

Pennsylvania



Committed to the future of rural communities.

Loan & Grant Programs



Rural Development – Housing and Community Facilities Programs

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
Single Family Home Ownership Direct Loans	Safe, well-built, affordable homes for rural Americans.	Families and individuals. Apply to Rural Development.	Buy, build, improve, repair or rehabilitate rural home as the applicant's permanent residence.	Rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.	Direct loan.State Allocation	Up to 100 percent of market value or cost, whichever is less. Loan amortized for 33/38 years. Applicant may be eligible for payment assistance (subsidy) on the loan.
Single Family Home Ownership Direct Repair Loans and Grants	To help very-low-income applicants remove health and safety hazards or repair their homes.	Families and individuals who currently own their home. Apply to Rural Development.	Repair/replace roof, winterizing, purchase or repair of heating system, structural repair, water/sewage connect fees, and similar uses.	Rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.	Direct loan and grant. State Allocation	Loan terms to 20 years at 1 percent. Assistance to individual may not exceed \$20,000. Grants only available to very-low-income applicants 62 years or older who cannot afford to pay 1 percent loan.
Single Family Home Ownership Guaranteed Loans	Assist eligible applicants in buying their homes by guaranteeing loans made by private lenders.	Families and individuals. Apply to lender.	Purchase new or existing home.	Rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.	Loan guarantee. State Allocation	30 year, fixed rate. Interest rate negotiated between lender and borrower. Loans to 100 percent of market value.
Mutual Self-Help Home Ownership Loans	Individual homes built by a group of applicants, with construction guidance of a non-profit organization.	Families and individuals. Apply to Rural Development. Loan applications are processed on an individual basis for each participating family.	Construction of a new home, in part by the applicant under supervision.	Rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.	Direct loan. NOFA	Individual families receive a direct loan from Rural Development. Participating non-profit housing organization gets a grant to hire a supervisor and pay other administrative expenses.
Mutual Self-Help Housing Grants	Assist lower income families in building their own homes.	Non-profits and public bodies.	Technical assistance to qualify and supervise small groups of families to build each other's homes.	Rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.	Grant.NOFA	Grant agreement.
Rental Housing for Families and Elderly Direct Loans and Loan Guarantees	Safe, well-built, affordable rental housing for very-low-income individuals and families.	Individuals, limited profit and non-profit organizations. For guarantees, apply to intermediary lender; for direct loans, apply to Rural Development.	New construction or substantial rehabilitation of rental housing.	Rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.	Direct loan or loan guarantee.NOFA	Up to 90 percent of appraised value or total development cost (non-profits); 97 percent (for-profits). Up to 40 year amortization.
Housing Preservation Grants	Repair and rehabilitate housing owned or occupied by very-low- and low-income rural families.	Public bodies and non-profit organizations. Apply to Rural Development.	Operation of a program which finances repair and rehabilitation activities for single family and small rental properties.	Rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.	Grant.State Allocation NOFA	Grant agreement.
Community Facilities Programs	Provide essential community facilities for rural communities.	Public bodies, non-profit organizations and Indian tribes including Faith-Based organizations. Apply to Rural Development.	Build facilities and purchase equipment for fire and rescue, telecommunications, schools, libraries, hospitals, etc.	Rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.	Direct loan or loan guarantee, grant.	Up to 100 percent of market value. Up to 40 years or life of security. Maximum grant 75 percent of project cost. Additional grant funds (EII) are set aside for communities that have a "not employed rate" of 19.5% or more as calculated by the Department of Labor.
Farm Labor Housing	Safe, well-built affordable rental housing for farm workers.	Individuals, public and private non-profit organizations. Apply to Rural Development.	New construction or substantial rehabilitation of rental housing.	N/A	Direct loan and grant. NOFA	Up to 33 years to repay at 1 percent interest.

