

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Rural Housing Service****Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Section 515 Rural Rental Housing Program**

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This NOFA announces the timeframe to submit applications for Section 515 Rural Rental Housing new construction loan funds and Section 521 Rental Assistance (RA). This document describes the following: the authority and allocation of loan funds and new construction rental assistance (RA); the application process; submission requirements; and areas of special emphasis or consideration.

DATES: The closing deadline for receipt of applications in response to this NOFA is 5:00 p.m., local time for each Rural Development State Office on June 16, 1997. The application closing deadline is firm as to date and hour. RHS will not consider any application that is received after the closing deadline. In particular, 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), COD, and postage due applications will not be accepted.

ADDRESSES: Applicants wishing to apply for assistance should contact the Rural Development State Office serving the place in which they desire to submit an application for rural rental 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:

Rural Development State Offices

Note: Telephone numbers listed are not toll-free.

Alabama State Office, Sterling Center Office Building, 4121 Carmichael Road, Suite 601, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683, (334) 279-3455, Jim Harris

Alaska State Office, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645, (907) 745-2176, Ron Abbott

Arizona State Office, Phoenix Corporate Center, 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite

900, Phoenix, AZ 85012-2906, (602) 280-8755, Steve Langstaff
Arkansas State Office, 700 W. Capitol Ave., Rm. 5411, Little Rock, AR 72201-3225, (501) 324-6701, Cathy Jones
California State Office, 194 West Main Street, Suite F, Woodland, CA 95695-2915, (916) 668-2090, Robert P. Anderson
Colorado State Office, 655 Parfet Street, Room E100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (303) 236-2801 (ext. 122), "Sam" Mitchell

Connecticut—Served by Massachusetts State Office

Delaware/Maryland State Office, 5201 South Dupont Highway, PO Box 400, Camden, DE 19934-9998, (302) 697-4314, W. Arthur Greenwood
Florida State Office, 4440 N.W. 25th Place, PO Box 147010, Gainesville, FL 32614-7010, (352) 338-3465, Joseph P. Fritz
Georgia State Office, Stephens Federal Building, 355 E. Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30601-2768, (706) 546-2164, Wayne Rogers

Guam—Served by Hawaii State Office
Hawaii State Office, Room 311, Federal Building, 154 Waiānuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933-3005, Abraham Kubo
Idaho State Office, 3232 Elder Street, Boise, ID 83705, (208) 378-5627, Beverly J. Aslett
Illinois State Office, Illini Plaza, Suite 103, 1817 South Neil Street, Champaign, IL 61820, (217) 398-5412 (ext. 256), Barry L. Ramsey
Indiana State Office, 5975 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46278, (317) 290-3115, John Young
Iowa State Office, 873 Federal Building, 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 284-4493, Bruce McGuire
Kansas State Office, 1200 SW Executive Drive, PO Box 4653, Topeka, KS 66604, (913) 271-2720, Gary Shumaker
Kentucky State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (606) 224-7325, Paul Higgins
Louisiana State Office, 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473-7950, Yvonne R. Emerson
Maine State Office, 444 Stillwater Ave., Suite 2, PO Box 405, Bangor, ME 04402-0405, (207) 990-9110, Beverly A. Stone

Maryland—Served by Delaware State Office,

Massachusetts State Office, 451 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002, (413) 253-4327, Donald Colburn
Michigan State Office, 3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, MI

48823, (515) 337-6635 (ext. 1608), Larry Hammond
Minnesota State Office, 410 AgriBank Building, 375 Jackson Street, St. Paul, MN 55101-1853, (612) 290-3912, Randall Hemmerlain
Mississippi State Office, Federal Building, Suite 831, 100 W. Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39269, (601) 965-4325, Mike Ladner
Missouri State Office, 601 Business Loop 70 West, Parkade Center, Suite 235, Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 876-0990, Gary Frisch
Montana State Office, Unit 1, Suite B, 900 Technology Blvd., Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 585-2515, Marylou Falconer
Nebraska State Office, Federal Building, room 308, 100 Centennial Mall N, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 437-5557, Byron Fischer
Nevada State Office, 390 South Curry Street, Carson City, NV 89703-5405, (702) 887-1222, Jackie J. Goodnough
New Hampshire—Served by Vermont State Office,
New Jersey State Office, Tarnsfield Plaza, Suite 22, 790 Woodland Road, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060, (609) 265-3630, George Hyatt, Jr.
New Mexico State Office, 6200 Jefferson St., NE, Room 255, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 761-4944, Carmen N. Lopez
New York State Office, The Galleries of Syracuse 441 S. Salina Street, Suite 357, Syracuse, NY 13202, (315) 477-6419, George N. Von Pless
North Carolina State Office, 4405 Bland Road, Suite 260, Raleigh, NC 27609, (919) 873-2062, Eileen Nowlin
North Dakota State Office, Federal Building, Room 208, 220 East Rosser, PO Box 1737, Bismarck, ND 58502, (701) 250-4771, Kathy David
Ohio State Office, Federal Building, Room 507, 5200 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43215-2477, (614) 469-5165, Gerald Arnott
Oklahoma State Office, 100 USDA, Suite 108, Stillwater, OK 74074-2654, (405) 742-1070, Patsy Graumann
Oregon State Office, 101 SW Main, Suite 1410, Portland, OR 9724-2333, (503) 414-3350, Jillene Davis
Pennsylvania State Office, One Credit Union Place, Suite 330, Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996, (717) 782-4574, Gary Rothrock
Puerto Rico State Office, New San Juan Office Bldg., Room 501, 159 Carlos E. Chardon Street, Hato Rey, PR 00918-5481, (809) 766-5095 Ext. 256, 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) 765-5690,
Frances S. Kelley
South Dakota State Office, Federal
Building, Room 308, 200 Fourth
Street, SW, Huron, SD 57350, (605)
352-1132, Dwight Wullweber
Tennessee State Office, Suite 300, 3322
West End Avenue, Nashville, TN
37203-1071, (615) 783-1375, G.
Benson Lasater
Texas State Office, Federal Building,
Suite 102, 101 South Main, Temple,
TX 76501, (817) 774-1305, Eugene G.
Pavlat
Utah State Office Wallace F. Bennett
Federal Building, 125 S. State Street,
Room 5438, Salt Lake City, UT 84138,
(801) 524-3242, Robert L. Milianta
Vermont State Office, City Center, 3rd
Floor 89 Main Street, Montpelier, VT
05602, (802) 828-6020, Russell
Higgins
Virgin Islands—Served by Vermont
State Office
Virginia State Office, Culpeper Building,
Suite 238, 1606 Santa Rosa Road,
Richmond, VA 23229, (804) 287-
1582, Gayle Friedhoff
Washington State Office, 1835 Black
Lake Blvd. SW., Suite D, Olympia,
WA 98512-5717, (360) 704-7707,
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, Sue Snodgrass
Wisconsin State Office, 4949 Kirschling
Court, Stevens Point, WI 54481, (715)
345-7620, Sherry Engel
Wyoming State Office, 100 East B,
Federal Building, Room 1005, PO Box
820, Casper, WY 82602, (307) 261-
6315, Charles E. Huff

