the project without accounting for BRICKS grant money? or just the 'match' amount? If we had the full funding we would not be applying for a grant.	As outlined in the NYS BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 6.2 - Applicants must demonstrate the availability of funds necessary to complete the Project beyond the requested grant amount, including Matching Funds where applicable. A bank statement, investment account statements, recently audited financial statements, donor pledges, agreements, or receipts etc....
Eligibility	Would a project still be considered if the primary purpose of the community center is arts/culture with events and activities that satisfy the other requirements detailed in section four?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2.
Eligibility	Would a project still be considered if the primary audience is youth but serves the full community by extension through certain events and activities?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2.

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Project Funding/Match Requirement	Can TAN/BAN loans or bonding be used towards the required match? The grant guidelines states that "Project Costs cannot be financed through long-term debt, bonds, or other long-term financial instruments, or from a tax credit structure or other similarly structured financing arrangement," but later states that bond documentation can be submitted as financial commitment documentation. Please confirm	An applicant may demonstrate the availability of funds necessary to complete the Project beyond the requested grant amount by providing documentation of a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN), Bond Anticipation Note (BAN), or Bond. However, please note Grant funds may not be used to reimburse Project costs initially paid from bond proceeds and no Grant Disbursement Agreement will be entered into until all matching funds and funds necessary to complete the project have been secured.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	We have a project that has been in-progress for several years and is nearing completion. The RFA indicates that "Proceeds of NY BRICKS Grants cannot be used to reimburse costs incurred on or before April 1, 2026." Does this mean that we are eligible to request funds tied to our project, as long as we confirm that they were incurred between April 2nd 2026 and the time of application?	Proceeds of NY BRICKS Grants cannot be used to reimburse costs incurred before April 1, 2026. Applicants are cautioned that not all Eligible Projects will receive a NY BRICKS Grant. Eligible Project Costs for purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative shall be capital costs, which is for a Capital Work or Purpose as defined in State Finance Law § 67-a (4). Proceeds of a NY BRICKS Grant may not be used to pay for non-Capital costs including but not limited to salaries, maintenance or repair costs, lease payments, utility costs, supplies, and debt repayment.
Eligibility	How does this program define major renovations and capital costs? For example, if the floors are removed down to the 80+ years old subfloors due to abatement of hazardous materials, could our NY BRICKS project include the installation of new flooring and the installation of new concrete interior accessibility ramps?	Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA describes Eligible Projects. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. In general, capital work consists of construction or reconstruction – i.e. building an addition or gutting a portion of a facility 'to the studs' and reconstructing the space. Work would be considered maintenance if it is primarily cosmetic or repairs, even if the work to be done has a higher cost. If it can be classified as maintenance, it is not eligible for capital reimbursement. Common maintenance items are repainting, flooring, patching walls, fixing façade, repairing a roof. The NY BRICKS program aims to increase access to Community Centers, not pay for deferred maintenance to improve aesthetics or "fix things." Flooring is a good example. When an area of a facility is undergoing full reconstruction and the previous floor is removed to the joists, often in conjunction with the movement of walls, then installing a new floor is an eligible component of the overall project. However, simply replacing worn flooring, even if the flooring material is changing, is considered maintenance by bond counsel and would not be eligible for reimbursement. Given the details in the question, the project would be considered an eligible project.
Eligibility	Could you provide examples of eligible costs for major renovations?	Section 2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA defines "Eligible Project Costs" as "Costs incurred in connection with a Project that are to be reimbursed with the proceeds of a NY BRICKS Grant. Eligible Project Costs shall be Capital Costs as defined above. Proceeds of a NY BRICKS Grant may not be used to pay for non-Capital costs including but not limited to salaries, maintenance or repair costs, lease payments, utility costs, supplies, and debt repayment." Section 4.4 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA describes the Eligible Use of Funds. Please see Appendix 5 "Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)" Section D, Question D3 for more information. With respect to the information about the "Application Project Priority and Grant Funding Levels" that is described in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section Three, an applicant that proposes a project for the construction of a new Community Center should select either priority level 1 or 2 depending on the grant funding level being sought; if an applicant operates an existing Community Center and can attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2- then the applicant may seek funding for a renovation. For purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Capital Cost is defined as costs for a Capital Work or Purpose as defined in State Finance Law § 67-a (4).