Rural Development - Rural Business Programs

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
Business and Industry Guarantee Loans	Create jobs and stimulate rural economies by providing financial backing for rural businesses.	Business applies through Federal or State Chartered banks, credit unions, savings & loan associations.	Most legal business purposes, including acquisition, start-up and expansion of businesses that create rural employment.	All areas except cities of more than 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized area.	Loan guarantee	Guarantees for loans up to \$25 million. Terms and interest rates negotiated between the borrower and the lender. Program uses either State Allocation or ARRA allocation (until 9/30/10).
Rural Business Enterprise Grants	Finance and facilitate the development of small and emerging private business enterprises.	Public bodies; private nonprofit corporations and federally recognized Native American tribal groups apply to Rural Development Area Office.	Buy and develop land, construct buildings, plants, equipment, access streets and roads, parking areas, utility and service extensions, rural distance learning networks, and establish a revolving loan.	All areas except cities of more than 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized area.	Grant – State Allocation	When grant funds are used for revolving loan fund (RLF) the intermediary makes loans to businesses from its RLF on terms consistent with security offered.
Intermediary Relending Program Loans	Finance business facilities and community development projects and job creation in rural areas.	Public bodies, nonprofit corporations, Native American tribes, and cooperatives apply to Rural Development Area Office.	Community development projects, establishment or expansion of businesses, creation or saving rural jobs. Maximum - \$750,000.	Rural areas and incorporated places with populations of less than 25,000.	Direct loan – National Office Allocation	The intermediary makes loans to businesses from its revolving loan fund on terms consistent with security offered. Intermediary pays 1% for 30 years.
Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants	Finance economic development and job creation in rural areas.	RUS financed electric and telephone utilities apply to Rural Development Area Office.	Business startup or expansion projects that create rural jobs.	Rural areas and places with populations of 2,500 or less.	Direct loan and revolving loan fund grant. National Office Allocation	The intermediary, electric or telephone utilities, make loans to profit or non-profit business and public bodies for rural economic development and/or job creation projects. Loans are 0% for 10 years.
Rural Cooperative Development Grants	Establish and operate centers for cooperative development to improve the economic condition of rural areas through the development of new cooperatives and improving operations of existing cooperatives.	Nonprofit corporations and institutions of higher education apply directly to Rural Development National Office.	Establish operating centers for development of rural cooperatives.	All areas.	Grant – National Office Allocation NOFA	Applicants must meet specific selection criteria including a minimum 25 percent fund match. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Some funds reserved for applicants that focus on assistance to small, minority producers through their cooperative businesses (governing board or membership at least 75 percent minority).
Value-Added Producer Grant Program	To assist independent agricultural producers enter into value-added activities.	Independent producers, farmer and rancher cooperatives, agricultural producer groups, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures can apply to Rural Development State Office.	Funds can be used for planning purposes such as conducting feasibility studies or feasibility business plans or it can be used as working capital to help start the development of a value-added product.	All areas	Grant –NOFA	Applicants must meet specific selection criteria. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Funds cannot be used to build facilities or purchase equipment. There is a dollar for dollar matching requirement.
Rural Business Opportunity Grant	Finance technical assistance for business development planning in rural areas.	Public bodies, non-profit corporations, Indian tribes on Federal or state reservations and cooperatives with members that are primarily rural residents.	Technical assistance, leadership training, establish business support centers, economic development plans.	All areas except cities of more than 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized area.	Grant – National Office Allocation	Must be completed within two years after project has begun.
Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program	Direct loans with technical assistance grants to microdevelopment organizations to support the development of rural microentrepreneurs/microenterprises	Non-profits/public institutions of higher education that provide training and technical assistance and/or make microloans or facilitate access to capital or have a demonstrated record of delivering services	\$50,000 or less microloans to Rural microentrepreneurs and microenterprises; business based training & technical assistance to rural microborrowers & other activities that ensure success of rural microenterprises	All areas must restrict service to microentrepreneurs and microenterprises employing <10 full time employees and located in areas with a population <50,000	Direct loans with technical assistance grants and technical assistance-only grants	Term of loan to microlender will not exceed 20 years with a 2 year deferral Initial interest rate is 2% and loan size to a microlender is \$50,000 - \$500,000. Technical assistance grants to microlender based on % of the outstanding microloans owed to the microlender.

