

2024 DCA Application Manual

Georgia Housing Credit Program

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2024 Housing Tax Credit Application Manual

The purpose of the Housing Tax Credit Application Manual is to provide a central location for instructions and guidance for submission of Tax Credit Applications. This Manual may contain some information included in the 2024-2025 QAP but is not intended to provide a comprehensive list or summary of QAP requirements, or applicability of QAP sections and relevant DCA manuals. Applicants are responsible for comprehensive review of the QAP and relevant DCA manuals to determine applicability of requirements and ensure all requirements are satisfied.

This Manual is not intended to change QAP policy and will be superseded by the 2024-2025 QAP in the event of a discrepancy.

Requirements and Timeline

The below table of submission requirements and deadlines is copied from *(Core) Competitive Rounds, A. Requirements and Timeline* (2025 Round deadlines excluded). All documents must be submitted by 5:00 pm on the below-specified dates.

Submission	Requirements	9% Credits Deadline	4% Credits/Bonds Deadline
Reviews Conducted Prior to Competitive Round	Certain documents from the following Threshold Criteria: Occupied Developments Project Team Qualifications	Accepted on a rolling basis. Final deadline: March 15, 2024	Accepted on a rolling basis. Final Deadline: August 2, 2024
Intent to Apply	A short survey response covering basic development information including but not limited to Applicant information, site location, and funding requested.	April 17, 2024	September 4, 2024
Competitive Review Application	 Completed Excel and Emphasys Core Applications All applicable Scoring documentation: see (Scoring) Applicability of Scoring Criteria Bond inducement resolution from the issuing authority 	May 17, 2024	October 4, 2024
Waiver Requests	See Waiver Requirements below	October 17, 2024	February 28, 2025
Threshold Review Submission	See Threshold Criteria	December 17, 2024	May 2, 2025

Submission Methods and Details

The below deadlines and QAP section applicability are listed in (Core) Competitive Rounds, A. Requirements and Timeline.

Reviews Conducted Prior to Competitive Round

Deadline

9% Credits: March 15, 2024
 4% Credits/Bonds: August 2, 2024

QAP Sections Reviewed

- (Threshold) Project Team Qualifications
- (Threshold) Occupied Developments, (only) subsection A. Pre-Competitive Round Approvals
 - General Information Notices (GIN)

Submission Method

- Project Team Qualifications
 - Submit via email to <u>Allocation@dca.ga.gov</u>
- Occupied Developments, A. Pre-Competitive Round Approvals
 - o Submit via email to <u>Allocation@dca.ga.gov</u> and <u>RelocationReview@dca.ga.gov</u>

Details

DCA will accept requests for Project Team Qualification determination throughout the year, however Applicants must submit requests by the respective dates listed above to be eligible to submit a Competitive Review Application in the 9% Credits or 4% Credits/Bonds Competitive Round.

Applicants must receive DCA approval of GIN drafts prior to disseminating to residents.

Intent to Apply

Deadline

9% Credits: April 17, 2024
 4% Credits/Bonds: September 4, 2024

Requirements

• A short survey response covering basic development information including but not limited to Applicant information, site location, and funding requested.

Submission Method

- Submit via the Intent to Apply Survey
 - o 2024 9% Credits Intent to Apply Survey
 - o 2024 4% Credits/Bonds Intent to Apply Survey Survey opens August 5, 2024

Details

• Submit a survey for each Application you intend to submit. Do not list multiple properties within a single survey.

Competitive Review Application

Deadline

9% Credits: May 17, 2024
 4% Credits/Bonds: October 4, 2024

OAP Sections Reviewed

- All applicable Scoring Criteria sections
 - See (Scoring) Applicability of Scoring Criteria

Submission Method

- Submit via the Emphasys Application Portal
 - o Application Name:
 - "2024 9% HTC Competitive Application"
 - "2024 4% HTC/Bonds Competitive Application"
 - o Appendix (C) Competitive Application Submission Instructions

Format

- Applicants must use the 2024 Excel Core Application. If DCA publishes an updated version, Applicants must use the most recently-published version.
- Files must be named in accordance with the 2024 Submission Folder Instructions and File Naming Conventions and submitted in the 2024 Competitive Application Folder Structure
 - o Appendix (A) Submission Folder Instructions

Waiver Requests

Deadline

9% Credits: October 17, 2024
 4% Credits/Bonds: February 28, 2025

Submission Method

- Submit via the **Emphasys Developer Portal**
 - o Appendix (D) Waiver Request and Threshold Application Submission Instructions

Details

- This submission is only applicable to Applications selected for a funding award following the Competitive Review Application.
- Applicants who wish to be exempt from any QAP requirement must request a waiver. Examples include but are not limited to architectural standards, accessibility standards, and underwriting.