Application Process/Materials	What is the distinction between construction, major renovation, and capital costs?	Section 2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA defines "Eligible Project Costs" as "Costs incurred in connection with a Project that are to be reimbursed with the proceeds of a NY BRICKS Grant. Eligible Project Costs shall be Capital Costs as defined above. Proceeds of a NY BRICKS Grant may not be used to pay for non-Capital costs including but not limited to salaries, maintenance or repair costs, lease payments, utility costs, supplies, and debt repayment." Section 4.4 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA describes the Eligible Use of Funds. Please see Appendix 5 "Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)" Section D, Question D3 for more information. With respect to the information about the "Application Project Priority and Grant Funding Levels" that is described in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section Three, an applicant that proposes a project for the construction of a new Community Center should select either priority level 1 or 2 depending on the grant funding level being sought; if an applicant operates an existing Community Center and can attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2- then the applicant may seek funding for a renovation. For purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Capital Cost is defined as costs for a Capital Work or Purpose as defined in State Finance Law § 67-a (4).
Eligibility	Are asbestos abatement costs eligible for this funding? Does the location of the abatement (e.g., ceilings, floors, etc.) affect the eligibility of costs?	Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA describes Eligible Projects. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. In general, capital work consists of construction or reconstruction – i.e. building an addition or gutting a portion of a facility 'to the studs' and reconstructing the space. Work would be considered maintenance if it is primarily cosmetic or repairs, even if the work to be done has a higher cost. If it can be classified as maintenance, it is not eligible for capital reimbursement. Common maintenance items are repainting, flooring, patching walls, fixing façade, repairing a roof. The NY BRICKS program aims to increase access to Community Centers, not pay for deferred maintenance to improve aesthetics or "fix things." Flooring is a good example. When an area of a facility is undergoing full reconstruction and the previous floor is removed to the joists, often in conjunction with the movement of walls, then installing a new floor is an eligible component of the overall project. However, simply replacing worn flooring, even if the flooring material is changing, is considered maintenance by bond counsel and would not be eligible for reimbursement. Given the details in the question, the project would be considered an eligible project.

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Scoring/Review process	Does the fact that we have matching funds available for the abatement itself affect scoring decisions?	A NY BRICKS Grant will cover no more than 80% of the Capital Costs for the proposed Project. The Grantee must provide at least 20% of the Capital Costs of the Project from other committed funding sources. The most competitive applications will clearly demonstrate committed funding in the amount necessary to fully fund the Project as described. Please be sure that all sources identified for use as Matching Funds are eligible to be used as such. For example, State and Municipal Facilities Program Grants are ineligible to be used for the purpose of the match, although they may be used to pay for eligible project costs in excess of the Match amount.
Eligibility	Would abatement and replacement of asbestos ceilings in a 110,000+ square foot building be eligible as a major renovation?	Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA describes Eligible Projects. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. In general, capital work consists of construction or reconstruction – i.e. building an addition or gutting a portion of a facility ‘to the studs’ and reconstructing the space. Work would be considered maintenance if it is primarily cosmetic or repairs, even if the work to be done has a higher cost. If it can be classified as maintenance, it is not eligible for capital reimbursement. Common maintenance items are repainting, flooring, patching walls, fixing façade, repairing a roof. The NY BRICKS program aims to increase access to Community Centers, not pay for deferred maintenance to improve aesthetics or fix things. Flooring is a good example. When an area of a facility is undergoing full reconstruction and the previous floor is removed to the joists, often in conjunction with the movement of walls, then installing a new floor is an eligible component of the overall project. However, simply replacing worn flooring, even if the flooring material is changing, is considered maintenance by bond counsel and would not be eligible for reimbursement.
Eligibility	If construction/renovation requires the temporary relocation of programs, are those temporary relocation costs eligible for this funding?	No, temporary relocation costs are not eligible.
Project Location-RIN/ZCTA Determination	Regarding the definition of a community center on page 6 of the RFA, please provide additional clarification about how a building's "primary or dedicated" purpose is determined.	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2.
