

**(c) Limitation**

The Secretary may not make a guarantee or commitment to guarantee with respect to a note or other obligation if the total amount of outstanding notes or obligations guaranteed under this section (excluding any amount repaid under the contract entered into under subsection (e)(1)(A)) for issuers in the State would exceed an amount equal to 5 times the sum of the total amount of grants made to the State under section 2009f of this title.

**(d) Payment of principal, interest, and costs**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, a State to which a grant is made under section 2009f of this title may use the grant (including program income derived from the grant) to pay principal and interest due (including such servicing, underwriting, or other costs as may be specified in regulations of the Secretary) on any note or other obligation guaranteed under this section.

**(e) Repayment contract; security****(1) In general**

To ensure the repayment of notes or other obligations and charges incurred under this section and as a condition for receiving the guarantees, the Secretary shall require the issuer to—

(A) enter into a contract, in a form acceptable to the Secretary, for repayment of notes or other obligations guaranteed under this section;

(B) pledge any grant for which the issuer may become eligible under this subchapter; and

(C) furnish, at the discretion of the Secretary, such other security as may be considered appropriate by the Secretary in making the guarantees.

**(2) Security**

To assist in ensuring the repayment of notes or other obligations and charges incurred under this section, a State shall pledge any grant for which the State may become eligible under this subchapter as security for notes or other obligations and charges issued under this section by any eligible public entity in the State.

**(f) Pledged grants for repayments**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, the Secretary may apply grants pledged pursuant to paragraphs (1)(B) and (2) of subsection (e) to any repayments due the United States as a result of the guarantees.

**(g) Outstanding obligations**

The total amount of outstanding obligations guaranteed on a cumulative basis by the Secretary pursuant to subsection (b) shall not at any time exceed such amount as may be authorized to be appropriated for such purpose for any fiscal year.

**(h) Purchase of guaranteed obligations by Federal Financing Bank**

Notes or other obligations guaranteed under this section may not be purchased by the Federal Financing Bank.

**(i) Full faith and credit**

The full faith and credit of the United States is pledged to the payment of all guarantees made under this section. Any such guarantee made by the Secretary shall be conclusive evidence of the eligibility of the obligations for the guarantee with respect to principal and interest. The validity of the guarantee shall be incontestable in the hands of a holder of the guaranteed obligations.

(Pub. L. 87–128, title III, §381H, as added Pub. L. 104–127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1145.)

**§ 2009h. Local involvement**

An application for assistance under this subchapter shall include evidence of significant community support for the project for which the assistance is requested. In the case of assistance for a community facilities or infrastructure project, the evidence shall be in the form of a certification of support for the project from each affected general purpose local government.

(Pub. L. 87–128, title III, §381I, as added Pub. L. 104–127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1146.)

**§ 2009i. Interstate collaboration**

The Secretary shall permit the establishment of voluntary pooling arrangements among States, and regional fund-sharing agreements, to carry out projects receiving assistance under this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 87–128, title III, §381J, as added Pub. L. 104–127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1146.)

**§ 2009j. Annual report****(a) In general**

The Secretary, in collaboration with State, local, public, and private entities, State rural development councils, and community-based organizations, shall prepare an annual report that contains evaluations, assessments, and performance outcomes concerning the rural community advancement programs carried out under this subchapter.

**(b) Submission**

Not later than March 1 of each year, the Secretary shall—

(1) submit the report required by subsection (a) to Congress and the chief executives of the States participating in the program established under this subchapter; and

(2) make the report available to State and local participants.

(Pub. L. 87–128, title III, §381K, as added Pub. L. 104–127, title VII, §761, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1146.)

**§ 2009k. Rural development interagency working group****(a) In general**

The Secretary shall provide leadership within the Executive branch for, and assume responsibility for, establishing an interagency working group chaired by the Secretary.