Threshold Review Submission

Deadline

9% Credits: December 17, 2024
 4% Credits/Bonds: February 28, 2025

QAP Sections Reviewed

- All applicable *Threshold Criteria* sections
 - o Refer to each QAP section to determine applicability

Submission Method

- Submit via the Emphasys Developer Portal
 - o Appendix (D) Waiver Request and Threshold Application Submission Instructions

Format

- Applicants must re-submit the 2024 Excel Core Application, with the Threshold tab complete.
 - o Any changes in the Core Application from the Competitive Review Application to the Threshold Review Application must be clearly indicated and accompanied by an explanation.
 - No changes permitted in the Scoring tab.
 - o If a newer version of the Excel Core Application is published between Competitive Review Application and Threshold Review Application, Applicants will not be required to use the newer version unless DCA instructs otherwise.
- Files must be named in accordance with the 2024 Submission Folder Instructions and File Naming Conventions and submitted in the 2024 Threshold Application Folder structure
 - o Appendix (A) Submission Folder Instructions

Details

• This submission is only applicable to Applications selected for a funding award following the Competitive Review Application.

Appendix (A) Submission Folder Instructions

2024 Submission Folder Requirements and File Naming Conventions

Submission Folder

Applicants must use the 2024 Submission Folder Structure:

- Competitive Application Folder
- Threshold Application Folder

For any sections that are not applicable to the Application, add "NA" to the end of the folder name and leave the folder empty (ex: "09DeeprTargtg**NA**").

The complete folder must be compressed into a zipped file to upload through Emphasys.

Document Requirements

- Do not combine the documents for each tab into one combined PDF. Submit separate PDFs for each document.
- All DCA forms created in Microsoft Excel (ex: Core Application, Performance Workbook) must be submitted in Excel format. For any DCA Excel documents requiring signatures, a PDF copy of the signed document must also be submitted.

Naming Electronic Files

Please name files sensibly such that it will be obvious to DCA what is in the file without having to open it!

Name files using the following format:

- Full file name example: "0201DCASrEquityCommit"
 - o First is the number at the beginning of its respective folder name (ex: "01Feasibility")
 - o Followed by the document number (ex: 01, 02, 03)
 - o Then the abbreviated project name ("DCASr")
 - Then document name (ex: "EquityCommit")

Do not include:

- Spaces or underscores (use CondensedTitleCaseFormat)
- Special characters (e.g., &, /, \, \$, -, +, *, #, %, @, periods ".", etc.).
- Words such as "The", "of", "on", "at" and "Ltd Partnership"
- Any references to your version number or version date

Additional Instructions:

- Keep filename size to a maximum of about 30 characters.
- Use abbreviations where possible.
 - o Replace words such as "Apartments" and "Residences", with abbreviations such as "Apts" and "Res".
- When naming Performance Workbooks, use first initial and surname for project team members. (ex: "1901DCASrPerfWkbk**JSmith**")

Appendix (B) Contacts and Links

Contacts

Application Submission and Review

- Allocation Team program administration staff (<u>Allocation@dca.ga.gov</u>): Meagan Cutler, Em Persaud (4% HTC/Bonds lead), Jenny Moody (9% HTC lead), Felecia Speakman
 - o Primary contact for pre-submission through Competitive Application and Award
 - Applicants may contact the DCA Allocation Team regarding any matters related to application submission and review.
 - o Copy the DCA Allocation Team on all emails regarding application submission and review (including Waiver Requests and Threshold Application).
- Relocation Team (<u>RelocationReview@dca.ga.gov</u>)
 - Contact the DCA Relocation Team for any matters related to (Threshold) Occupied Developments, the DCA Relocation Manual, Permanent Displacement Waivers, or any other relocation-related questions.
- Environmental Team (<u>EnvironmentalReview@dca.ga.gov</u>)
 - o Contact the DCA Environmental Team for any matters related to Waiver Requests of requirements in (*Threshold*) Environmental Requirements or the DCA Environmental Manual.
- DCA-Assigned Underwriting and Construction Specialists
 - o Primary contacts for Waiver Requests through 42(M) or Carryover Allocation
 - Direct questions regarding awarded applications to assigned underwriting and construction specialists, whose contact information will be provided in the award letter.
- Cheyenne Speakman (Cheyenne.Speakman@dca.ga.gov)
 - o Contact Cheyenne Speakman for any matters related to fee payments and invoicing.