Eligibility	We have a large community center that offers "a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health." Services are delivered by our agency and our nonprofit community partner-tenants. Our proposed project would impact communal space (lobby, hallways, stairwells, etc.) in the community center. Would this meet the definition of a community center and be eligible for funding?	The answer to the question depends on whether the entire building meets the definition of a Community Center as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA. If the building constitutes the community center, and the applicant can demonstrate site control, it is possible that the proposed project scope involving "communal space" would be an Eligible Project. If the entire building does not meet the definition of a Community Center and/or the applicant cannot demonstrate site control over the "communal space," it is possible that proposed project scope is not an eligible project.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	Does “equipping of a Community Center” include movable furniture, fixtures, and equipment necessary for community programming, including tables, chairs, computers, monitors, and movable whiteboards? If so, are there capitalization, useful-life, unit-cost, or other requirements those items must meet to qualify as Eligible Project Costs?	The goal of NY BRICKS Round 2 is to fund capital construction or renovation; and that may include the purchasing of equipment for installation and use in the Community Center. The standalone purchase of equipment such as moveable equipment, fixtures, tables, chairs, computers, monitors and moveable whiteboards without capital construction or renovation is not a priority for NY BRICKS Round 2. Eligible Projects must comply with all State and local laws and regulations at all times.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	May a single application for one Community Center at one Project Location include multiple coordinated capital renovation and equipping components throughout the facility, or must the proposed Project consist of one discrete capital improvement?	Yes, a single application for one Community Center at one Project Location may include multiple coordinated capital renovation and equipment components.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	Would replacement or substantial modernization of an existing elevator, when undertaken as a major capital improvement to improve accessibility to Community Center programming, constitute an eligible major renovation cost?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. If the Community Center is co-located in a building that serves other purposes, the NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center project. The applicant must demonstrate site control of the project location.
Grant Disbursement Agreement	When can the money start being spent?	Proceeds of NY BRICKS Grants cannot be used to reimburse costs incurred before April 1, 2026. Applicants are cautioned that not all Eligible Projects will receive a NY BRICKS Grant.
Scoring/Review process	Project Budget / Cost Estimate: If portions of a proposed new community center are advanced to Construction Documents while remaining interior components are at an earlier design stage, may the applicant's project budget be supported by a professional cost estimate covering the entire completed project, including estimated costs for components that have not yet reached Construction Documents? Would such an estimate be considered support for "all costs of the Project Budget" for purposes of the 10-point Financial Review criterion?	Section 6.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA describes how applications will be evaluated for "Project Viability." To complete the Project Budget, an applicant must "provide construction documents from a qualified professional, quotes, proposals, estimates, and/or budget for the Project setting forth the Project components, cost information, and other pertinent details. The most competitive applications will provide a budget prepared by a design professional within the past six months...Applicants must demonstrate the availability of funds necessary to complete the Project beyond the requested grant amount, including Matching Funds..."

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Scoring/Review process	Project Planning / Construction Documents: For purposes of Worksheet 2, would an applicant qualify for the 20-point "Construction Documents" level if the proposed project is a new stand-alone community recreation center and the architect has completed permit-ready construction documents for the building shell, foundation, slab, exterior envelope, and related site/stormwater work, while the interior build-out, detailed MEP/fire-protection systems, and interior utility distribution remain at the Schematic Design or Design Development stage? If not, what level of completion is required for documents to be considered "Construction Documents directly relevant to the proposed Project" for the 20-point score?	Construction Documents (CD), Design Development (DD) Documents, and Schematic Design (SD) Documents are the terms used by the Architecture and Engineering industry and represent the sequential progression of design documents (i.e., SD is preliminary, DD is refinement, and CD is finalized). Please consult with the design professional who has worked on the project. Any design document submitted must be accompanied by a signed and dated letter from the designer of record on business letterhead that indicates the most advanced stage of design.
Eligibility	On page 17 of the RFA it says 20 points will be awarded to projects that submit construction documents that are directly relevant to the project; 10 points will be awarded to projects that submit design development documents. Our project is a significant renovation of a building into a community center. Are we eligible for the 20 points even though this isn't a new construction project?	All applicants will be evaluated according to the same criteria as set forth in the RFA. Given the example in the question that suggests a building will undergo "significant renovation...into a community center," the applicant is not currently operating an active Community Center and will not be so doing at the time of application submission. The applicant is proposing a new Community Center. The Community Center must meet all eligibility criteria set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, including the definition of the Community Center. As described in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, "the Applicant must attest that the facility identified in the application meets the [listed] eligibility criteria. For facilities not yet built, Applicants will answer according to the planned use of the facility."