Rural Development – Renewable Energy Programs

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
Section 9007 Rural Energy for America Program	To promote energy efficiency and renewable energy development for agricultural producers and rural small businesses	Agricultural Producers and Small Businesses	Grants for energy audits, feasibility studies and renewable energy development assistance and Financial assistance for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy systems Maximum grant \$500,000 and no more than 25% of total eligible project cost. Maximum guaranteed loan \$25 million and 75% of total eligible project cost. Maximum combination grant/guaranteed loan of 75%.	All areas except cities of more than 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized area.	Competitive Grant – State Allocation	25% matching funds required from recipient on grants for energy audits.
Section 9003 Bio-refinery Assistance Program	Provides loan guarantees for the development, construction and retrofitting of commercial-scale bio-refineries or for the retrofitting of existing facilities	Individual, Indian Tribe, Unit of state or local government, corporation, Farm Cooperative, Association of agricultural producers, National Laboratory, Institution of higher education, Public power entity, rural electric cooperatives	Purchase and installation of equipment, construction or retrofitting, permit and license fees, professional service fees, feasibility studies, working capital, land acquisition, business plans. Provides loan guarantees for both demonstration and commercial scale biorefineries.	All areas except cities of more than 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized area.	Loan Guarantee - NOSA	Negotiated between the lender and the applicant.
Section 9004 Repowering Assistance	Provides payments to bio-refineries (that were in existence at the time the 2008 Farm Bill was passed) to replace fossil fuels used to produce heat or power to operate the bio-refineries with renewable biomass	Biorefinery in existence on or before June 18, 2008	Payments to eligible biorefineries to encourage the use of renewable biomass as a replacement fuel source for fossil fuels used to provide process heat or power in the operation of these eligible biorefineries	All areas except cities of more than 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized area.	Incentive Payment NOSA	Agency will determine the amount of payments to be made to a biorefinery based on the quantity of fossil fuel a renewable biomass system is replacing, the percentage reduction in fossil fuel used by the biorefinery, and the cost effectiveness of the renewable biomass system, economic benefit to the community, and the potential to improve the quality of life in rural America
Section 9005 Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuels	Provide payments to eligible agricultural producers to support production of advanced biofuels	Applicant must be an Eligible Advanced Biofuel Producer who meets all requirements for program payments, and must meet the citizenship requirement	The Agency will establish payment rates for both base and incremental production of Eligible Advance Biofuel	All areas except cities of more than 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized area.	Incentive Payment NOSA	When Advanced Biofuel Producer is determined eligible to receive payments, the Eligible Advanced Biofuel Producer must then enter into a Contract with the Agency