Qualified Allocation Plan, Manuals, Forms, Scoring Documents

- QAP Q&A Survey
 - Submit questions related to the 2024-2025 QAP and 2024 manuals, forms, and scoring documents through the 2024-2025 QAP Q&A Survey.
- Contact Allocation Team policy staff (<u>Allocation@dca.ga.gov</u>)

Post-Award

- Project Concept Change Review Team (<u>PCCSubmission@dca.ga.gov</u>)
 - Project Concept Change Requests
- Development Team (Onome.Uwhubetine@dca.ga.gov)
 - o Properties with 42(M) or Carryover Allocation through 8609
 - 8609s, Cost Certifications, Pre-8609/Placed-in-Service Project Concept Change Questions
- Office of Portfolio Management Compliance Team (<u>Compliance@dca.ga.gov</u>)
 - Placed-In-Service Properties
 - Compliance Monitoring and Fees, Rents, Post-8609 and Placed-in-Service Project Concept Change Questions

Links

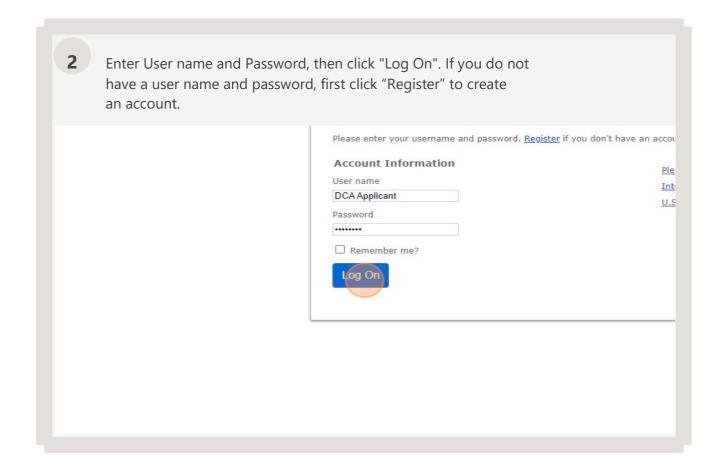
- Emphasys Application Portal (Funding App Collector)
- Emphasys Developer Portal
- <u>Application Submission Materials</u> (Excel Core Application, Submission Folder Structure, Intent to Apply, etc.)
- Qualified Allocation Plan, Q&A Survey and Responses
- Manuals, Forms, Scoring Documents

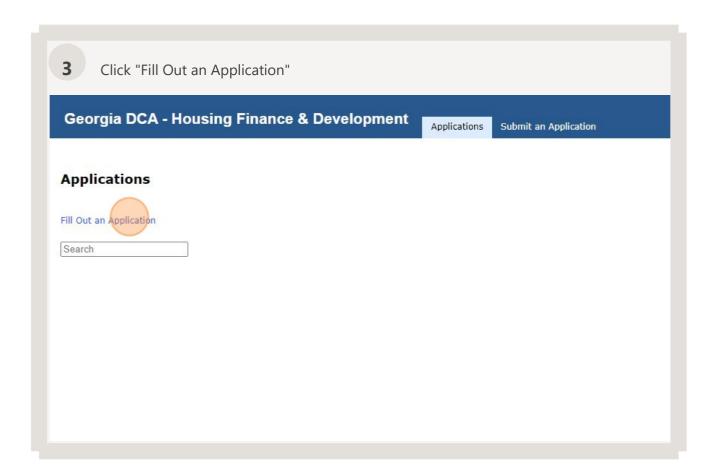
- <u>Post-Award Resources</u> (8609s, Project Concept Changes, etc.)
- Compliance Monitoring

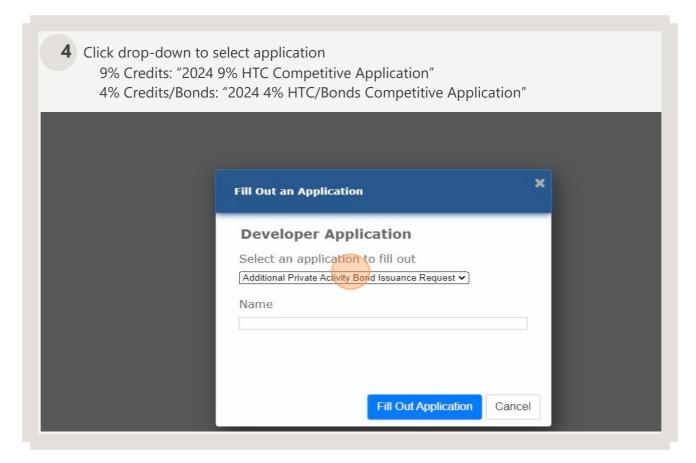
Appendix (C) Competitive Application Submission Instructions

