

FY 2023-FY 2025 CDFI Program & NACA Program Application PRA Forms, Assurances, & Certifications

Encompassing Public Comments under the Paperwork Reduction Act

September 7, 2023

CDFI Fund

U. S. Department of the Treasury

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# OVERVIEW

This document provides Applicants with the details for the Forms, Assurances, and Certifications associated with preparing and submitting Community Development Financial Institutions Program (CDFI Program) and Native CDFI Assistance Program (NACA Program) Applications in Grants.Gov and AMIS.

CDFI and NACA Program Applicants will complete and attest to these Forms, Assurances, and Certifications in **Grants.gov and AMIS only**. Therefore, the Forms, Assurances, and Certifications provided in this document are for “read-only” purposes.

Capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the meaning specified in the applicable CDFI Program or NACA Program Notice of Funds Availability (together, NOFAs).

# FORMS

All CDFI Program and NACA Program Applicants must complete the Environmental Review Form and Assurances and Certifications as part of their AMIS online application submission. Any Applicant that is a 501(c)(4) must also complete the 501(c)(4) form as part of their AMIS online Application submission.

## Environmental Review Form

***AMIS TIP:*** *This form must be completed in AMIS by all Applicants. It is available in the AMIS Application under the “Applicant Level Information” section.*

***Environmental Review Form TIP:*** *Applicants should respond in the affirmative to the Environmental Review Form, Question 1,* ***only*** *if their proposed actions in the Application require an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement per the requirements set forth in 12 C.F.R. Part 1815.*

The Community Development Financial Institutions Fund’s (CDFI Fund’s) environmental review requirements are set forth in 12 C.F.R. Part 1815. The Applicant should review such regulations carefully before completing this section. In order to assure compliance with those regulations and other requirements related to the environment, the Applicant shall provide the following information:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **YES** | **NO** |
| 1. Are there any actions proposed in the Application that do not constitute a “categorical exclusion” as defined in 12 C.F.R. 1815.110?
 |  |  |
| If YES, would any of these actions normally require an environmental impact statement (see 12 C.F.R. 1815.108)? |  |  |
| 1. Are there any activities proposed in the Application that involve:
 |  |  |
| 1. Historical or archaeological sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places, or that may be eligible for such listing?
 |  |  |
| 1. Wilderness areas designated or proposed under the Wilderness Act?
 |  |  |
| 1. Wild or scenic rivers proposed or listed under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act?
 |  |  |
| 1. Critical habitats of endangered or threatened species?
 |  |  |
| 1. Natural landmarks listed on the National Registry of Natural Landmarks?
 |  |  |
| 1. Coastal barrier resource systems?
 |  |  |
| 1. Coastal Zone Management Areas?
 |  |  |
| 1. Sole Source Aquifer Recharge Areas designated by EPA?
 |  |  |
| 1. Wetlands?
 |  |  |
| 1. Flood plains?
 |  |  |
| 1. Prime and unique farmland?
 |  |  |
| 1. Properties listed or under consideration for listing on the Environmental Protection Agency’s List of Violating Facilities?
 |  |  |

If YES to any of the above questions, attach a detailed description of each action, clearly identifying the category in which the action falls.

| Notification |
| --- |
| As stated in 12 C.F.R. 1815.105, if the CDFI Fund determines that the Application proposes actions which require an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement, any approval and funding of the Application will be contingent upon: 1. The Applicant supplying to the CDFI Fund all information necessary for the CDFI Fund to perform or have performed any required environmental review;
2. The Applicant not using any CDFI Fund Financial Assistance to perform any of the proposed actions in the Application requiring an environmental review until approval is received from the CDFI Fund; and
3. The outcome of the required environmental review.

In addition, as stated in 12 C.F.R. 1815.106, if the CDFI Fund determines that an Application, or any part thereof, is not sufficiently definite to perform a meaningful environmental review prior to approval of the Application, final approval and funding of the Application shall require supplemental environmental review prior to the taking of any action directly using CDFI Fund Financial Assistance for any action that is not a categorical exclusion. |

## 501(C)(4) Questionnaire

***AMIS TIP:*** *An Applicant must only complete this form in AMIS if it is recognized as a 501(c)(4) entity. No other Applicants should complete this form. It is located in the AMIS Application under the “Applicant Level Information” section.*

This questionnaire is necessary for the CDFI Fund to determine whether an Applicant with a 501(c)(4) designation from the IRS is eligible to receive an award from the Fund (see 2 U.S.C. 1601, et al.). Please read all definitions before responding to the questions and continue to refer to such definitions in responding to this questionnaire. If the answer to any question is yes, please describe in detail on a separate sheet(s) of paper the facts and circumstances, including: subject matter; date(s); names and titles of all individuals and their employers and their organizations. The CDFI Fund reserves the right to seek follow-up responses from an Applicant. Failure to complete this questionnaire and, if applicable, respond timely to follow-up questions, will delay the CDFI Fund’s processing of the Application, and may result in the disqualification of the Application from further consideration. After submitting responses to this questionnaire, the Applicant is under a continuing obligation to: (1) supplement its responses upon a change in circumstances; and (2) revise or modify its responses within 10 business days of having actual or constructive knowledge that the responses previously submitted and certified are no longer complete, accurate, or true. You may contact the CDFI Fund’s Office of Legal Counsel at (202) 653-0300 if you have any questions about this form.

