

Farmworker Safety Housing Grant Program

HCR will provide up to \$10 million in funding to improve the quality of and facilitate health and safety improvements to farmworker housing, specifically with the goal of creating safer housing conditions in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant funds are intended to help farms safely house this critical workforce. New York State’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding available through the CARES Act will be made available for this program.

<p>Eligible Applicants</p>	<p>Counties, Towns, Cities and Villages may apply for funds to support farms undertaking eligible projects.</p>
<p>Eligible Uses</p>	<p><u>Housing</u> Grants to improve housing conditions contributing to the spread of COVID (overcrowding, environmental conditions, substandard living conditions). This includes rehabilitation of existing housing or in-kind replacement of existing housing units.</p> <p><i>Example: County applies for \$1,000,000 to support rehabilitation of existing farmworker housing. County identifies and contracts with four farms with on-site housing in need of rehabilitation to improve farmworker safety.</i></p> <p><i>Example: Village applies for \$200,000 to assist a farm to replace existing on-site farmworker housing. The farm owner will replace a house in substandard condition with a manufactured home.</i></p> <p><u>Personal Protective Equipment</u> Grants to provide personal protective equipment (PPE) such as masks and hand sanitizer and other equipment essential to slow the spread of coronavirus.</p> <p><i>Example: County applies for \$500,000 to develop a program to improve COVID-safety protocols among farmworkers. The County Department of Health purchases and packages kits of PPE to be distributed to farmworkers for a season.</i></p> <p><i>Example: Village applies for \$100,000 to purchase air purifiers and other equipment to improve ventilation and air quality for farmworkers.</i></p>
<p>Funding Limits</p>	<p>Applicants may request up to \$1,000,000.</p> <p>Applicants must identify a group of farms to support or a single farm site that proposes to renovate farmworker housing units or provide PPE directly to eligible farmworkers.</p> <p>Larger awards may be approved based on demonstrated need and capacity to complete proposed activities within 12 to 18 months from date of award.</p>

Income Limits	<p>Program beneficiaries must be at or below 80% of Area Median Income.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing activities: Income qualification of individual farmworkers is required. A sample income qualification worksheet is available from NYS HCR. • PPE or other non-capital activities: Beneficiaries must either income qualify or attest to the categorization as migrant farmworker. <p>HUD AMI data: https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2021/select_Geography.odn Please contact OCR with questions or for support.</p>
Administrative Funding	<p>5% of the grant award may be used for administrative expenses. Additional allowance based on the grant award may be available for direct project delivery including architecture & engineering and participant qualification case management requirements.</p>
Application Threshold Review Criteria	<p>Applications must present proposals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent, prepare for or respond to Coronavirus. • Meet the CDBG National Objective of benefitting low- to moderate-income individuals. • Project can be completed in 12-18 months.
Pre-application requirements	<p>Applicant must conduct a public hearing before a quorum of the full legislative body in compliance with NYS Citizen Participation requirements, prior to submitting a full application for funding. A public hearing template is available in the full application kit.</p>
Additional Funding Terms	<p>Applicants must meet Federal requirements related to NEPA environmental review, procurement, fair housing and Davis-Bacon residential prevailing wage rates.</p> <p>Projects may also be subject to Uniform Relocation Act (URA) which can provide relocation assistance and payments for anyone displaced permanently or temporarily as a result of the project. Information regarding URA is available here, URA the HUD Way Training Modules - HUD Exchange</p>
How to apply	<p>Application kit will be made available online: https://hcr.ny.gov/cdbg-cares#farmworker-housing-grants</p>

HCR retains the right to revise this term sheet from time to time and to waive any requirement contained therein, subject to the applicable statutes and program regulations. HCR also retains the right to not award any or all of its funds under this program. All proposals must comply with all applicable federal, State and local laws.