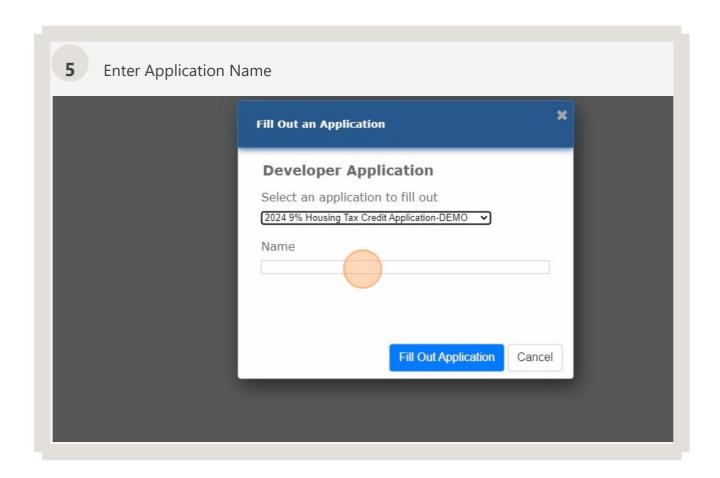
Emphasys Application Portal (Funding App Collector)

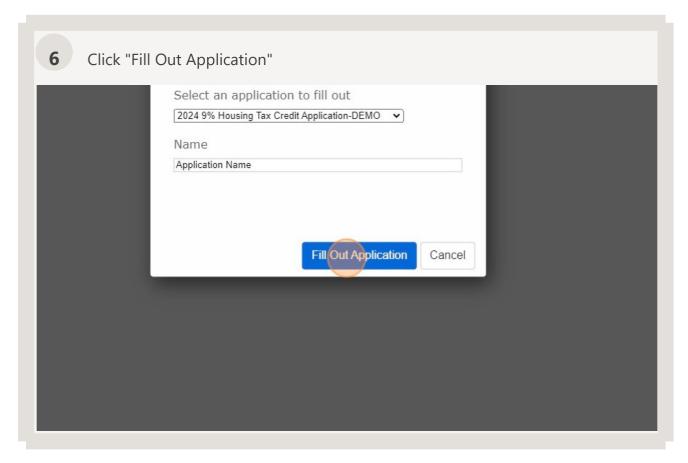
1 Navigate to Emphasys Funding App Collector Portal