Project Funding/Match Requirement	Is the 20% match requirement to be provided as a cash contribution, or can in-kind contributions (such as labor) be used?	Applicants must demonstrate the availability of funds necessary to complete the Project beyond the requested grant amount, including Matching Funds. The financial review will evaluate all committed funds. Documentation for committed funding sources may include, but is not limited to: bank or investment account statements; recently audited financial statements; donor pledges, agreements, or receipts; grant award letters, agreements, or contracts; loan agreements or commitment letters, including terms and conditions; bond documentation; personal service contracts; bills of sale or paid invoices demonstrating payment by the Applicant after April 1, 2026 for an Eligible Project Cost. Pledges or award letters with unsatisfied contingencies, pending loan applications, and other non-final commitments will not be considered secured funding for evaluation purposes. If all funds necessary to complete the Project have not been secured at the time of application, Applicants must provide documentation of the committed funding to date and description of how the remaining funds will be obtained. There is no requirement that matching funds be fully secured by the date of application, but applications will be scored based upon the amount of funds secured and/or the timing of additional funds expected. However, no Grant Disbursement Agreement will be entered into until all matching funds and funds necessary to complete the project have been secured. In-kind contributions can be used toward the match requirement.
Eligibility	Is a senior center considered a community center and therefore eligible for funding? If so, are there any specific requirements or limitations that would apply?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2. NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center.
Eligibility	Active Operational Status for New Construction Applicants: The RFA guidelines state under Eligible Applicants that funding is available to "Municipalities and non-profit organizations operating community centers in New York State". However, the program also explicitly offers Priority 1 and Priority 2 funding for the construction of new community centers. Could you clarify whether an applicant organization must currently operate an active community center at the time of submission? Or is an entity eligible if they currently offer community programming and plans to serve as the primary operator of the new center once construction is complete?	An applicant does not need to be currently operating an active Community Center at the time of application submission. NY BRICKS Round 2 funding can be used for capital costs related to the construction of a new Community Center. The Community Center proposed must meet all eligibility criteria set forth in the RFA, including the definition of the Community Center. When an applicant answers questions, the answers should be according to the planned use of the proposed facility.
Other	Square Footage Minimums / Maximums: Are there any minimum or maximum square footage requirements for community center capital projects funded under Priority 1, 2, or 3?	No, there are no square footage requirements associated with the Application Project Priorities. An applicant that proposes a project for the construction of a new community center should select either Priority Level 1 or 2 depending on the Grant Funding Level being sought.
Eligibility	A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization considering the acquisition and rehabilitation of an existing facility in Wayne County to establish a year-round Community Resource Center. The facility would maintain regular published hours and provide scheduled programming accessible to the broader community, including youth, adults, and seniors. Programming would include housing stability and homelessness prevention services, case management and resource navigation, educational and life-skills programming, children's and family programming, community meetings, and programming offered in partnership with other community organizations. The proposed facility may also contain a physically separate and secured area used to provide temporary emergency shelter to families experiencing homelessness. The shelter area would not be accessible to the general public due to resident privacy and safety, while the Community Resource Center areas would remain publicly accessible during established hours. Would such a mixed-use facility qualify as a "Community Center" under the NY BRICKS RFA, assuming all other eligibility requirements are satisfied? If so, would NY BRICKS funding be eligible to support capital improvements to the entire facility, including the secured shelter portion, or only those portions used for publicly accessible Community Center programming?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2. NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center.

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Site Control	A 501 (c)(3) is considering acquiring an existing property for a proposed NY BRICKS project but may not own the property at the time applications are due. What forms of site control are acceptable at the time of application? Specifically, would an executed purchase contract, purchase option, letter of intent, or other binding agreement providing the applicant the right to acquire the property satisfy the site-control requirement? If site control must extend for a specified period or contain particular provisions, please identify those requirements.	As set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.3 "If the property where the grant-funded project will be located has not yet been acquired by the Applicant, the Applicant must provide an executed contract of sale and the closing date must occur within 6 months of the Application Date."