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Applicants should contact the
appropriate Rural Development State
Office listed above for funding
availability and limitations. For general
information, applicants may contact
Linda Armour, Cynthia L. Reese-
Foxworth, or Carl Wagner, Senior Loan
Officers, Multi-Family Housing
Processing Division, Rural Housing
Service, United States Department of
Agriculture, Stop 0781, Washington,
DC, 20250, telephone (202) 720-1604
(this is not a toll free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Programs Affected

The Rural Rental Housing Program is
listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic
Assistance under Number 10.415, Rural

Rental Housing Loans. Rental assistance
is listed in the Catalog under Number
10.427, Rural Rental Assistance
Payments.

Discussion of Notice

I. Authority and Allocation

A. Authority

Section 515 of the Housing Act of
1949 (42 U.S.C. 1485). The Agency is
authorized to make loans to any
individual, corporation, association,
trust, Indian tribe, private nonprofit
corporation, consumer cooperative, or
partnership to provide rental or
cooperative housing and related
facilities for elderly or handicapped
persons or families of low or moderate
income as well as other persons and
families of low income in rural areas.
Rental assistance is a tenant subsidy
available to very-low and low-income
families residing in rural rental housing
facilities with RHS financing, and is
requested with application for such
facilities.

B. Allocation Amounts

Based on the allocation formula
contained in 7 CFR part 1940, subpart
L "Methodology and Formulas for
Allocation of Loan and Grant Program
Funds," RHS has allocated available
funds directly to each Rural
Development State Office. The Agency
also has \$6.9 million available
nationwide in a set-aside for eligible
nonprofit organizations and \$4.8 million
available in the Rural Housing Targeted
Set-aside for certain underserved areas.

The Rural Housing Service has
revised its application and review
process for Section 515 Rural Rental
Housing new construction program.
Regulations are published elsewhere in
this **Federal Register** as noted below.
Those regulations provide that some
prior year applicants may proceed with
their applications as long as it complies
with these new regulations. Therefore,
the following States have applications
on hand from prior years in designated
places that will use all of its direct
allocation:

Alaska,
Illinois,
Kansas,
Louisiana,
Maine,
Nevada,
Ohio,
Oregon,
South Dakota,
Tennessee,
Texas, and Wisconsin.

Other States also have applications on
hand that will use only part of their
allocation. In addition, as noted above,

limited funds are available to all States
for eligible nonprofit organizations and
to some States for the Rural Housing
Targeted Set-aside. Accordingly, all
potential applicants and interested
parties must contact the appropriate
Rural Development State Office to
ascertain funding availability from the
State's allocation and potential
availability of funds from the set-asides
for nonprofit organizations and
underserved areas.

II. 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 IV of this NOFA.
Incomplete applications will not be
reviewed. No application will be
accepted after June 16, 1997, 5:00 p.m.,
local time, unless that date and time is
extended by a Notice published in the
Federal Register. Applications received
after that date and time will not be
accepted, even if postmarked by the
deadline date.

III. 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 do not
conform to or exceed the State's limit
on size of project and dollar amount
will be returned to the applicant); and
3. List of designated places for funding
new section 515 facilities.

IV. 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, to
support special initiatives at the
National and State Office level. Since
this selection criteria was published as

part of an interim final rule, without full public comment, these optional criteria will not apply this fiscal year.

B. Loan requests filed in response to this NOFA are subject to the regulatory provisions with respect to the Interim Final Rules entitled "Processing Requests for Section 515 Rural Rental Housing (RRH) Loans", and "Rural Rental Housing (RRH) Assistance," which are published in this **Federal Register**.

Dated: May 1, 1997.

Ronnie O. Tharrington,

Acting Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

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