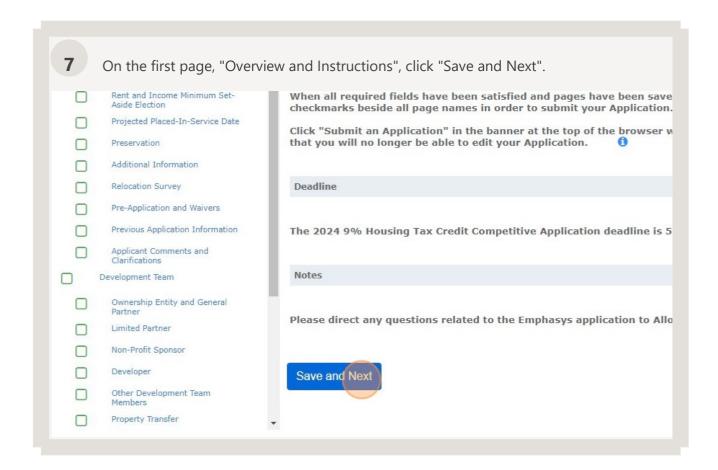


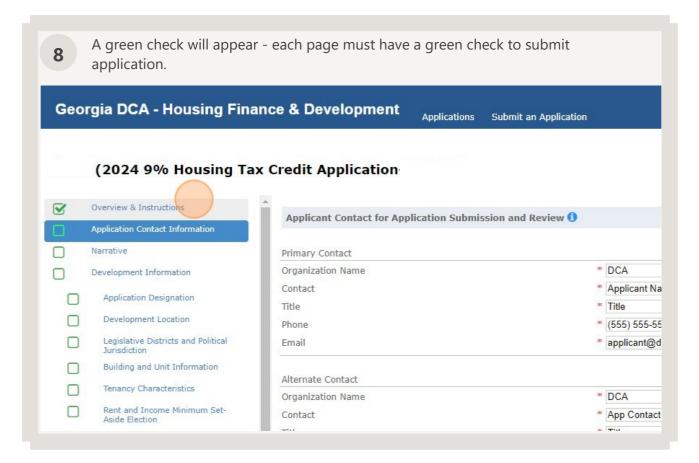


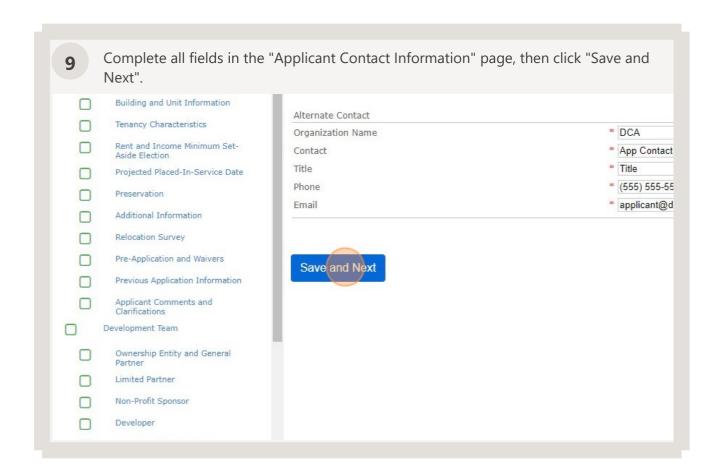




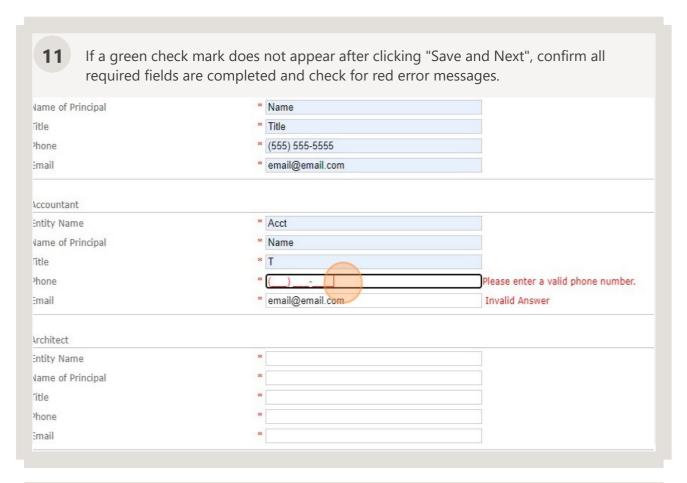


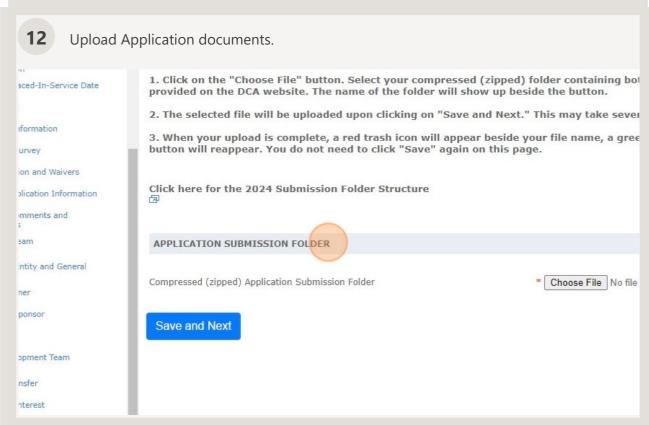