Scope: The scope of this questionnaire is limited to activities on or after January 1, 1996.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| 1. Has any officer, employee, director, partner, proprietor, or board member contacted[[1]](#footnote-2) a Covered Executive Branch Official[[2]](#footnote-3) with regard to the formulation, modification, or adoption of Federal legislation (including legislative proposals)?
 | ❑ Yes❑ No |
| 1. Has any officer, employee, director, partner, proprietor, or board member contacted a Covered Executive Branch Official with regard to the formulation, modification, or adoption of a Federal rule, regulation, Executive Order, or any other program, policy, or position of the United States Government?
 | ❑ Yes❑ No |
| 1. Has any officer, employee, director, partner, proprietor, or Board member contacted a Covered Executive Branch Official with regard to the administration or execution of a Federal program or policy (including the negotiation, award, or administration or a Federal contract, grant, loan, permit, or license)?
 | ❑ Yes ❑ No |
| 1. Has any officer, employee, director, partner, proprietor, or Board member contacted a Covered Executive Branch Official with regard to the nomination or confirmation of a person for a position subject to confirmation by the United States Senate?
 | ❑ Yes ❑ No |
| 1. Has any officer, employee, director, partner, proprietor, or Board member engaged in efforts supporting and coordinating the contact by others of a Covered Executive Branch Official including preparation and planning activities, research and other background work that was intended, at the time performed, for a purpose described in Questions 1-4?
 | ❑ Yes ❑ No |
| 1. Has any officer, employee, director, partner, proprietor, or Board member contacted a Covered Legislative Branch Official[[3]](#footnote-4) with regard to the formulation, modification, or adoption of Federal legislation (including legislative proposals)?
 | ❑ Yes ❑ No |
| 1. Has any officer, employee, director, partner, proprietor, or Board member contacted a Covered Legislative Branch Official with regard to the formulation, modification, or adoption of a Federal rule, regulation, Executive Order, or any other program, policy, or position of the United States Government?
 | ❑ Yes ❑ No |
| 1. Has any officer employee, director, partner, proprietor, or Board member contacted a Covered Legislative Branch Official with regard to the administration or execution of a Federal program or policy (including the negotiation, award, or administration of a Federal contract, grant, loan, permit, or license)?
 | ❑ Yes ❑ No |
| 1. Has any officer, employee, director, partner, proprietor, or Board member contacted a Covered Legislative Branch Official with regard to the nomination or confirmation of a person for a position subject to confirmation by the United States Senate?
 | ❑ Yes ❑ No |
| 1. Has any officer, employee, director, partner, proprietor, or Board member engaged in efforts supporting and coordinating the contact by others of a Covered Legislative Branch Official including preparation and planning activities, research and other background work that was intended, at the time performed, for a purpose described in Questions 6-9?
 | ❑ Yes ❑ No |

### Signature

Signing the certification on SF-424 certifies that the answers to the 501(c)(4) Questionnaire and the written explanations attached thereto are true, accurate, and complete to the best of its information, knowledge, and belief and that, since January 1, 1996, the Applicant has not engaged in Lobbying Activities as defined in Section 3 (7) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, P.L. 104-65, as amended.

# ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATIONS

By signing the certification on the SF-424 and signing the AMIS Application, the Applicant is certifying the Assurances and Certifications listed below. Certain of these Assurances and Certifications may not be applicable to the Applicant. An Applicant may not modify any of the Assurances and Certifications.

#### Standard Form 424B: Assurances – Non-Construction Programs

As the duly authorized representative of the Applicant, I certify that the Applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in this Application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work (activities in Application) within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the nineteen statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of the Office of Personnel Management’s (OPM’s) Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L.88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C.1681-1683, 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C.794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C.6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L.91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) Sections 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. 290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C.3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which Application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statutes which may apply to the Application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C.1501-1508 & 7324-7328), which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. 276c and 18 U.S.C. 874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction sub agreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is $10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L.91-190) and Executive Order 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L.93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L.93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm-blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act of 1984.
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.
19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (i) engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect, (ii) procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect, or (iii) using forced labor in the performance of the award or sub-awards under the award.

