

Community Facilities Loan and Grant Program



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities Program provides loans and grants to assist in the development of essential community facilities in rural areas.

Eligible Applicants:

- Private, non-profit organizations
- Public bodies
- Federally acknowledged Native American tribes
- Applicants must be unable to obtain commercial credit, including loan guarantee, at reasonable rates and terms

Eligible Purposes:

- Purchase, construct and/or improve essential community facilities
- Purchase major equipment and pay related project expenses, such as legal, engineering, architectural and environmental fees
- Facilities must be located in rural areas with less than 20,000 residents
- Examples of projects include those related to health care, public safety, community support services, transportation and education

Grant Terms:

- Applicants are eligible to apply for grant assistance on a graduated scale, based on the median household income and population of the service area according to the latest census figures
- Grants are limited to the minimum amount needed for economic feasibility of the project with consideration to the availability of funds
- Priorities are given to projects related to public health and safety, energy efficiency and education

Economic Impact Initiative (EII) Grants:

- The Community Facilities Program also provides Economic Impact Initiative grants to assist in the development of essential community facilities in rural communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression. Areas reaching a not employed rate of 19.5% or higher and meet all other grant application requirements are eligible to apply.

Loan Terms:

- Direct loan funds may be used to pay 100% of the projects cost
- Interest rates are fixed and are based on the median household income of the service area and the type of project
- Loan repayment terms may not exceed the applicant's authority, the useful life of the facility or a maximum of 40 years
- Loans will be secured by the best security position available and must be adequate to protect the government's interest during the lifetime of the loan

Scoring Criteria:

- Population and income of the area served
- Project corrects a health or sanitary problem
- Project is for public safety
- Project is for health care
- Applicant is a public body or Native American tribe
- Leveraged funds committed

Application Information:

- Application materials available online at: www.rurdev.usda.gov/ny.
- Application materials include a preliminary architecture report for construction related projects
- Applications are accepted year-round
- Two-step process (pre-application followed by application)
- Applications are processed at local USDA Rural Development Area Office

For More Information Contact:

USDA Rural Development State Office
441 S. Salina Street, 5th Floor, Suite 357
Syracuse, New York 13202
Phone: 315-477-6434
Fax: 315-477-6448
www.rurdev.usda.gov/ny