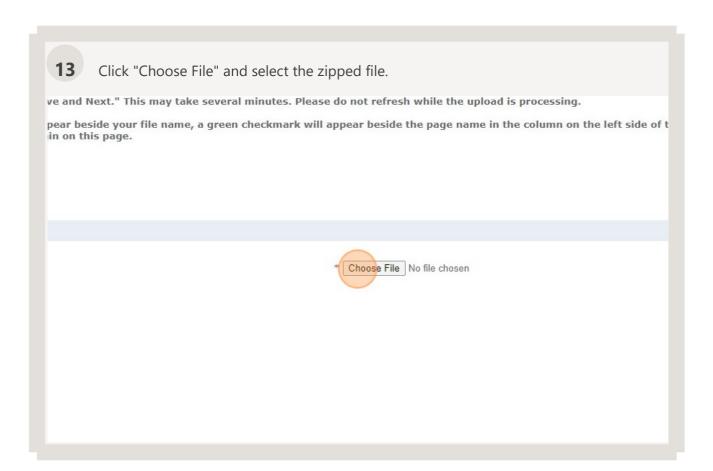


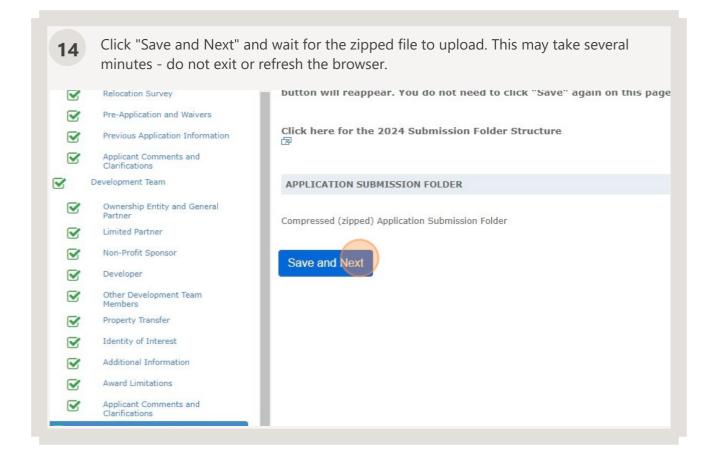


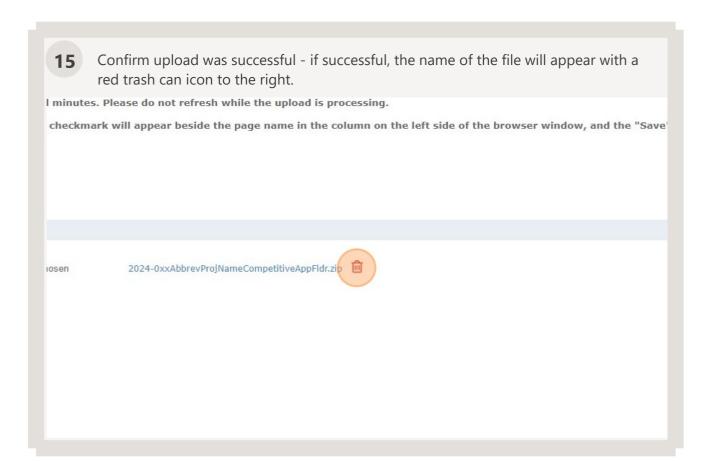
10 Repeat steps 1-9 for each page of the application.

