

Mutual Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Grants

What does this program do?

Provides grants to qualified organizations to help them carry out local self-help housing construction projects. Grant recipients supervise groups of very-low- and low-income individuals and families as they construct their own homes in rural areas. The group members provide most of the construction labor on each other's homes, with technical assistance from the organization overseeing the project.

Who may apply for this program?

- **Government nonprofit organizations**
- **Federally recognized Tribes**
- **Private nonprofit organizations**

What is an eligible area?

Applicants can check eligible areas at [eligible addresses](#).

How may funds be used?

- Give technical and supervisory assistance to participating families.
- Help other organizations provide self-help technical and supervisory assistance.
- Recruit families, help them complete loan applications and carry out other related activities that enable them to participate.

Funds **MAY NOT** be used to:

- Hire people to perform construction work for participants.
- Buy real estate, building materials, or other property.
- Pay debts, expenses, or costs for the participants.
- Pay for employee training.
- Pay other indirect costs. Contact [your local office](#) for details.

How do we get started?

Applications for this program are accepted through our [local offices](#) year round.

Who can answer questions?

- Contact [your local office](#).

What governs this program?

- The Housing Act of 1949 as amended, [7 CFR 1944-I](#)
- Agency Instruction – [1944-I](#)

Why does USDA Rural Development do this?

By working in partnership with trusted local organizations, this program helps very-low- and low-income families get affordable, clean, and safe homes of their own in rural areas. Very-low-income families living in substandard housing are given first priority for loan assistance.

[Check Eligibility](#)

NOTE: Because citations and other information may be subject to change, please always consult the program instructions listed in the section above titled “What Governs This Program?” You may also contact your local office for assistance. You will find additional forms, resources, and program information at rd.usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.