ADOS Advocacy Foundation

Opportunity Matrix

Level	Factor	Criteria Description
Level 1 (30 Points)	Ancestry	At least one direct ancestor was held in bondage during U.S. chattel slavery.
Level 2 (20 Points)	Jim Crow Era	At least one direct ancestor lived in the U.S. and suffered under the Jim Crow Era of racial segregation (beginning in the 1870s – 1964).
Level 3 (15 Points)	New Deal Exclusion	At least one direct ancestor did not receive benefits from the New Deal because their profession was intentionally excluded. For example, if they were a domestic or agricultural worker, they would not have qualified for the benefits.
Level 3 (15 Points)	GI Bill Exclusion	At least one direct ancestor did not receive benefits from the GI Bill following WWII, the Korean or Vietnam Wars due to racial discrimination.
Level 4 (10 Points)	Housing	At least one direct ancestor lived in a previously redlined neighborhood during the 1930s–1960s.
Level 5 (5 Points)	Race	Having Negro/Black/African American identity
Level 5 (5 Points)	Geography	Having lived in the Black Belt, a Great Migration Enclave, or a historically Black neighborhood for 15 years or more.

*Direct ancestors are persons who are related to you through parent-child relationships; someone who you descend from a direct line. Examples include mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, great-grandmother, etc. Aunts, uncles, cousins are not direct ancestors.