

Housing new construction program. The implementation proposal for those regulations provided that some applicants who filed acceptable loan requests in prior years could proceed with their loan requests provided they were in compliance with the newly published regulations, until the beginning of FY 2000. Therefore, effective this fiscal year, prior year applications will no longer be processed. All loan requests must be submitted under this NOFA.

II. Funding Limits

A. Individual loan requests may not exceed \$1 million. This applies to regular section 515 funds and set-aside funds. The Administrator may make an exception to this limit in cases where a State's average total development costs exceed the National average by 50 percent or more.

B. No State may receive more than \$2.5 million from regular section 515 funds. Reserve funds, including set-aside funds, are not included in this cap.

III. Rental Assistance (RA)

New construction RA will be held in the National office for use with section 515 Rural Rental Housing loans. RA may be requested by applicants, except for non-RA requests in accordance with section I.D. above.

IV. Application Process

All applications for section 515 new construction funds must be filed with the appropriate Rural Development State office and must meet the requirements of 7 CFR part 1944, subpart E and section V of this NOFA. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed and will be returned to the applicant. No application will be accepted after 5:00 p.m., local time, on the application deadline previously mentioned unless that date and time is extended by a Notice published in the **Federal Register**.

V. Application Submission Requirements

A. Each application shall include all of the information, materials, forms and exhibits required by 7 CFR part 1944, subpart E as well as comply with the provisions of this NOFA. Applicants are encouraged, but not required, to include a checklist and to have their applications indexed and tabbed to facilitate the review process. The Rural Development State office will base its determination of completeness of the application and the eligibility of each applicant on the information provided in the application.

B. Applicants are advised to contact the Rural Development State office serving the place in which they desire to submit an application for the following:

1. Application information;
2. Any restrictions on funding availability (applications that exceed the National limit of \$1 million will be returned to the applicant); and
3. List of designated places for which applications for new section 515 facilities may be submitted.

VI. Areas of Special Emphasis or Consideration

A. The selection criteria contained in 7 CFR part 1944, subpart E includes two optional criteria, one set by the National office and one by the State office. This fiscal year, the National office initiative will be used in the selection criteria as follows: In states where RHS has an ongoing formal working relationship, agreement, or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State to provide State resources (State funds, State RA, HOME funds, CDBG funds, or LIHTC) for RHS proposals; or where the State provides preference or points to RHS proposals in awarding these State Resources, 20 points will be provided to loan requests that include such State resources. No State selection criteria will be used this fiscal year.

B. \$10,288,987 is available nationwide in a set-aside for eligible nonprofit organizations as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1485(w).

C. \$5,716,104 is available nationwide in a set-aside for the 100 most Underserved Counties and Colonias.

D. \$9,778,603 is available nationwide in a set-aside for EZ, EC, and REAP communities.

E. \$1,500,000 million is available nationwide in a set-aside for States with viable State Rental Assistance (RA) programs. In order to participate, States are to submit specific written information about the State RA program, *i.e.*, a memorandum of understanding, documentation from the provider, etc., to the National office.

Dated: December 10, 1999.

Eileen M. Fitzgerald,

Acting Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 99-32959 Filed 12-20-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) For Section 533 Housing Preservation Grants

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Housing Service (RHS) announces that it is soliciting competitive applications under its Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) program. The HPG program is a grant program which provides qualified public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, and other eligible entities grant funds to assist very low- and low-income homeowners repair and rehabilitate their homes in rural areas, and to assist rental property owners and cooperative housing complexes to repair and rehabilitate their units if they agree to make such units available to low- and very low-income persons. This action is taken to comply with Agency regulations found in 7 CFR part 1944, subpart N, which requires the Agency to announce the opening and closing dates for receipt of preapplications for HPG funds from eligible applicants. The intended effect of this Notice is to provide eligible organizations notice of these dates.

DATES: The closing deadline for receipt of all applications in response to this NOFA is 5:00 p.m., local time for each Rural Development State office on March 22, 2000. The application closing deadline is firm as to date and hour. RHS will not consider any application that is received after the closing deadline. Applicants intending to mail applications must provide sufficient time to permit delivery on or before the closing deadline date and time. Acceptance by a post office or private mailer does not constitute delivery. Facsimile (FAX) and postage due applications will not be accepted.

ADDRESSES: Applicants wishing to apply for assistance must contact the Rural Development State office serving the place in which they desire to submit an application to receive further information and copies of the application package. Rural Development will date and time stamp incoming applications to evidence timely receipt, and, upon request, will provide the applicant with a written acknowledgment of receipt. A listing of Rural Development State offices, their addresses, telephone numbers, and person to contact follows:

Note: Telephone numbers listed are not toll-free.