#### Additional Certifications

In addition to the assurances and certifications provided by the Applicant pursuant to OMB Standard Form 424, the Applicant hereby assures and certifies that:

1. It is duly organized and validly existing under the laws of the jurisdiction in which it was incorporated or otherwise established, and is (or within 30 days will be) authorized to do business in any jurisdiction in which it proposes to undertake activities specified in this Application;
2. Its Board of Directors (or similar governing body) has by proper resolution or similar action authorized the filing of this Application, including all understandings and assurances contained herein, and directed and authorized the person identified as the authorized representative of the Applicant to act in connection with this Application and to provide such additional information as may be required;
3. It will comply with all applicable requirements of the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 (the Act) [12 U.S.C. 4701 et seq.], regulations implementing the Act and all other applicable Department of the Treasury regulations and implementing procedures (and any regulations or procedures which are later promulgated to supplement or replace them);
4. It will comply, as applicable and appropriate, with the requirements of OMB Circulars (*e.g.*, 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards) and any regulations and circulars which are later promulgated to supplement or replace them, including standards for fund control and accountability;
5. It has not knowingly and willfully made or used a document or writing containing any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry as part of this Application or any related document, correspondence, or communication (the Applicant and its authorized representative should be aware that, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, whoever knowingly and willfully makes or uses such document or writing shall be fined or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both);
6. It has not had proceedings instituted against it in, by, or before any court, governmental agency, or administrative body, and a final determination made within the last 3 years as of the date of the NOFA indicating that the Applicant has violated any of the following laws: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C.2000d); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794); the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101-6107); Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.); and Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency.
7. The information in this Application, and in these assurances and certifications in support of the Application, is true and correct to the best of the Applicant’s knowledge and belief and the filing of this Application has been duly authorized.

#### Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters -- Primary Covered Transactions: Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this Application, the prospective primary participant (the Applicant) is providing the certification set out below.
2. The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in the denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective Applicant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the CDFI Fund’s determination whether to enter into this transaction (approval and funding of the Application). However, failure of the Applicant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.
3. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the CDFI Fund determines to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the Applicant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the CDFI Fund may terminate this transaction for cause or default.
4. The Applicant shall provide immediate written notice to the CDFI Fund if at any time the Applicant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
5. The terms “covered transactions,” “debarred,” “suspended,” “ineligible,” “lower tier covered transaction,” “participant,” “person,” “primary covered transaction,” “principal,” “proposal”, and “voluntarily excluded,” as used in this clause (certification), have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the CDFI Fund for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations (31 C.F.R. part 19).
6. The Applicant agrees by submitting this Application that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the CDFI Fund.
7. The Applicant further agrees by submitting this Application that it will include the clause titled “Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction,” to be provided by the CDFI Fund, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions (see 31 C.F.R. part 19, Appendix B).
8. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the No procurement List.
9. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
10. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the CDFI Fund may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

#### Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters -- Primary Covered Transactions

1. The prospective primary participant (the Applicant) certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:
	1. are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
	2. have not within a three-year period preceding this Application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
	3. are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and
	4. Have not within a three-year period preceding this Application had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
2. Where the Applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such Applicant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

#### Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

1. The Applicant certifies that it will provide a drug-free workplace by:
	1. publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the Applicant’s workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employee for violations of such prohibition;
	2. establishing a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:

the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

the Applicant’s policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;

any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance program;

the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;

* 1. making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the award be given a copy of the statement required by subparagraph (a);
	2. notifying the employee in the statement required by subparagraph (a) that, as a condition of employment in such grant, the employee will:

abide by the terms of the statement; and

notify the employer of any criminal drug use statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;

* 1. notifying the granting agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice of a conviction under subparagraph (d) (ii) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction;
	2. taking one of the following actions, within 30 days of receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(ii), with respect to any employee who is so convicted:

taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or

requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency; and

* 1. making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of subparagraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f).
1. The Applicant may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work (activities carried out by the Applicant) to be done in connection with the award (Place of Performance (Street Address, City, County, State and zip Code)): Not Applicable.

#### Certification Regarding Lobbying

1. The Applicant certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that:

No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the Applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;

If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Application, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying“ in accordance with its instructions; and

The Applicant shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards of all tiers (including subcontracts, sub grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

1. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when this transaction is made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.
1. “Contacted” (or “contacted”) means any oral or written communication, including an electronic communication. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. “Covered Executive Branch Official” means: (a) the President; (b) the Vice President; (c) any officer or employee, or any other individual functioning in the capacity of such an officer or employee, in the Executive Office of the President; (d) any officer or employee serving in an Executive Level I-V position, a “Schedule C” position, or any official in a Senior Executive Service position; (e) any member of the uniformed services serving at grade O-7 or above; or (f) any officer or employee serving in a position of a confidential, policy-determining, policy-making, or policy-advocating character described in section 7511(b)(2) of title 5, United States Code. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. “Covered Legislative Branch Official” means: (a) a Member of Congress; (b) an elected officer of either House of Congress; (c) any employee of the House or Senate, including employees of Members, committees, leadership and working groups or caucuses organized to provide legislative services or other assistance to Members of Congress; and (d) any other legislative branch employee serving in a position described under section 109(13) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)