

FROM:

United States Department of Agriculture

Rural Development

DATE: December 1, 2023

Florida & U.S. Virgin Islands State Office

TO: Area Directors/RBS Loan Specialists

Florida & the U.S. Virgin Islands

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SUBJECT: Recission of RBS Management Letter 2021 Maximum Grant Limits

The purpose of this letter is to rescind the maximum grant limits for submission applications for Rural Business Development Grants (RBDG) in Florida and the U.S. Virgin Islands dated August 13, 2020.

While the state allocation for RBDG is generally a small amount, the needs of our stakeholders for grant awards that can meaningfully assist them with economic development planning and/or the financing or expansion of a rural business significantly outweigh the prior approach to "spread" the funds to make as many awards as possible.

Effective immediately, there will be no maximum grant amount for RBDG. Applicants should be advised of the RBDG Enterprise and Opportunity allocations provided in the 1940-L and given the opportunity to modify any request that exceeds the limits of those allocations. All RBDG applications will evaluated based on the factors delineated in the Notice of Solicitation of Applications (NOSA). Smaller requests will continue to be given higher priority.

Note that this memorandum does not alter the requirement for complete RBDG applications to be submitted to the State Office no later than 30 days after the National Office application deadline for processing and competition.

Expiration: Effective immediately until revised or rescinded in writing