- Alabama State Office, Suite 601, Sterling Centre, 4121 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683, (334) 279-3455, TDD (334) 279-3495, James B. Harris
- Alaska State Office, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645, (907) 745-2176, TDD (907) 745-6494, Ron Abbott
- Arizona State Office, Phoenix Corporate Center, 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 900, Phoenix, AZ 85012-2906, (602) 280-8765, TDD (602) 280-8706, Johnna Vargas
- Arkansas State Office, 700 W. Capitol Ave., Rm. 3416, Little Rock, AR 72201-3225, (501) 301-3250, TDD (501) 301-3279, Cathy Jones
- California State Office, 430 G Street, Agency 4169, Davis, CA 95616-4169, (530) 792-5819, TDD (530) 792-5848, Millie Manzanedo
- Colorado State Office, 655 Parfet Street, Room E100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (303) 236-2801 (ext. 122), TDD (303) 236-1590, "Sam" Mitchell
- Connecticut served by Massachusetts State Office
- Delaware & Maryland State Office, 5201 South Dupont Highway, PO Box 400, Camden, DE 19934-9998, (302) 697-4353, TDD (302) 697-4303, Pat Baker
- Florida & Virgin Islands State Office, 4440 N.W. 25th Place, PO Box 147010, Gainesville, FL 32614-7010, (352) 338-3465, TDD (352) 338-3499, Joseph P. Fritz
- Georgia State Office, Stephens Federal Building, 355 E. Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30601-2768, (706) 546-2164, TDD (706) 546-2034, Wayne Rogers
- Guam served by Hawaii State Office
- Hawaii, Guam, & Western Pacific Territories State Office, Room 311, Federal Building, 154 Waianuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933-8316, TDD (808) 933-8321, Abraham Kubo
- Idaho State Office Suite A1, 9173 West Barnes Dr., Boise, ID 83709, (208) 378-5630, TDD (208) 378-5644, Roni Atkins
- Illinois State Office, Illini Plaza, Suite 103, 1817 South Neil Street, Champaign, IL 61820, (217) 398-5412 (ext. 256), TDD (217) 398-5396, Barry L. Ramsey
- Indiana State Office, 5975 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46278, (317) 290-3100 (ext. 423), TDD (317) 290-3343, John Young
- Iowa State Office, 873 Federal Building, 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 284-4493, TDD (515) 284-4858, Bruce McGuire
- Kansas State Office, 1200 SW Executive Drive, PO Box 4653, Topeka, KS 66604, (785) 271-2718, TDD (785) 271-2767, Gary Schumaker
- Kentucky State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (606) 224-2500, TDD (606) 224-7422, Paul Higgins
- Louisiana State Office, 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473-7962, TDD (318) 473-7655, Yvonne R. Emerson
- Maine State Office, 444 Stillwater Ave., Suite 2, PO Box 405, Bangor, ME 04402-0405, (207) 990-9110, TDD (207) 942-7331, Dale D. Holmes
- Maryland served by Delaware State Office
- Massachusetts, Connecticut, & Rhode Island State Office, 451 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002, (413) 253-4333, TDD (413) 253-7068, Donald Colburn
- Michigan State Office, 3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 324-5192, TDD (517) 337-6795, Philip Wolak
- Minnesota State Office, 410 AgriBank Building, 375 Jackson Street, St. Paul, MN 55101-1853, (651) 602-7820, TDD (651) 602-3799, Jackie Goodnough
- Mississippi State Office, Federal Building, Suite 831, 100 W. Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39269, (601) 965-4325, TDD (601) 965-5850, Danny Ivy
- Missouri State Office, 601 Business Loop 70 West, Parkade Center, Suite 235, Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 876-0990, TDD (573) 876-9301, Gary Frisch
- Montana State Office, Unit 1, Suite B, 900 Technology Blvd., Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 585-2515, TDD (406) 585-2562, MaryLou Affleck
- Nebraska State Office, Federal Building, room 152, 100 Centennial Mall N, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 437-5567, TDD (402) 437-5093, Byron Fischer
- Nevada State Office, 1390 South Curry Street, Carson City, NV 89703-9910, (775) 887-1222 (ext. 13), TDD (775) 885-0633, William L. Brewer
- New Hampshire State Office, Concord Center, Suite 218, Box 317, 10 Ferry Street, Concord, NH 03301-5004, (603) 223-6046, TDD (603) 229-0536, Jim Fowler
- New Jersey State Office, Tarnsfield Plaza, Suite 22, 790 Woodland Road, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060, (609) 265-3631, TDD (609) 265-3687, George Hyatt, Jr.
- New Mexico State Office, 6200 Jefferson St., NE, Room 255, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 761-4944, TDD (505) 761-4938, Carmen N. Lopez
- New York State Office, The Galleries of Syracuse, 441 S. Salina Street, Suite 357, Syracuse, NY 13202, (315) 477-6419, TDD (315) 477-6447, George N. Von Pless
- North Carolina State Office, 4405 Bland Road, Suite 260, Raleigh, NC 27609, (919) 873-2062, TDD (919) 873-2003, Eileen Nowlin
- North Dakota State Office, Federal Building, Room 208, 220 East Rosser, PO Box 1737, Bismarck, ND 58502, (701) 530-2049, TDD (701) 530-2113, Kathy Lake
- Ohio State Office, Federal Building, Room 507, 200 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43215-2477, (614) 469-5165, TDD (614) 469-5757, Gerald Arnott
- Oklahoma State Office, 100 USDA, Suite 108, Stillwater, OK 74074-2654, (405) 742-1070, TDD (405) 742-1007, Phil Reimers
- Oregon State Office, 101 SW Main, Suite 1410, Portland, OR 97204-3222, (503) 414-3325, TDD (503) 414-3387, Dan Streng
- Pennsylvania State Office, One Credit Union Place, Suite 330, Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996, (717) 237-2281, TDD (717) 237-2261, Gary Rothrock
- Puerto Rico State Office, New San Juan Office Bldg., Room 501, 159 Carlos E. Chardon Street, Hato Rey, PR 00918-5481, (787) 766-5095 (ext. 254), TDD 1-800-274-1572, Lourdes Colon
- Rhode Island served by Massachusetts State Office
- South Carolina State Office, Strom Thurmond Federal Building, 1835 Assembly Street, Room 1007, Columbia, SC 29201, (803) 765-3432, TDD (803) 765-5697, Larry D. Floyd
- South Dakota State Office, Federal Building, Room 210, 200 Fourth Street, SW, Huron, SD 57350, (605) 352-1132, TDD (605) 352-1147, Dwight Wullweber
- Tennessee State Office, Suite 300, 3322 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203-1084, (615) 783-1300, TDD (615) 783-1397, G. Benson Lasater
- Texas State Office, Federal Building, Suite 102, 101 South Main, Temple, TX 76501, (254) 742-9755, TDD (254) 742-9712, Eugene G. Pavlat
- Utah State Office, Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building, 125 S. State Street, Room 4311, Salt Lake City, UT 84147-0350, (801) 524-4324, TDD (801) 524-3309, Robert L. Milianta
- Vermont State Office, City Center, 3rd Floor, 89 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, (802) 828-6028, TDD (802) 223-6365, Sandra Mercier
- Virgin Islands, served by Florida State Office
- Virginia State Office, Culpeper Building, Suite 238, 1606 Santa Rosa Road, Richmond, VA 23229, (804) 287-1582, TDD (804) 287-1753, Carlton Jarratt
- Washington State Office, Suite B, 1835 Black Lake Boulevard, SW, Olympia,