Rural Development – Rural Utilities Programs

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants	Provide infrastructure for rural areas.	Public entities, Indian tribes, and non-profit corporations. Apply to Rural Development.	Build, repair, and improve public water systems, waste collection and treatment systems & other related costs	Rural areas, cities, and towns with up to 10,000 population.	Direct loan and grant. State Allocation	Interest rates set quarterly based on index of current market yields for municipal obligations. Repayment period ma 40 years. Grant funds may be avail.
Water and Waste Disposal Loan Guarantees	Provide infrastructure for rural areas.	Public entities, Indian tribes, and non-profit corporations. Apply to Rural Development.	Construct, repair, modify, expand, improve water supply and distribution systems, and waste collection and treatment systems, other related costs.	Rural areas, cities, and towns with up to 10,000 population.	Loan guarantee. State Allocation	Eligible lenders obtain up to a 90 percent guarantee on loans they make and service. Lenders should contact Rural Development Area or State Office.
Solid Waste Management Grants	Provide technical assistance and/or training to help communities reduce the solid waste stream.	Non-profit organizations and public bodies. Apply to Rural Development.	Provide technical assistance and training to reduce pollution of water resources and improve management of solid waste facilities; reduce solid waste in streams.	Rural areas, cities and towns with up to 10,000 population.	Grant.	Projects are funded based on selection at the National level. Applications are accepted from October 1 st to December 31 st of each year.
Rural Broadband Loan and Loan Guarantee	The deployment of broadband service to eligible rural communities.	Legally organized entities providing or proposing to provide broadband service in eligible rural communities. Cannot serve more than 2% of the telephone subscriber lines installed in the U.S.	Construction, acquisition, & improvement of broadband transmission facilities and equipment; land and buildings used in providing broadband service; and refinancing of Telecommunications Program debt.	Eligible rural communities with a population of 20,000 inhabitants or less. The community cannot be located in a standard metropolitan statistical area.	Direct loans and loan guarantees.NOFA	Loans are made at the Treasury rate of interest at the time of the advance for a period equal to expected composite economic life of the assets financed. Loans are guaranteed at the interest rate set by the private lender for no more than 80% of the principal amount.
Electric and Telecommunication	Provide financial aid through direct and guaranteed loans for electric and telecommunications services.	Non-profit and cooperative associations, public bodies, and other utilities. Visit http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/index.htm . Contact James Rhein (610) 539-3137 Rick Gordon 717-761-3280.	Generation, bulk transmission facilities, and distribution of electric power. Enhance 911 emergency service, digital switching equipment, fiber optic cable, along with traditional main system telecommunications service.	Rural areas.	Direct loan or loan guarantee.National Office Allocation. Ongoing.	Interest rates are established in accordance with 7CFR 17145.
Distance Learning and Telemedicine	Development and deployment of advanced telecommunication services throughout rural America to improve education and health care.	Incorporated entities--municipal corporations, on a for-profit or not-for-profit basis, that operate rural schools, libraries, health care clinics/other organizations that operate educational or health care facilities.	Equipment for classrooms: cameras, video monitors, computers, and LAN. Also for physician consultation, radiology, x-ray scanners, and digital microscopes.	Rural areas.	Direct loan and/or grant. NOFA	Matching funds are required. Projects are funded based on selection at the National level. Applications are accepted during a period specified in the NOFA.
Technical Assistance and Training (TAT) Grants	To provide technical assistance and training to communities on the delivery of water and waste disposal service	Private, nonprofit organizations that have been granted tax-exempt status	Assist communities to identify and evaluate solutions to water or wastewater problems, improve facility operation, or prepare funding applications	Rural communities with a population of 10,000 or less.	Grant – NOFA (10/1 to 12/31 annually)	Projects are funded based on selection at the National level. Applications are accepted from October 1 st to December 31 st of each year.
Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants	To assist the residents of rural areas that have experienced a significant decline in quantity or quality of water to obtain or maintain adequate quantities of water	Public entities, Indian tribes, and non-profit corporations. Apply to Rural Development.	Waterline extensions, new waterlines, repairs, significant maintenance, construction of new wells, reservoirs, transmission lines, treatment plants, and other sources of water, equipment replacement, connection and/or tap fees.	Rural communities with a population of 10,000 or less	Grant – National Office Allocation. Applications accepted at any time.	The maximum grant is \$500,000 when a significant decline in quantity or quality of water occurred, or \$150,000 to make emergency repairs.

