

Background

This Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) program recognizes and rewards communities that clearly demonstrate an established pattern of successfully implementing their Local Comprehensive Plan. The PlanFirst designation is awarded to local governments on an individual basis. The program is not about having a big comprehensive plan, but about taking that comprehensive plan and putting it to good use for the benefit of the community.

What Are the Benefits?

PlanFirst designation brings significant recognition and rewards, including eligibility* for the package of incentives listed below:

- 3 additional bonus points on Housing Tax Credit Applications
- Statewide recognition as being an exemplary PlanFirst community
- The ability to apply for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding annually during the designation period
- Bonus points on DCA programs such as the Redevelopment Fund, Employment Incentive Program, and the Downtown Revolving Loan Fund
- Hands-on assistance from DCA staff to help implement community work program activities

*Governments designated as PlanFirst are required to maintain their Service Delivery Strategies in order to take advantage of the benefits from the State offered as PlanFirst incentives.

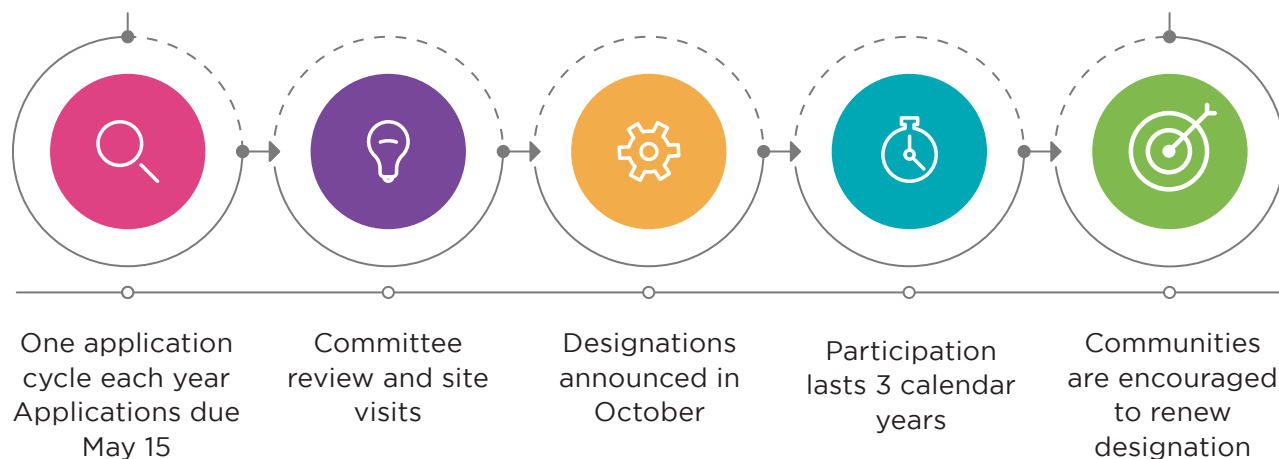
What Are the Requirements?

- History of public involvement with development of the plan
- Active engagement in plan implementation
- Proven progress with achieving the community's stated vision or goals
- Qualified Local Government (QLG) with up-to-date mandated surveys
- Met Regional Commission's minimum performance standards

Learn More:

Visit our website at www.dca.ga.gov

What Is The Process?



*Multiple governments within a county that plan jointly must apply for PlanFirst separately.