RURAL DEVELOPMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



COMMUNITY FACILITY (CF) PROGRAM





<u>CF PURPOSE</u>

The purpose of the Community Facility program is to improve, develop and assist in financing essential public community facilities in rural areas.

Examples are: medical clinic, hospital, assisted living facility, nursing home, child or adult developmental center, senior citizen center, child care center, storm siren, fire truck, police car, community center, library, city hall, farmer's market, food pantry

CF PURPOSE (CONTINUED)

Loans and/or Grants can be used for construction, and non-construction costs including: land, equipment, architectural services, legal services, capitalized interest.

<u>CF ELIGIBILITY</u>

Non-profit corporations and public bodies such as municipalities, counties, and special purpose district and authorities.

If the applicant is a non-profit corporation there must be documented significant local support from the community for the project through fund raising efforts, public funding support, as well as having a local broad based board and letters of support from local public bodies and other groups.

CF ELIGIBILITY (CONTINUED)

For CF projects, the project may only benefit rural areas or incorporated communities of up to <u>20,000</u> population.

Must be unable to obtain other funding sources to complete the project at reasonable rates and terms.

CF LOAN - RATES AND TERMS

- There is no maximum dollar amount. The loan amount is determined by the amount needed to meet the applicant's needs, its ability to handle the repayment schedule and funding availability.
- Interest rates vary depending upon the Median Household Income (MHI) of the service area and purpose. Rates are subject to change quarterly. Current applicable rates are:

Effective	October 1	, 2018 through De	ecember 31, 20	18
	Poverty*	Intermediate	Market	
	*	*	4.00%	

CF LOAN - RATES AND TERMS (CONTINUED)

Maximum term of 40 years, or the useful life of the facility, whichever is less.

*All CF loans can be obligated at the current market rate of 4.00%.

<u>CFLOAN REPAYMENT</u>

Must have satisfactory sources for repayment such as revenue from user charges, taxes, assessments, etc. that are sufficient to pay for all operation and maintenance expenses, debt payments, funding of the applicable debt service reserve account and funding of any required short lived asset account.

<u>CF GRANT - ARKANSAS</u>

Maximum Grant - \$50,000 - based upon financial need and funding availability.

✓ <u>75</u>% Maximum, when project service area <u>MHI</u> is less than or equal to <u>\$25,100</u> and population is <u>5,000 or less</u>.

✓ <u>55</u>% Maximum, when project service area <u>MHI</u> is less than or equal to <u>\$28,669</u> and population is <u>12,000 or less</u>.

✓ <u>35</u>% Maximum, when project service area <u>MHI</u> is less than or equal to <u>\$32,764</u> and population is <u>20,000 or less</u>.

<u>CF GRANT – ARKANSAS (CONTINUED)</u>

 $\sqrt{15\%}$ Maximum, when project service area <u>MHI</u> is less than or equal to <u>\$36,860</u> and population is <u>20,000 or less</u>.

 $\sqrt{0}$ %, when project service area <u>MHI</u> is <u>more</u> than <u>\$36,860</u>

 Grant eligibility is also based on a review of other resources the applicant has available and the documented financial need of the applicant. Grants are small (Typically \$50,000 and less) and are based upon financial need and funding availability. <u>APPLICATION FOR BOTH PROGRAMS</u>
In general an application consists of:

- 1. SF424, Application for Federal Financial Assistance
- 2. State Clearinghouse comments
- 3. Current and past financial statements
- 4. Certification of Inability to get credit elsewhere
- 5. Publication of Notice of Intent to File Application & Notice of a Public Meeting and Minutes of the meeting
- 6. Preliminary Architectural Report (PAR) (Construction Projects)

APPLICATION FOR BOTH PROGRAMS (CONTINUED)

- In general an application consists of:
- 7. Environmental Report.
- 8. DUNS number and SAM Registration for Federal Reporting.
- 9. There are other application requirements depending on the actual program.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

The applicant must submit an Environmental Report, in accordance with the format prescribed by Rural Development, for the proposed project.

The applicant must employ the services of an architect or an engineer, when construction is involved, for technical assistance.

The applicant and must employ an attorney to provide legal services associated with a loan project.

