\*Timing may vary. For best information you should review the most updated version of this guide and contact staff

**CDS Requirements**

The office asks that you complete an online form it its entirety and submit it through the CDS portal on our [website](https://www.markey.senate.gov/federal-funding-requests). You can review a blank application [here](https://www.markey.senate.gov/download/senator-markey-oam-cds-request). All requests should include at least TWO (2) letters of support from third parties within the community or communities that would benefit from the fulfillment of the request.

**CDS Accounts**

Each year the Senate Appropriations Committee provides [guidance](https://www.markey.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/fy2024guidance_full.pdf) on eligible accounts under which applicants can apply for CDS funding. To apply for CDS funding, you must apply under one of the eligible accounts. You should review all the information and requirements for the account you are interested in.

**Examples**: [www.markey.senate.gov/map/](http://www.markey.senate.gov/map/)

**You are also strongly encouraged to schedule a meeting with the Senator’s staff so they can share further guidance on how to advance your funding priorities and apply for funding for the upcoming fiscal year**. To request a meeting, please email [Appropriations@Markey.senate.gov](mailto:Appropriations@Markey.senate.gov).

**Timing\***

**February 2024** – The President will submit a [budget request to Congress](https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/). The budget may be submitted by the first Monday in February or may occur several weeks later.

**March-May 2024 –** Typically in March or April, all constituent funding requests, both CDS and programmatic, are due to their respective Senator or Member of Congress. To make either a CDS or programmatic request, you will need to make an account with the [Senate Office Application Manager.](https://oampublic.senate.gov/constituent/login/d0e76149-b360-4275-b3d0-f04f7725fe2e/)

**May to July 2024 –** Appropriations Committees in the House and Senate draft legislation and decide which programs and projects to fund.

**December-March 2025–**Typically, Congress will pass all appropriations bills, sometimes in an omnibus, by the end of March of the following year.

**Type of Request**

1. **Programmatic:** Programmatic funding requests are general requests for funding for national and regional programs that are usually included in the president’s budget request.

**Example (funds):** Provide $4,000,000,000 for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

**Example (language):** The [Appropriations] Committee directs the Secretary to undergo a review of how USDA can utilize commodity food programs to strengthen the resilience.

1. **Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS):** CDS allows Senators and Representatives to direct federal investment to local communities. CDS requests are strictly reserved for non-profit organizations and state, tribal and municipal governments and must comply with Senate Rules.