

[Md. Housing and Community Development Code Ann. § 6-308](#)

Current through all legislation from the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly; and including legislative changes ratified by the voters at the November 2022 election.

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§ 6-308. Business Development Program — Administration.

(a) The Department shall:

- (1) administer the Business Development Program;
- (2) adopt regulations to carry out the Business Development Program, including a process to designate an area as a food desert under subsection (c) of this section; and
- (3) make a reasonable, good faith effort to make 25% of the Business Development Program loans and grants to microenterprises.

(b) The Department may:

- (1) sell, assign, or otherwise dispose of a Program loan or revenue from a loan on terms and conditions acceptable to the Department, including selling loans at a discount, if the maximum sale proceeds in any fiscal year do not exceed limits that the Department sets by regulation;
- (2) apply the proceeds received from a sale, assignment, or other disposition under item (1) of this subsection to the Fund;
- (3) pledge a Program loan as security for any:
 - (i) business project loan, bond, or security that is issued, made, or purchased by the Community Development Administration under Title 4 of this article; or
 - (ii) insurance, guaranty, or credit enhancement on a Program loan or business project under § 4-223 of this article; and
- (4) without approval or execution by the Board of Public Works, sell or assign any equity interest acquired under § 6-305(d) of this subtitle.

(c) The Secretary, on the recommendation of the Interagency Food Desert Advisory Committee established under § 6-308.2 of this subtitle, may designate an area as a food desert after considering the following factors:

- (1) availability of fresh fruit, vegetables, and other healthy foods in the area;
- (2) income levels of local residents;
- (3) transportation needs of local residents and the availability of public transportation;
- (4) comments from local governments; and
- (5) any other factors that the Department considers relevant.

History

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An. Code 1957, art. 83B, § 4-205; [2005, ch. 26, § 2](#); [2014, ch. 228](#); [2016, ch. 8](#); [ch. 482, § 2](#); [2017, ch. 636](#); [2019, chs. 572, 573](#); [2022, ch. 380, § 1](#).

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