CF FUNDING

Fiscal Year: October 1st – September 30th Continuous Application Process – Nationwide Fiscal Year 2017 CF Funding - Arkansas CF Loan \$20,801,584 CF Grant \$1,584,840 Funded 53 Grant projects – Average \$29,900

ARKANSAS - AREA OFFICE CONTACTS

Area Office	Location	Contact	Program	Phone
One	Harrison	Jennifer Harness	CF	(870) 741-8600 Ext. 126
Two	Jonesboro	Tammy Moser	CF	(870) 972-4671 Ext. 4
Three	Forrest City	Betty Searcy Flora Pruitt	CF	(870) 633-3055 Ext. 4

<u>ARKANSAS - AREA OFFICE CONTACTS</u> (CONTINUED)

Area Office	Location	Contact	Program	Phone
Four	Monticello	Betty Searcy Flora Pruitt	CF	(870) 633-3055 Ext. 4
Five	Норе	Keith Huskey	CF	(870) 777-8800 Ext. 3278
Six	Ft. Smith	Jamie Scott	CF	(479) 646-8300 Ext. 3266

ARKANSAS - STATE OFFICE STAFF

- Stephen Lagasse, Community Program Director
- David Kirchner, Program Specialist
- Mike VanLandingham, State Architect

(501) -301-3253

E-mail: fname.lname@ar.usda.gov Phone:(501) 301-3265

STATE OFFICE CF CONTACTS

Alabama – Allen Bowen – Community Program Director 334-279-3617 <u>Allen.Bowen@al.usda.gov</u>

Louisiana – Jared Hicks – Acting Community Program Director 318-473-7960 <u>Jared.Hicks@la.usda.gov</u>

Mississippi – Patricia McDowell - Community Program Director 601-965-5460 <u>Patricia.Mcdowell@ms.usda.gov</u>

Missouri – Clark Thomas - Community Program Director 573-876-0995 <u>Clark.Thomas@mo.usda.gov</u>

DISTANCE LEARNING & TELEMEDICINE (DLT) GRANTS

DLT Purpose

This is nationally competitive grant program which helps rural communities acquire technology and training necessary to connect educational and medical professionals with the teachers and medical providers who serve rural residents at the local level.

DLT PROGRAM

Examples:

- >Audio/interactive video equipment
- Broadband facilities that support DLT
- Computer hardware, network components..
- Acquisition of instructional programming
- Acquisition of technical assistance and instruction for using eligible equipment

DLT PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

- Non Profit, Public Bodies, For Profit Business...
- Benefit rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.
- Awards can range from \$50,000 \$500,000
- Minimum 15% match is required and cannot be from another federal source.
- Annual funding notice posted in the Federal Register.

DLT PROGRAM (AGAIN)

DLT Contact information for questions:

- Arkansas Bill Vogt General Field Representative 318-640-1407 <u>William.vogt@wdc.usda.gov</u>
- Alabama Teresa Hunkapiller General Field Representative

256-725-5353 Teresa.Hunkapiller@wdc.usda.gov

Louisiana - Bill Vogt - General Field Representative 318-640-1407 <u>William.vogt@wdc.usda.gov</u>

Mississippi - Teresa Hunkapiller - General Field Representative

256-725-5353 Teresa.Hunkapiller@wdc.usda.gov

Missouri – Christopher Collins - General Field Representative

573-445-0765 Chris.Collins@wdc.usda.gov

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN PROGRAM (REDL)

The REDL program provides funding to rural projects through local utility organizations. Under the REDL program, Rural Development provides zero interest loans to eligible local utilities which they, in turn, pass through to local businesses (ultimate recipients) for projects that will create and retain employment in rural areas. The ultimate recipients repay the lending utility directly. The utility is responsible for repayment to Rural Development.

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN PROGRAM (REDL) (CONTINUED)

- Funds can be used for facilities and equipment for medical care, education and training for rural residents.
- An ultimate recipient may request up to 80% of the project cost.
- Maximum loan is \$ 2 million
- Maximum Term is 10 years
- ► Interest Rate is 0%

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN PROGRAM (REDL) CONTACT INFORMATION For questions, contact:

Arkansas - Tim Smith – Business Program Director 501-301-3282 <u>Tim.Smith@ar.usda.gov</u>

Alabama – Allen Bowen – Business Program Director 334-279-3617 <u>Allen.Bowen@al.usda.gov</u>

Louisiana – Jared Hicks - Business Program Director 318-473-7960 <u>Jared.Hicks@la.usda.gov</u>

Mississippi – G. Gary Jones - Business Program Director 601-965-5457 <u>George.Jones@ms.usda.gov</u>

Missouri – Matt Moore - Business Program Director 573-876-9321 <u>Matt.Moore@mo.usda.gov</u>

RESOURCES:

State Rural Development websites at <u>www.rd.usda.gov/</u> plus state abbreviation

Arkansas - <u>www.rd.usda.gov/ar</u>

National Rural Development website -Regulations, Bulletins, and Forms can be accessed at <u>www.rd.usda.gov</u>