Project Funding/Match Requirement	A 501 (c)(3) is considering a capital project for which NY BRICKS funding could represent up to 80% of eligible project costs. Please clarify what sources may be used to satisfy the required applicant match. May the match include private foundation grants, charitable contributions, fundraising proceeds, local government funding, other non-State grants, committed organizational funds, donated property or real estate value, or documented in-kind contributions? At what point in the application or award process must matching funds be formally committed or available?	Applicants must demonstrate the availability of funds necessary to complete the Project beyond the requested grant amount, including Matching Funds. The financial review will evaluate all committed funds. Documentation for committed funding sources may include, but is not limited to: bank or investment account statements; recently audited financial statements; donor pledges, agreements, or receipts; grant award letters, agreements, or contracts; loan agreements or commitment letters, including terms and conditions; bond documentation; personal service contracts; bills of sale or paid invoices demonstrating payment by the Applicant after April 1, 2026 for an Eligible Project Cost. Pledges or award letters with unsatisfied contingencies, pending loan applications, and other non-final commitments will not be considered secured funding for evaluation purposes. If all funds necessary to complete the Project have not been secured at the time of application, Applicants must provide documentation of the committed funding to date and description of how the remaining funds will be obtained. There is no requirement that matching funds be fully secured by the date of application, but applications will be scored based upon the amount of funds secured and/or the timing of additional funds expected. However, no Grant Disbursement Agreement will be entered into until all matching funds and funds necessary to complete the project have been secured. Given the specific funding sources for the match requirement that are noted in the question, those may be counted toward the match.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	A 501 (c)(3) is considering acquiring an existing building and rehabilitating it for use as an eligible Community Center. May NY BRICKS grant funds be used toward the acquisition or purchase price of the property as part of the overall capital project, in addition to eligible rehabilitation, renovation, design, and construction costs? If acquisition is eligible, must the acquisition occur after award or may acquisition costs incurred before award or execution of the Grant Disbursement Agreement be included as eligible project costs?	A NY BRICKS Round 2 grant may not be used to acquire real property.
Other	Are nonprofit applicants allowed to charge reasonable fees for individuals participating in programs, such as membership fees or per visit, to support ongoing services?	Yes, a nonprofit applicant may charge reasonable fees for individuals participating in programs, however the community center must be open to the public. Open to the public means that the facility or organization does not bar entry based on private selectiveness and that anyone from the community has an opportunity to enter, apply, or register for available programs, activities, or services.
Other	Is the site required to serve kids, adults, and seniors, or can it serve only one of the three, for example, kids?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2.
Project Location - RIN/ZCTA Determination	If the site is not in an underserved area but it plans to serve a nearby underserved community, which data should be focused on in the application?	Applicants must use the Project Location when calculating Community Need.
Other	Does the application require any letters of support or partnerships	No.
Eligibility	Does NYBRICKS allow for co-applicants? The County owns and maintains the facility, but the City Youth Bureau does the programming. Would we be able to partner on an application?	A NY BRICKS Round 2 application is for a single applicant; and that single entity, if awarded a grant, would execute a Grant Disbursement Agreement with DASNY. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2. An applicant must provide evidence of site control over the project location. An applicant may enter into legal agreements with other entities in order to provide operate a facility. Applicants should provide supporting documentation to explain any relationships with operating partners.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	Our proposed project is a partnership between the City and A 501 (c)(3) organization. We have secured significant funding resources for the project, with the City serving as the grant recipient and fiscal holder of the funds. The majority of our secured funding comes from a Congressional Directed Spending award through HUD that was awarded directly to the City for this project. This funding is federal in nature and is not a state or municipal grant. Would the HUD Congressional Directed Spending funds awarded to the City be eligible to count toward the required 20% matching funds for this application?	Given that the City is the Applicant who has site control and can meet all eligibility criteria as set forth in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, the HUD Congressional Directed Spending that is described could be counted toward the required 20% matching funds. The grant award letter, agreement, or contract must be submitted as supporting documentation. Pledges or award letters with unsatisfied contingencies and other non-final commitments will not be considered secured funding for evaluation purposes. If all funds necessary to complete the Project have not been secured at the time of application, Applicants must provide documentation of the committed funding to date and description of how the remaining funds will be obtained. There is no requirement that matching funds be fully secured by the date of application, but applications will be scored based upon the amount of funds secured and/or the timing of additional funds expected. No Grant Disbursement Agreement will be entered into until all matching funds and funds necessary to complete the project have been secured.
