



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
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USDA ANNOUNCES APPLICATION TIMEFRAMES FOR HOUSING PROGRAMS

Lincoln, Nebraska, March 17, 2008 – The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development published NOTICES in the March 12, 2008, Vol. 73 No. 49 Federal Register announcing the timeframes and guidelines for applications to be submitted under the agency's following programs: Rural Rental Housing (RRH), Farm Labor Housing (FLH), and Multi-Family Housing Preservation and Revitalization Restructuring Program (MPR). Applications are awarded funding based on a national competitive application process.

The Rural Rental Housing (RRH) loan program helps build and maintain affordable multi-family housing rental developments in rural areas. Potential applicants include individuals, corporations, associations, partnerships, limited partnerships, state or local public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes. Minimal Rural Development rental assistance will be available and will be based upon demonstrated need. Only rural rental housing proposals located in the state's designated places will be accepted for review. Designated places were selected based upon certain demographic data that indicated a possible need for additional affordable rental units. Fiscal Year 2008 Nebraska designated places are: Ainsworth, Alma, Arapahoe, Arlington, Arnold, Aurora, Battle Creek, Bayard, Beatrice, Beemer, Bertrand, Blair, Blue Hill, Cairo, Callaway, Cambridge, Cedar Bluffs, Ceresco, Chappell, Clarkson, Clay Center, Crawford, Crofton, Culbertson, David City, Deshler, Doniphan, Dorchester, Eagle, Elm Creek, Elwood, Emerson, Exeter, Fairbury, Fairmont, Falls City, Franklin, Friend, Genoa, Gibbon, Grant, Gretna, Hartington, Hay Springs, Henderson, Hickman, Holdrege, Hooper, Howells, Humboldt, Imperial, Indianola, Kenesaw, Kimball, Louisville, Loup City, Lyons, McCook, Milford, Minatare, Mitchell, Nelson, Newman Grove, Ogallala, Ord, Osceola, Overton, Oxford, Pawnee City, Pender, Plattsmouth, Ravenna, Red Cloud, Rushville, Sargent, Schuyler, Scribner, Shelby, Shelton, Springfield, Stanton, Stromsburg, Superior, Sutherland, Tekamah, Utica, Valentine, Valley, Wakefield, Wausa, Wayne, Waverly, Weeping Water, West Point, Saline, Wood River, Wymore, York, and Yutan. Applications are to be delivered by 5 p.m. CT on May 12, 2008 to USDA Rural Development, Rm. 152 Federal Building; 100 Centennial Mall North; Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3888.

The Farm Labor Housing (FLH) program assists in financing the construction, acquisition and rehabilitation of off-farm housing units for domestic farm laborers. FLH loans and grants are authorized to be made to broad-based nonprofit organizations, nonprofit organizations of farm workers, public agencies, Indian Tribes, and subdivisions of state and local government. Applications are to be delivered by 5 p.m. CT on May 12, 2008 to USDA Rural Development; Rm. 152 Federal Building; 100 Centennial Mall North; Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3888.

The Multi-Family Housing Preservation and Revitalization Restructuring Program (MPR) provides assistance to existing rural rental housing projects financed by Rural Development to

preserve and revitalize the rental project for the purpose of providing safe and affordable housing for very low, low, or moderate-income residents. Properties participating in this program will be revitalized and the affordable use period extended without displacing tenants because of increased rents. No additional Rural Development rental assistance units will be made available under this program. Preapplications are being sought and application may be made via the internet at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rd/nofas/index.html>. Hard copies of preapplications may also be submitted by mail to Sandra Mercier or Barbara Chism, Senior Loan Specialists, Multi-Family Housing Office of Rental Housing Preservation-STOP 0782 (Room 1263-S), USDA Rural Housing Service 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-0781. Deadline for submission of preapplications is 5 p.m. EDT, May 12, 2008.

Contact the Nebraska USDA Rural Development State Office for additional information at (402) 437-5734. Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/> (click on Available Funds on the left side of the website).

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