

# USDA Rural Development at a Glance


## Rural America's Partner in Prosperity

USDA Rural Development is the lead Federal agency helping rural communities grow and prosper. We increase economic development and improve the quality of life in rural places and small towns.

We provide loans, grants and technical assistance to build critical infrastructure like broadband, water systems, and hospitals. Our programs expand access to e-connectivity, electric, and transportation infrastructure, and support business growth, healthcare, education, housing, and other community essentials.

We stand ready to be your partner in prosperity for rural America. Contact us today to learn more and connect with the local USDA Rural Development team that serves your area:

 [www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov)

 1 (800) 670-6553

 @usdaRD

**Contact the USDA Rural Development Office in your community to learn more**

WE HAVE MORE THAN  
40 PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT  
RURAL AMERICA.



Telecommunications Programs



Electric Programs



Community Facilities Programs



Water and Environmental Programs



Business and Cooperative Programs



Single-Family Housing Programs



Multi-Family Housing Programs

# Rural Area Criteria

Program	No Rural Restrictions	For "Rural Areas"	For Up to 10,000 People	For Up to 20,000 People	For Up to 35,000 People	For Up to 50,000 People
★ Farm Labor Housing Loans/Grants	◆					
■ Value-Added Producer Grants	◆					
■ Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees/Grants <sup>1</sup>	◆					
■ Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program	◆					
■ Repowering Assistance Program	◆					
■ Advanced Biofuel Payment Program	◆					
☆ Rural Energy Savings Program <sup>2</sup>		◆				
☆ Water and Waste Disposal Loans/Grants			◆			
☆ Solid Waste Management Grants			◆			
☆ Technical Assistance and Training/Circuit Rider Grants			◆			
☆ Electric Loans				◆		
☆ Telecommunications Loans				◆		
☆ Rural Broadband Access Loans/Loan Guarantees				◆		
☆ ReConnect Program				◆		
☆ Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Program				◆		
☆ Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants				◆		
☆ Community Connect Grants				◆		
★ Community Facilities Direct Loans/Grants				◆		
★ Single-Family Housing Direct Loans (including Self-Help Loans)				◆	◆	
★ Single-Family Housing Loan Guarantees <sup>3</sup>				◆	◆	
★ Single-Family Housing Repair Loans/Grants <sup>3</sup>				◆	◆	
★ Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Grants <sup>3</sup>				◆	◆	
★ Rural Rental Housing Direct Loans <sup>3</sup>				◆	◆	
★ Rural Rental Housing Loan Guarantees <sup>3</sup>				◆	◆	
★ Housing Preservation Grants <sup>3</sup>				◆	◆	
★ Rural Community Development Initiative						◆
★ Community Facilities Loan Guarantees						◆
■ Business and Industry Loan Guarantees						◆
■ Rural Business Development Grants						◆
■ Intermediary Relending Program						◆
■ Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program						◆
■ Rural Economic Development Loans/Grants						◆
■ Rural Cooperative Development Grants						◆
■ Socially-Disadvantaged Groups Grants						◆
■ Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees/Grants <sup>4</sup>						◆
☆ Water and Waste Disposal Guaranteed Loans						◆

## Legend:

- ★ Housing/Community Facilities Programs
- Business/Cooperative Programs
- ☆ Utilities Programs

<sup>1</sup> For agricultural producers.

<sup>2</sup> [Contact RUS](#) for specifics.

<sup>3</sup> Primarily for populations up to 20,000; in special circumstances communities up to 35,000 may be eligible.

<sup>4</sup> For rural small businesses and REAP Audit/Development Grants.

## Rural Development Program Purposes

Rural Housing and Community Facilities Programs	Land & Buildings	Machinery & Equipment	Working Capital	Infrastructure	Technical Assistance/ Training
Single Family Housing Direct Loans (including Self-Help Loans)	◆				
Single Family Housing Loan Guarantees	◆				
Single Family Housing Repair Loans/Grants	◆				
Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Grants					◆
Rural Rental Housing Direct Loans	◆			◆	
Rural Rental Housing Loan Guarantees	◆			◆	
Housing Preservation Grants	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Farm Labor Housing Loans/Grants	◆			◆	
Community Facilities Direct Loans, Loan Guarantees, Grants*	◆	◆	◆	◆	
Rural Community Development Initiative					◆
Rural Business and Cooperative Programs					
Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	◆	◆	◆	◆	
Rural Business Development Grants	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Intermediary Relending Program Loans	◆	◆	◆		
Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Rural Cooperative Development Grants				◆	◆
Socially-Disadvantaged Groups Grants					◆
Value-Added Producer Grant			◆	◆	◆
Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees/Grants	◆	◆		◆	◆
Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program Loan Guarantees					
Repowering Assistance Program					
Advanced Biofuel Payment Program					
Rural Utilities Programs					
Water and Waste Disposal Direct Loans, Loan Guarantees, Grants	◆	◆		◆	
Solid Waste Management Grants					◆
Technical Assistance/Training/Circuit Rider					◆
ReConnect Program	◆	◆		◆	◆
Rural Broadband Direct Loans and Loan Guarantees	◆			◆	
Electric and Telecommunications Direct Loans/Loan Guarantees	◆	◆		◆	
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Program	◆	◆		◆	
Rural Energy Savings Program	◆	◆		◆	
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loans/Grants		◆		◆	
Community Connect Grants	◆	◆	◆	◆	

\*Initial operating expenses are eligible in conjunction with the financing of an eligible community facility project. However, grant funds may not be used to fund initial operating expenses.