

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION PROGRAM
NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q) Is DCA aware of the number of homes that were affected by Hurricane Sandy and how many of those homes are eligible for this program?

A) The initial Action Plan submitted to HUD by the State of New Jersey identified 56,100 residential housing units that suffered major damage (40,500 homeowner; 15,600 renter) and 25,794 suffered minor damage (19,505 homeowner; 6,289 renter). Found on pages 2-2 through 2-14 is a detailed breakdown of damaged residential housing units by County. Listed here is the web site for the New Jersey CDBG-DR Action Plan.

<http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/pdf/CDBG-DisasterRecoveryActionPlan.%20non.substantial.amendments.%2011.14.13.pdf>

Q) In regards to the VCA agreement, does the translating of documents have to be done prior to the execution of the grant?

A) The documents need to start being translated once sub-recipients have been chosen and are approved for the grant. The potential sub-recipients should demonstrate in their applications the ability to comply with VCA agreement and have resources to translate documents

Q) What are other Eligible properties? If the unit is not Sandy damaged, is it still eligible for the program?

A) If the unit is not Sandy damaged, the unit would not be eligible for this program.

Q) Is the character limits the same as in other Request for Proposals (RFP)?

A) The NOFA has standard character limits. If you need more space, you may submit a hard copy application by September 22, 2014 by 4:30 pm. No faxes are allowed.

Q) Is pollution insurance required?

A) As of now, only liability insurance is required.

Q) What documents would be acceptable to provide evidence that the unit was damaged by Sandy?

A) Acceptable forms of documentation include: FEMA letter, Home Owner's Insurance Claims of Damage on October 29, 2012, local building official assessment ruling that damage was caused by Superstorm Sandy, etc.

Q) Is the Section 3 requirement fulfilled only by LMI Individuals or workers within the municipality?

A) The Section 3 requirements will be the responsibility of the funded Sub-recipient. When housing repairs and renovations are awarded to contractors, each project will be required to report on any new hires as the direct result of the grant funds, and any Section 3 designated businesses that may be contracted for goods and services. Upon award , more specific requirements will be provided including how to identify an eligible Section 3 hire and the method that new hires and business engagements are reported.

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Q) Can you further explain the policy and procedures that we need to submit for the application?

A) The policy and procedures need to pertain to the program as a whole in regards to the sub-recipient's processes. It does not have to be elaborate. A flow chart would suffice but it needs to be clear and precise

Q) Does the state have a database of people that call in asking for help? Is there a realistic number of properties that have been damaged but haven't been grouped yet into any other Sandy Disaster Recovery Programs?

A) Other than the physical count of residential units that may have suffered some level of damage, there is no accurate database or roster of individuals who may require or need assistance. As you may be aware, the initial FEMA damage assessments were based on physical inspections immediately following the storm, but there was no indication of whether the properties were primary residences or secondary homes. The long-term recovery groups may have a better idea of individuals who have been seeking assistance without success.

Q) If a unit is tested for lead, and the tests come back negative for lead but the unit has mold, would that unit be eligible for program funding?

A) No. A unit has to have lead to be eligible for LHRP funds.

Q) Can we go over the \$25,000 average cost per unit?

A) Yes. \$25,000 per unit is an estimated average unit cost. If you spend less than \$25,000 on another unit, you may spend more than \$25,000 on other units to average the costs out.

Additional questions as of release of NOFA on October 9, 2014:

Q: If we attended the first TA Session, do we still have to attend any of the upcoming TA Sessions?

A: Potential applicants are required to attend one of the scheduled TA Sessions (October 29 or November 6) regardless of their attendance at the last TA Session on September 5, 2014.

Q: What is the grant maximum and minimum, as well as approximate number of recipients expected?

A: As stated on page 1 of the NOFA under Maximum Amount of Award, "At this time, there is no cap on maximum award. State will ensure equity in amount of assistance across service areas." We are also unable to determine the number of grantees we can potentially award until after we have received all applications.

Q: Do all key staff for grant proposal need to attend?

A: There are only two seats per agency for each of the TA Sessions. There is no requirement on whom the agency sends, but we do require that an agency is represented at the TA Session.

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Q: Do the Technical Assistance Sessions require a representative from the town/affected area, or can the attendant be a representative from firms that prepare grants on behalf of municipalities?

A: If municipalities have consultants prepare grants on their behalf, they are not required to attend as long as a representative from the consulting firm is present. Also, please note that consultants have to submit a list of municipalities they are representing before the first TA Session.

Q: May the applicants apply for the Outreach piece and simply refer the registrants to a service provider?

A: Unfortunately, applicants must apply for all components. It is possible to partner with another local agency and submit only one application.

Q: Is there an affordability requirement, for a certain period of time, after a property has gone through this program? For example after an owner of a 4-unit, multi-family rental property remediates for lead the units must be kept affordable for 5 years.

A: There is no affordability requirement for this program.