Application Process/Materials	Can you please provide examples of what are considered Construction Documents, Design Development Documents, and Schematic Design Documents? It seems some items may fit in multiple categories, and we want to make sure we are getting appropriate points for Project Planning.	Construction Documents (CD), Design Development (DD) Documents, and Schematic Design (SD) Documents are the terms used by the Architecture and Engineering industry and represent the sequential progression of design documents (i.e., SD is preliminary, DD is refinement, and CD is finalized). Please consult with the design professional who has worked on the project. Any design document submitted must be accompanied by a signed and dated letter from the designer of record on business letterhead that indicates the most advanced stage of design.

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Application Process/Materials	If we are requesting funding to equip a community center, do Construction, Design Development, and Schematic Design Documents apply to our project? We wish to receive points for Project Planning.	Yes. The goal of NY BRICKS Round 2 is to fund capital construction or renovation; and that may include the purchasing of equipment for installation and use in the Community Center. The purchase of equipment without capital construction or renovation is not a priority for NY BRICKS Round 2. Eligible Projects must comply with all State and local laws and regulations at all times.
Eligibility	Can NY BRICKS grant be awarded to a municipality to improve a community room within a larger governmental building? To put it another way, if a municipality has an auditorium that is made available for rental to members of the community for public events, classes, etc., can improvements to this space benefit from a NY BRICKS grant?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2. If the Community Center is co-located in a building that serves other purposes, the NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center project. The applicant must demonstrate site control of the project location.
Project Funding/Match Requirement	We have a community center and we'd like to add a pool to our amenities. Is that an allowable project under construction or renovation?	Given the example, the applicant is currently operating an active Community Center and will be at the time of application submission. The applicant is not constructing a new Community Center, but proposes to renovate an existing Community Center. The Community Center must meet all eligibility criteria set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, including the definition of the Community Center. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in RFA Section 4.2. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Although more information is needed to be certain, generally - capital costs to renovate the Community Center to add a pool are eligible.
Eligibility	The facility in question is a building that houses both municipal offices and is used as a community center for youth, senior citizen and other public programming events. Would renovations for this building be an eligible project?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2, RFA Section 4.2. If the Community Center is co-located in a building that serves other purposes, the NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center project. The applicant must demonstrate site control of the project location.
Eligibility	The Town owns an existing historic building that is not currently operated as a community center. The Town proposes to rehabilitate and adaptively reuse the building to create a new year-round community center. Would this project be considered a 'New Community Center' under Priority 2, or a 'Renovation of an Existing Community Center' under Priority 3?	Given the example, the applicant is not currently operating an active Community Center and will not be so doing at the time of application submission. The applicant is proposing to construct a new Community Center. The Community Center must meet all eligibility criteria set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, including the definition of the Community Center. As described in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, "the Applicant must attest that the facility identified in the application meets the [listed] eligibility criteria. For facilities not yet built, Applicants will answer according to the planned use of the facility."
Eligibility	Would permanent capital improvements associated with a community garden located on the community center property, including accessible pathways, permanent raised beds, irrigation infrastructure, fencing, and outdoor educational/gathering areas, be eligible project costs when incorporated into the overall community center project?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2. The question describes a renovation of an existing Community Center project.
Eligibility	Are administrative costs eligible for funding? Example: a project manager for an elevator installation, or a library director to oversee the creation and opening of a library within the community center.	Section 4.4 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA describes the Eligible Use of Funds. In the question, two examples are raised. The first example of a project manager for elevator installation is an example of an eligible project cost as it is described to be a capital cost related to construction. The second example of a library director is an example of an ineligible use of funds as it is described to be working capital.
Application Process/Materials	Are applications given preference if they are submitted earlier rather than later? Does date of submission hold any weight in the decision-making?	No, an application submitted before December 7, 2026 at 3:00pm will not be evaluated any differently than any other submitted application.
Application Process/Materials	Do letters of support from community members add any impact or influence to the application?	No.

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Project Funding/Match Requirement	We have received DASNY grants in the past. In our experience, from date of GDA to actual project completion, prices of labor and materials can increase significantly. We would like to adjust for that in our application and add a 20-30% cost increase to the estimates we receive in 2026. Is that acceptable, or do the estimates need to match the requested funding exactly? Can we include explanations in our application for this?	Contingency costs up to 10% can be included in the project budget for costs not yet incurred. Section 6.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA describes how applications will be evaluated for "Project Viability." To complete the Project Budget, an applicant must "provide construction documents from a qualified professional, quotes, proposals, estimates, and/or budget for the Project setting forth the Project components, cost information, and other pertinent details. The most competitive applications will provide a budget prepared by a design professional within the past six months...Applicants must demonstrate the availability of funds necessary to complete the Project beyond the requested grant amount, including Matching Funds..."
