

# Single Family Housing Repair Loans and Grants

## What does this program do?

**Also known as the Section 504 Home Repair program, it provides loans to very-low-income homeowners to repair, improve, or modernize their homes, or provides grants to elderly, very-low-income homeowners to remove health and safety hazards.**

## Who can apply?

**To qualify, you must:**

- **Be the homeowner and occupy the house**
- **Be unable to obtain affordable credit elsewhere**
- **Have a family income within the very-low-income limit**
- **For grants, be age 62 or older**



Home Repair Program Webpage

## What is an eligible area?

Properties must be located in an eligible rural area. You can visit the USDA Income and Property Eligibility website (available at this link: <https://go.usa.gov/xzcdM>) for complete details.

## How can funds be used?

- Loans can be used to repair, improve, or modernize homes, or to remove health and safety hazards.
- Grants must be used to remove health and safety hazards.

## How much money can I get?

- Maximum loan is \$40,000.
- Maximum grant is \$10,000.
- Loans and grants can be combined for up to \$50,000 in assistance.

## What are the terms of the loan or grant?

- Loans are repaid over 20 years.
- Loan interest rate is fixed at 1 percent.
- Full title service is required for loans greater than \$25,000.
- Grants have a lifetime limit of \$10,000.
- Grants must be repaid if the property is sold in less than three years.

## Is there a deadline to apply?

Applications are available year-round as long as funding is available, and are processed in the order they are received.

## How long does an application take?

Approval times depend on funding availability in your area. Talk to a state or area office-based USDA home loan specialist (a map is available at this link: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/browse-state>) for help with your application.

## How do I get started?

Contact a USDA home loan specialist (information is available at this link: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/browse-state>) in your area.

## What governs this program?

- The Housing Act of 1949 as amended; 7 CFR, Part 3550 (available at this link: <https://go.usa.gov/xzcvG>)
- HB-1-3550 - Direct Single Family Housing Program Field Office Handbook (available at this link: <https://go.usa.gov/xzcvM> - PDF)

**Contact Number for the SFH Knox County Office**  
**574-772-3066 ext. 4**

**NOTE: Because information changes, always consult official program instructions or contact your local Rural Development office for help. A list is available at this link: <https://go.usa.gov/xJHPE>. You will find additional resources, forms, and program information at <https://rd.usda.gov>.**

**USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.**

Last Updated May 2023