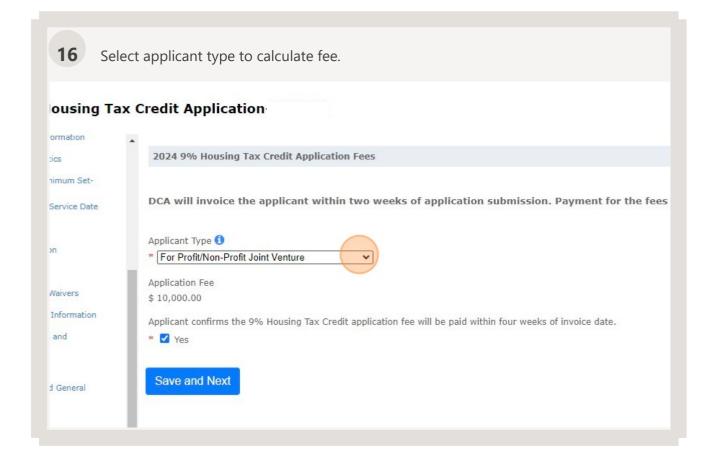


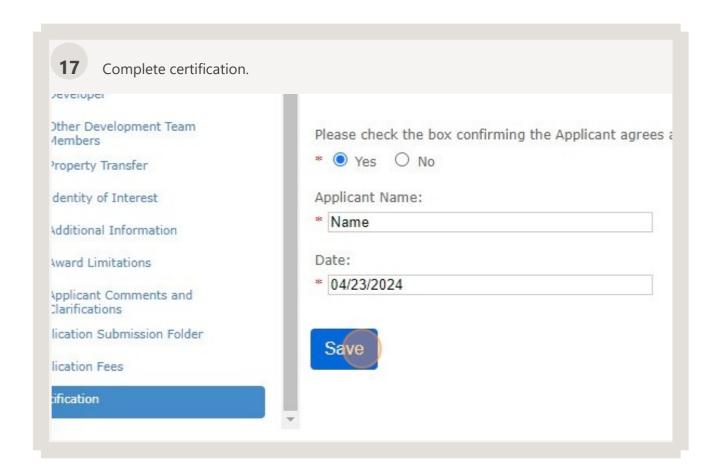


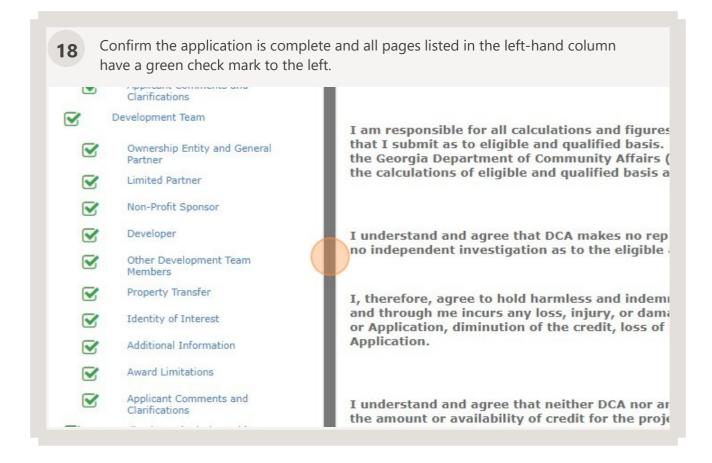


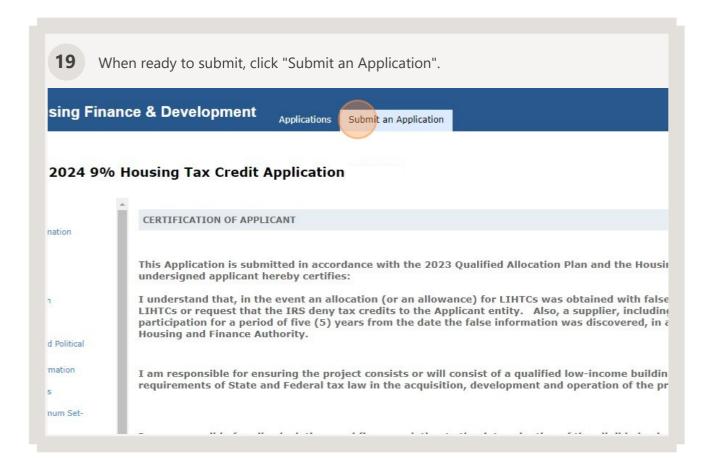


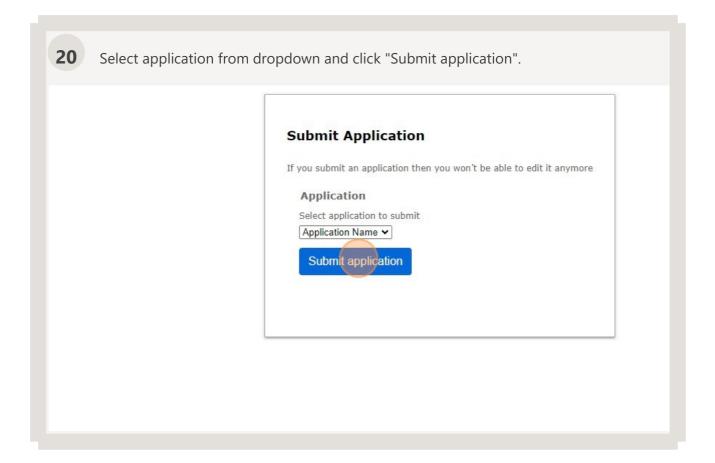


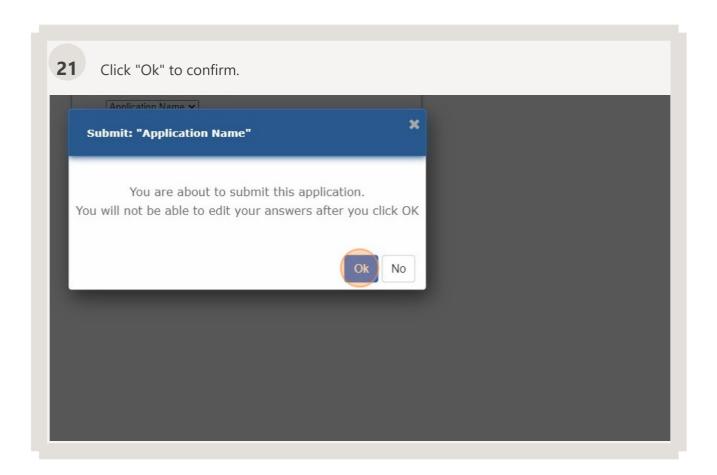


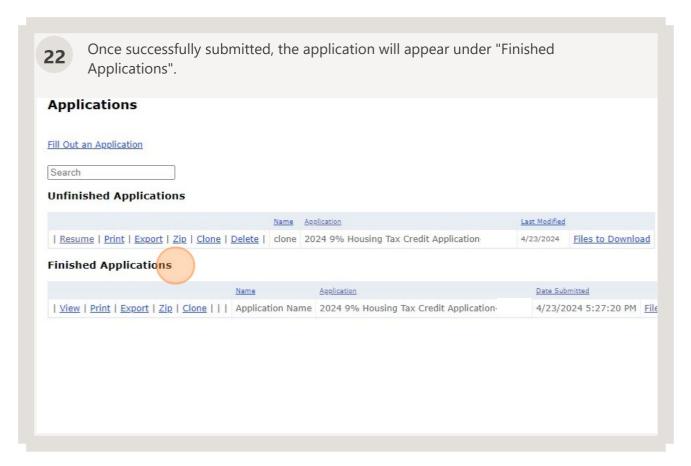


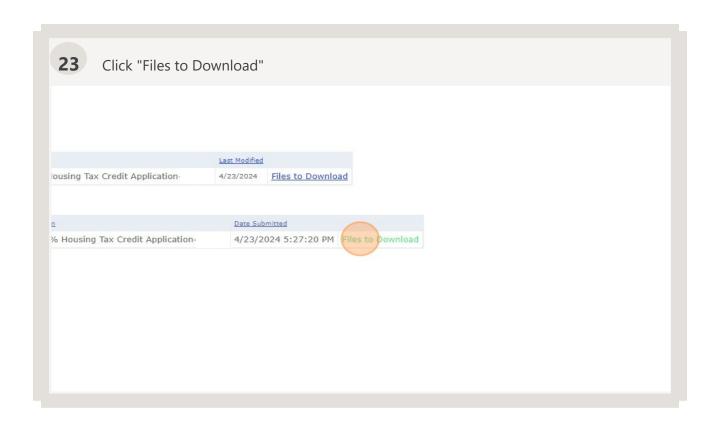


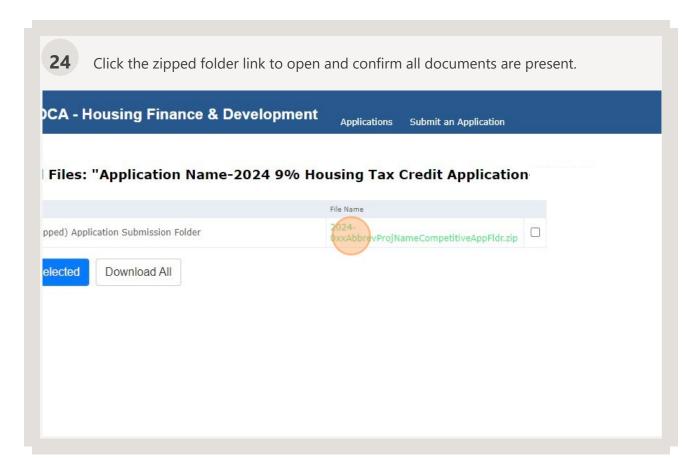












Appendix (D) Waiver Request and Threshold Application Submission Instructions

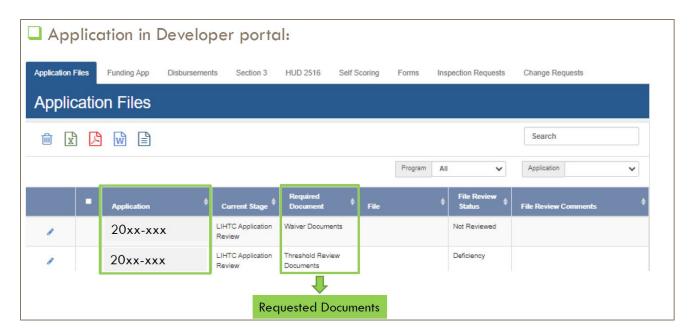
Emphasys Developer Portal

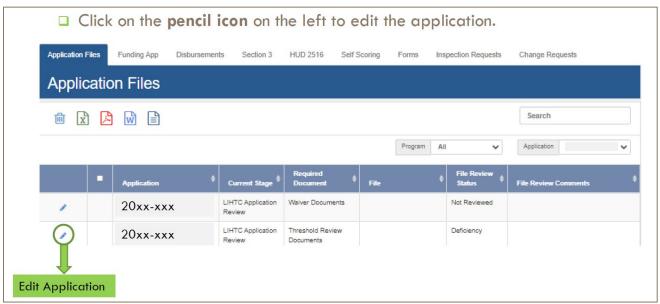
Emphasys Developer Portal

- Waiver Requests and Threshold Review Submission documents must be submitted through the Emphasys Developer Portal.
- □ Link: https://ghfadp.emphasys-hft.com/Account/Login
- Log in to the Developer Portal using the same login information that was used to submit the **HTC Competitive Round Application**. If you are locked out of the account, please contact DCA.

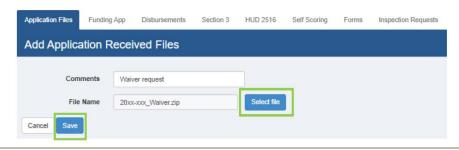


- The request to submit both the Waiver Requests and Threshold Review Submission will appear separately on the Developer portal.
- Please submit the requested documents (As applicable).
- ☐ The submission process is the same for both.

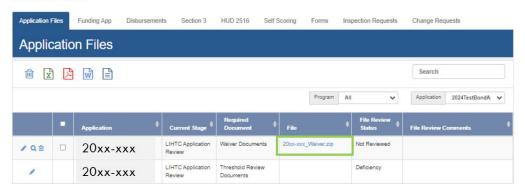




- Click on "Select File" to choose the file from local device. Please note, only one file can be selected. DCA recommends creating a zip file.
 Provide comments as appropriate.
- □ Click "Save" button to upload the file.



- The uploaded file name will appear under the file section, which will automatically be uploaded on the DCA's Emphasys application review portal.
- ☐ The uploaded file can be re-uploaded/deleted by clicking on the pencil/trash icon on the left.



To receive confirmation of the submission, please email: Allocation@dca.ga.gov