Eligibility	For a project consisting of a renovated/new indoor Community Center building and an adjacent outdoor recreational campus across the street from it, is this treated as one Project at one project location, or does it need to be submitted as separate applications? Assume the entity has control over both sites and control over the street in between.	Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA states, "Applicants may only submit ONE application for ONE Community Center at ONE Project Location. If multiple Applications are received from the same Applicant, only the first Application will be reviewed and scored." A Project Location is a specific site for which the applicant can demonstrate site control. A project site has a single physical footprint that may include multiple parcels or buildings that are adjoining under a unified or contiguous boundary. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2. NY BRICKS funding can only be used for the capital costs directly related to the Community Center. The question appears to describe two separate project locations; it is unclear if both locations meet the definition of a Community Center as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA.
Eligibility	Would a project combining an indoor multi-purpose community space with an ice rink, four-season field, outdoor athletic fields, and a skate park meet the definition of 'Community Center,' given the exclusion of standalone facilities that primarily function as a gym?	As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a "building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for the purposes of the NY BRICKS Initiative, a Community Center does not include standalone facilities that primarily function as libraries, schools, gyms, daycare facilities, houses of worship, food pantries, or health care facilities." To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. Applicants must attest that the Community Center facility meets all eligibility criteria as set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2. It is unclear from the question whether the applicant will be able to satisfy the eligibility criteria set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.2.
Eligibility	I am working with a municipality on a potential application to the NY BRICKS program, but we are not sure of the site's eligibility as the community center we would be applying for will share space with the Town Hall. For context, the Town is moving its Town Hall from one location to another, and major renovations are needed to accommodate the administrative offices as well as the community center. However, the application would only cover the portion of renovations dedicated to the center (i.e., HVAC, electrical, roof, etc.), and the work would not overlap with the renovation for any separate municipal offices. Is this project still eligible for consideration under this grant opportunity?	Municipalities are eligible applicants for NY BRICKS Round 2. As defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Community Center is a building or facility owned or leased by an Applicant which has as its primary or dedicated purpose providing scheduled programming to the Community it serves with regular published hours and offering a range of social, educational, recreational, and/or cultural activities for a variety of age groups including but not limited to after-school education, recreation, workforce training, athletics, programming for seniors, meetings by neighborhood or community organizations, and delivery of wrap around services for behavioral health. Community Centers are typically free and are open year-round to the public in the community in which they are located or serve. To be eligible to receive a NY BRICKS Grant, the Project must be for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative. The NY BRICKS Initiative will fund Eligible Project Costs in furtherance of a Project. As described in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.3 an applicant must demonstrate Site Control for the project location. The discrete project scope that is described in the question may be likely if all conditions described in the RFA are satisfied.
Eligibility	Would a nonprofit community center operated by a YMCA be eligible if the facility charges membership fees for access to certain amenities and programs, but provides financial assistance, community programming, and/or certain services that are accessible to nonmembers? For purposes of Section 4.2, how does DASNY define the requirement that a facility be "open to the public"?	Open to the public means that the facility or organization does not bar entry based on private selectiveness and that anyone from the community has an opportunity to enter, apply, or register for available programs, activities, or services.
Eligibility	Does charging a membership or program fee prevent a facility from meeting the definition of a Community Center, which states that Community Centers are "typically free"?	No.
Application Process/Materials	Can you please provide examples of behavioral health wraparound services that would be eligible for inclusion in the community center?	Examples of behavioral health wraparound services may include outpatient mental health and substance use and recovery support such as individual counseling, group therapy, and peer support programs; case management connecting community members with assistance programs.
Eligibility	According to Section 4.2, "Eligible Projects," the grant will pay for the "design, construction ... of a Community Center." However, Section Five, "Project Planning Category – Worksheet 2," states that the applicant must provide construction documents or other forms of planning documentation upon submission. Can you please clarify what "design" this grant will pay for? We would ideally like to use the grant to pay for 100% CDs or other final planning documentation, but if we need it in advance for the grant application, we will need to begin consultation immediately.	Section Five of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA describes how an applicant may demonstrate evidence of Project Planning. It is not required that an applicant submit construction or design documents with an application if they do not have such documents. An applicant may request NY BRICKS grant funding for a project that is "for the design, construction, major renovation, and/or equipping of a Community Center, along with other related Capital Costs necessary to effectuate the NY BRICKS Initiative."