WA 98512-5715, (360) 704-7707, TDD (360) 704-7760, Deborah Davis
Western Pacific Territories served by
Hawaii State Office

West Virginia State Office, Federal
Building, 75 High Street, Room 320,
Morgantown, WV 26505-7500, (304)
291-4793, TDD (304) 284-5941, Sue
Snodgrass

Wisconsin State Office, 4949 Kirschiling
Court, Stevens Point, WI 54481, (715)
345-7620 (ext. 7145), TDD (715) 345-
7614, Sherry Engel

Wyoming State Office, 100 East B,
Federal Building, Room 1005, PO Box
820, Casper, WY 82602, (307) 261-
6315, TDD (307) 261-6333, Charles
Huff

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For
general information, applicants may
contact Tracee Lilly, Senior Loan
Officer, Multi-Family Housing
Processing Division, Rural Housing
Service, United States Department of
Agriculture, Stop 0781, 1400
Independence Avenue, SW,
Washington, DC, 20250, telephone (202)
720-1604 (voice) (this is not a toll free
number) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD-
Federal Information Relay Service).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Programs Affected

This program is listed in the Catalog
of Federal Domestic Assistance under
Number 10.433, Rural Housing
Preservation Grants. This program is
subject to the provisions of Executive
Order 12372 which requires
intergovernmental consultation with
State and local officials (7 CFR part
3015, subpart V). Applicants are
referred to 7 CFR 1944.674 and
1944.676(f), (g), and (h) for specific
guidance on these requirements relative
to the HPG program.

