

Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program

What does this program do?

The Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program – also known as the “Section 9003 Program” – provides loan guarantees to eligible applicants to develop advanced biofuels, renewable chemicals, and biobased-products manufacturing facilities to deliver new and innovative technologies.

Overview

This program provides loan guarantees up to \$250 million to develop, build, or retrofit facilities to support new and emerging technologies, and produce advanced biofuels, renewable chemicals, and biobased products (definitions are available under Subpart C, Section 4279.202 at this *Federal Register* link: <https://go.usa.gov/xJxNK>).

- The project must be located in a U.S. state or territory.
- The maximum federal participation (all federal loans or grants) is 80 percent of all eligible project costs.
- The borrower and other involved principals must make a significant cash equity contribution investment.

Who can apply?

Eligible borrowers include individuals, corporations, and cooperatives with eligible lenders. Examples include:

- Federal or state-chartered banks
- Federally-recognized Tribes
- Farm credit institutions with direct lending authority
- Credit Unions examined or supervised by a state agency or the National Credit Union Administration (information available at this link: <https://www.ncua.gov/>)
- The National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation

Lender Eligibility Requirements

An eligible lender is any federal or state-chartered bank, Farm Credit Bank, other Farm Credit System institution with direct lending authority, or bank that serves cooperatives. The lender must demonstrate it meets Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) definition of “well capitalized” (available at this link: <https://go.usa.gov/xJxPG>) at the time of application and issuance of the Loan Note Guarantee.

What governs this program?

Code of Federal Regulation 7 CFR 4279, Subpart C (available at this link: <https://go.usa.gov/xJxpf>), 7 CFR 4287, Subpart D (available at this link: <https://go.usa.gov/xJxpH>), and the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79, available at this link: <https://go.usa.gov/xJxpu> - PDF).

The program is authorized under 7 U.S.C. 8103 (available at this link: <https://go.usa.gov/xJxd3>).

Where can I find the application guide and other information?

Visit the Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program webpage at <https://go.usa.gov/xJxdr>.

Who can answer questions?

Email your questions to EnergyPrograms@rd.usda.gov. Be sure to mention the Section 9003 program in your subject line.

NOTE: Because information is subject to change, always consult official program instructions or contact your local Rural Development office for help. A list is available at this link: <https://go.usa.gov/xzSKb>. You will find additional resources, forms, and program information at <https://rd.usda.gov>. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.