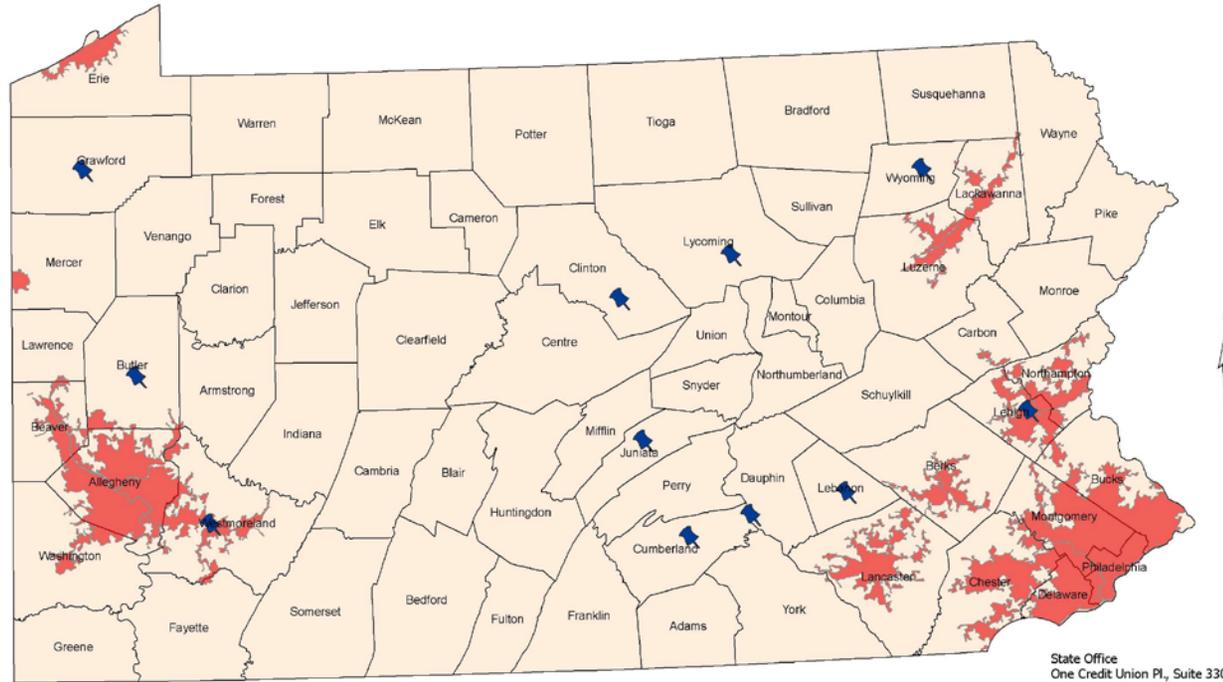
NOFA=Notice of Funds Available; NOSA=Notice of Solicitation of Applications| Direct Loans and Grants=Apply to Rural Development. Loan Guarantees=Apply to intermediary (approved banks, mortgage companies, etc.)

The Pennsylvania State Office, located in Harrisburg, PA, administers USDA Rural Development programs through four Area offices and ten Local offices across the state. All offices are open to the public Monday through Friday 8:00 am- 4:30 pm.



Business & Industry Loan Guarantee Program Eligible Areas within Pennsylvania

■ B&I Ineligible Areas



RD Office Locations

Butler Area Office
625 Evans City Rd., Suite 101
Butler, PA 16001-8704
(724) 482-4800 EXT. 4.

Lebanon Area Office
2120 Cornwall Rd., Suite 7
Lebanon, PA 17042-9790
(717) 272-3908 EXT. 6

Clinton Area Office
216 Spring Run Rd. Rm 103
Mill Hall, PA 17751-9543
(570) 726-3196 EXT. 4

Lehigh Area Office
2211 Mack Blvd.
Allentown, PA 18103-5623
(610) 791-9810

Crawford Area Office
14699 N. Main St. Extension
Meadville, PA 16335-9441
(814) 336-6155 EXT. 4

Lycoming Area Office
542 County Farm Rd., Suite 205
Montoursville, PA 17754-9209
(570) 433-3006 EXT. 4

Cumberland Area Office
401 E. Louthier St., Suite 304
Carlisle, PA 17013-2652
(717) 218-3002

Westmoreland Area Office
226 Donohoe Rd., Suite 201
Greensburg, PA 15601-7470
(724) 853-5555 EXT. 4

State Office
One Credit Union Pl., Suite 330
Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996
Hearing Impaired: 711
(717) 237-2299

Juniata Area Office
146 Stoney Creek Drive, Suite 2
Mifflintown, PA 17059-8097
(717) 436-8953 EXT. 4

Wyoming Area Office
One Hollowcrest Complex
Tunkhannock, PA 18657-6632
(570) 836-5111 EXT. 4

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