Application Requirements

7 CFR part 1944, subpart N provides
details on what information must be
contained in the preapplication
package. Entities wishing to apply for
assistance should contact the Rural
Development State office to receive
further information, the State allocation
of funds, and copies of the
preapplication package. Eligible entities
for these competitively awarded grants
include state and local governments,
nonprofit corporations, Federally
recognized Indian Tribes, and consortia
of eligible entities.

Funding Information

The funding instrument for the HPG
program will be a grant agreement. The
term of the grant can vary from 1 to 2
years, depending on available funds and
demand. No maximum or minimum

grant levels have been established at the
National level. You should contact the
State office to determine the allocation
and the State maximum grant level, if
any. For FY 2000, \$5,515,344 is
available for the Housing Preservation
Grant Program. A set aside of \$600,000
has been established for grants located
in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise
Communities, and REAP Zones and
\$4,365,344 has been distributed under a
formula allocation to States pursuant to
7 CFR part 1940, subpart L,
"Methodology and Formulas for
Allocation of Loan and Grant Program
Funds". Decisions on funding will be
based on preapplications.

December 10, 1999.

Eileen M. Fitzgerald,

Acting Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 99-32960 Filed 12-20-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

**Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) for
Section 514 Farm Labor Housing
Loans and Section 516 Farm Labor
Housing Grants for Off-Farm Housing
for Fiscal Year 2000**

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service (RHS),
USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This NOFA announces the
timeframe to submit applications for
section 514 Farm Labor Housing loan
funds and section 516 Farm Labor
Housing grant funds for new
construction of off-farm units for
farmworker households. Applications
may also include requests for section
521 rental assistance (RA). This
document describes the method used to
distribute funds, the application
process, and submission requirements.
DATES: The closing deadline for receipt
of all applications in response to this
NOFA is 5:00 p.m., local time for each
Rural Development State office on June
19, 2000. The application closing
deadline is firm as to date and hour.
RHS will not consider any application
that is received after the closing
deadline. Applicants intending to mail
applications must provide sufficient
time to permit delivery on or before the
closing deadline date and time.
Acceptance by a post office or private
mailer does not constitute delivery.
Facsimile (FAX) and postage due
applications will not be accepted.

ADDRESSES: Applicants wishing to apply
for assistance must contact the Rural
Development State office serving the

place in which they desire to locate off-
farm labor housing to receive further
information and copies of the
application package. Rural Development
will date and time stamp incoming
applications to evidence timely receipt,
and, upon request, will provide the
applicant with a written
acknowledgment of receipt. A listing of
Rural Development State offices, their
addresses, telephone numbers, and
person to contact follows:

Note: Telephone numbers listed are not
toll-free.

Alabama State Office, Suite 601,
Sterling Center 4121 Carmichael
Road, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683,
(334) 279-3455, TDD (334) 279-3495,
James B. Harris
Alaska State Office, 800 West Evergreen,
Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645, (907)
745-2176, TDD (907) 745-6494, Ron
Abbott
Arizona State Office, Phoenix Corporate
Center 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite
900, Phoenix, AZ 85012-2906, (602)
280-8706, TDD (602) 280-8770,
Johnna Vargas
Arkansas State Office, 700 W. Capitol
Ave., Rm. 3416, Little Rock, AR
72201-3225, (501) 301-3250, TDD
(501) 301-3279, Clinton King
California State Office, 430 G Street,
Agency 4169, Davis, CA 95616-4169,
(530) 792-5819, TDD (530) 792-5848,
Millie Manzanedo
Colorado State Office, 655 Parfet Street,
Room E100, Lakewood, CO 80215,
(303) 236-2801 (ext. 124), TDD (303)
236-1590, Mary Summerfield
Connecticut served by Massachusetts
State Office
Delaware & Maryland State Office, 5201
South Dupont Highway, PO Box 400,
Camden, DE 19934-9998, (302) 697-
4353, TDD (302) 697-4303, Pat Baker
Florida & Virgin Islands State Office,
4440 N.W. 25th Place, PO Box
147010, Gainesville, FL 32614-7010,
(352) 338-3465, TDD (352) 338-3499,
Joseph P. Fritz
Georgia State Office, Stephens Federal
Building, 355 E. Hancock Avenue,
Athens, GA 30601-2768, (706) 546-
2164, TDD (706) 546-2034, Wayne
Rogers
Guam served by Hawaii State Office,
Hawaii, Guam, & Western Pacific
Territories State Office, Room 311,
Federal Building, 154 Waiuanuenue
Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933-
8316, TDD (808) 933-8321, Abraham
Kubo
Idaho State Office, Suite A1, 9173 West
Barnes Dr., Boise, ID 83709, (208)
378-5630, TDD (208) 378-5644,
Ladonn McElligott
Illinois State Office, Illini Plaza, Suite
103, 1817 South Neil Street,