Please note that these answers are offered solely for clarification purposes and are each based on the interpretation of the submitted question, devoid of further context. These answers do not guarantee eligibility or point allocation, do not modify the requirements of the Request for Applications, and are not legal advice. Questions with identifying information have been anonymized.		
Eligibility	If an existing municipally owned building is currently used primarily for community meetings but does not yet provide the full range of year-round programming identified in the Community Center eligibility criteria, but there is a well constructed plan for expanded use after rehabilitation, would a project involving its substantial renovation and conversion into a fully operating community center be eligible for NY BRICKS funding? If so, should the project be submitted under Priority 3 as the renovation of an existing community center?	The project described in the question suggests that the applicant will be creating a new Community Center in a facility that it owns and is repurposing through design and construction. As described in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, "the Applicant must attest that the facility identified in the application meets the [listed] eligibility criteria. For facilities not yet built, Applicants will answer according to the planned use of the facility."
Eligibility	If a municipality is applying to convert a municipal public library into a full service Community Center would this be eligible as a "New Community Center" or "Renovation of an existing Community Center" project?	Given the example, the applicant is not currently operating an active Community Center and will not be so doing at the time of application submission. The project described in the question suggests that the applicant will be creating a new Community Center in a facility that it owns and is repurposing through design and construction. As described in Section 4.2 of the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, "the Applicant must attest that the facility identified in the application meets the [listed] eligibility criteria. For facilities not yet built, Applicants will answer according to the planned use of the facility."
Project Funding/Match Requirement	We are working with a Village that owns a vacant building that they would like to turn into a community center. Would this project qualify under priority 1 or 2?	An applicant that proposes a project for the construction of a new Community Center should select either Priority Level 1 or 2 depending on the Grant Funding Level being sought.
Eligibility	Is a non profit private college eligible for the NYBRICKS program?	Eligible Applicants for NY BRICKS Round 2 are Municipalities and Not-for-profit Entities that operate Community Centers. A defined in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, a Not-for-profit Entity is a not-for-profit organization that is duly incorporated with the New York State Department of State or Chartered by the State of New York. Not-for-profit Entity Applicants must be Prequalified at the time of application.
Scoring/Review Process	For the "signed and dated letter from the designer of record on business letterhead that indicates the most advanced stage of design," does this letter need to include the architect or engineer's professional stamp/seal, or is a simple signature acceptable?	Any design document submitted must be accompanied by a signed and dated letter from the designer of record on business letterhead that indicates the most advanced stage of design; and this letter does not need to be stamped/sealed by the engineer or architect.
Eligibility	Under section 4.1, it says that organizations that received an award under the previous round of BRICKS can apply if "the Awardee has received an executed Grant Disbursement Agreement (GDA) and has drawn down 100% of the award." Can you please clarify what action needs to happen in this scenario for eligibility? Does DASNY need to have fully disbursed/issued the final EFT or check for the previous grant award on or before 12/7/2026? Or something else?	As set forth in the NY BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.1, for an applicant who was awarded a grant under NY BRICKS Round 1 to be eligible for NY BRICKS Round 2, the applicant must have: (1) fully drawn down the total value of the grant from Round 1 and those funds must be disbursed prior to the NY BRICKS Round 2 application deadline and the applicant notified DASNY, in writing, that the project has been completed and no further requisitions will be submitted or (2) formally withdrawn from the previous BRICKS award in writing prior to the NY BRICKS Round 2 application deadline.
Eligibility	Can you please confirm, for costs to be reimbursable and when DASNY says "when the cost is incurred," does that mean the pay period of the eligible work needs to begin on or after 4/1/2026? Or does the Applicant need to have paid invoice/issued the EFT that includes the eligible work on or after 4/1/2026, in which case an expenditure could be reimbursable if the pay period begins before 4/1/2026?	Proceeds of NY BRICKS Grants cannot be used to reimburse costs incurred before April 1, 2026. To incur the cost means that you have taken action so that you are obligated to pay for a service or product.
Prequalification	As a NFP organization, we are currently prequalified but the prequalification status is due 11/15. What must I do	As outlined in the NYS BRICKS Round 2 RFA, Section 4.5 - Applicants must remain throughout the application process.