

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT



Community Facility Grant Program

◆ OBJECTIVE

The purpose of the Community Facility grant program is to assist in the development of essential community facilities in rural areas.

◆ ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Public bodies, such as a municipality, county, district, authority, or other political subdivision of a state.

Nonprofit corporations or associations that have significant ties with the local community, and possible public purpose.

Federally recognized Indian Tribes on a Federal or State reservation.

◆ ELIGIBLE FACILITIES

Essential community facilities located in rural areas.

The facility must be necessary for orderly community development and consistent with the State's strategic plan.

◆ CREDIT ELSEWHERE

The applicant must be unable to finance the proposed project from their own resources, through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms, or other funding sources without grant assistance under this program. The applicant must certify to such status in writing.

◆ ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY

Projects financed under this grant program must be based on satisfactory sources of revenue.

The amount of Community Facilities grant assistance must be the minimum amount sufficient for feasibility purposes, which will provide for facility operation and maintenance, reasonable reserves, and debt repayment.

◆ LEGAL AUTHORITY

Each applicant must have or obtain the legal authority necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed facility. The applicant must be responsible for operating, maintaining, and managing the facility and provide for its continued availability and use at reasonable rates and terms.

◆ USE OF FUNDS

Pay for up to seventy-five percent of the cost of developing specific essential Community Facilities in rural areas. Funding for the balance of the project shall consist of other Community Facilities financial assistance, applicant contributions, or loans and grants from other sources.

The facility must be located in a community with a population of less than 20,000.

Project must be located in a community with a median household income, which is less than ninety percent of the nonmetropolitan median household income for the State. For the State of Maine, the community's median household income must be less than \$33,602 based on the 2000 census.

Other restrictions exist based on the Community's population and median household income.

GRANT FUNDS MAY NOT BE USED TO:

Pay annual recurring costs, including purchases or rentals that are generally considered to be operating and maintenance expenses.

Construct or repair electrical generating plants, electronic transmission lines, or gas distribution lines to provide services for commercial sale.

Pay interest or refinance existing debt.

For more information regarding the Rural Development Guaranteed Community Programs, please contact the **Rural Development State Office:**

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