

**Healthy Homes Production Grant Program  
Frequently Asked Questions  
September 10, 2021**

**General Healthy Homes Production Grant NOFO Questions**

**Question: What is the Notice and CFDA number for this NOFO?**

Answer: The funding number for the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program NOFO is FR-6500-N-44 and the CFDA number is 14.913.

**Question: Is there a \$10,000 cap per unit; and a \$1 million minimum?**

Per section C. Minimum/Maximum Award Information, the maximum award amount is \$2,000,000 per project period and \$1,000,000 minimum per project. Per Section F. Program Specific Requirements, 1. Eligible activities, Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH) anticipates an average unit cost of \$10,000.

**Question: Who can apply for this grant and how do they apply?**

Per section A. Eligible Applicants, state governments, county governments, city of township governments, native American tribal governments (federally recognized), nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status, and multiple units of local government may apply as a consortium. Interested applicants can apply for the NOFO on Grants.gov here <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=335132>.

**Question: Are County of Governments (COGs) eligible?**

County of Governments will need to provide documentation in application materials such as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or ordinance from the state the acknowledges county of governments will operate on behalf of the county to verify eligibility.

**Question: Can universities apply?**

Although not explicitly mentioned in the NOFO, higher education institutions such as a university may apply for the Healthy Homes Production funding. University applicants should be sure to include how they plan to oversee, manage, or execute Healthy Homes activities. This is a performance-based grant, not a research-based grant.

**Question: Could you please explain the match requirements?**

Statutorily, match is not required for this program. However, the OLHCHH strongly encourages it. Applicants who wish to contribute match sources to their potential grant funding should follow guidance provided in section III. Eligibility Information, C. Cost Sharing or Matching. and F. Program-Specific Requirements. 3. Program Requirements and Prohibitions. w. Matching Funds Requirements.

**Question: Could our matching funds come from another federal funding source such as the weatherization assistance program?**

Per section III. Eligibility Information, F. Program-Specific Requirements. 3. Program Requirements and Prohibitions. w. Matching Funds Requirements., permissible match contributions may include any state or local government sources, e.g., CDBG funds (which are statutorily considered state/local funds), and any private contributions, foundations, etc. may be used as match providing the funds are designated to complete the specific activities and/or allowable costs identified in the NOFO. Federal sources (e.g., HOME or Weatherization Assistance Program funds) are not allowable sources of match.

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**Question: Are there extra points for providing match?**

No, extra points will not be provided if applicants provide match contributions. The match contribution is strongly encouraging to help leverage potential grant funding activities.

**Question: For new applicants, is there a sample budget that is available?**

Yes, the sample budget is provided in Appendix D: Sample Budget of the Healthy Homes Production NOFO. Additionally, the HUD 424-CBW Healthy Homes Budget is available for completion on grants.gov website here <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=335132> under the "Package" tab.

**Question: When is the application due EST or PST?**

The application is due September 21, 2021 Eastern Standard Time (EST).

**Program Requirements & Applicant Eligibility Questions**

**Question: Will grantees have to set quarterly performance milestones like the previous HH grants, and will the transaction system be the same as in the LHR program?**

If awarded, grantees will be required to set up quarterly milestones and reports in the Healthy Homes Grant Management System (HHGMS) and reimbursement payments will still be processed through the electronic Line of Credit Control System (eLOCCS). Additional details about reporting and grant disbursements will be provided during New Grantee Orientation after awards are announced.

**Question: What is the grant payment term? Is this a reimbursement-based grant?**

Yes, the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program is reimbursement-based grant.

**Question: Can the funds be used for properties that are intended to be sustainable income for the nonprofit organization?**

No, Healthy Homes Production Grant funding may not be used on properties that nonprofit organizations have financial ties or interest in.

**Question: Are there requirements for having children in the home, or a mother who is pregnant and/or visiting the home frequently?**

Per section I. Funding Opportunity Description. A. Program Description. 1. Purpose Applicants receiving a Healthy Homes Production Award will be expected to prioritize units and/or buildings where families with children, older adults sixty-two (62) years and older, or families with persons with disabilities. Aside from prioritizing units for the populations mentioned, there are no other family requirements for this program as the lead hazard control programs.

**Question: Does the Program Manager need to be a person that meets that definition by our agency or could it be an equivalent position such as a project manager or EH Supervisor who is "managing the program"?**

Yes, internally applicant can decide to change the title of position, but position description must adhere to the qualifications provided in the NOFO. It is advised that in application materials, application should put in parentheses "Program Manager" next to the internal position title.

**Question: A Program Manager is required to spend 50% of their time on this grant. What is the time requirement for the Project Director?**

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The Healthy Homes Production Grant NOFO does not explicitly state what percentage of time the Project Director/Program Director should spend on the grant. However, the key role for and responsibilities for this grant falls on the Program Manager. Therefore, the Project or Program Director should not spend more time on the grant than the Program Manager. Applicant should decide the appropriate percentage of time for other key personnel (except for Program Manager 50% requirement).

**Question: Is the 65% exclusively for Lead Safety or for all identified environmental health and safety concerns?**

Per section III. Eligibility Information, F. Program Specific Requirements. 1. Eligible activities. Healthy Homes Direct Costs., the Healthy Homes costs can be used for healthy homes identification and remediation activities in the home. As a result, the money should be used to address housing issues that may impact resident health. This money should not be used exclusively for lead as the OLHCHH has separate funding to address that issue.

**Question: Is the 80% income threshold the state or area median income?**

Per section III. Eligibility Information, G. Criteria for Beneficiaries. all units assisted with grants must be the residence of families with income at or below eighty percent (80%) of the area median income level.

**Question: Can a nonprofit apply to serve multiple counties? Are there “needs thresholds” that the counties would need to hit to qualify, like a certain percent of homes built before 1978.**

Yes, a nonprofit organization can serve multiple counties. No, there is not a “needs threshold” that counties will need to qualify.

**Question: Can 1979 and older housing be enrolled with a PRIORITY for pre-1978? In other words, is the funding limited to pre-1978 or just pre-1978 priority?**

Applicants should prioritize pre-1940 and pre-1978 housing for the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program.

**Question: Can we utilize our CDBG rehabilitation funds in conjunction with this program as matching funds?**

Yes, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) funds can be used as match for this program. However, please be mindful that match funds can only be utilized to execute eligible Healthy Homes activities.

**Question: Can this funding be used to remediate and renovate abandoned buildings to create housing for folks?**

Per section III. Eligibility Information, F. Program-Specific Requirements. z. Limitation on use of funds., applicants may not use grant funds for purchase of real property or demolition of housing units or detached buildings as a means of healthy home intervention and/or the replacement of such structures. Renovation of buildings to create housing is also not allowed.

**Question: Can you please explain further the indirect costs. If the administrative costs are restricted to 10%, and the administrative costs include the indirect costs our indirect cost rate would have to be lower than 10%, and we would not be able to use our negotiated rate. Do you expect us to cost share or waive the indirect costs?**

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An applicant can certainly use the negotiated rate. If an applicant is concerned, they will go over the administrative 10% cap, an applicant can reduce their indirect cost amount. Since the indirect cost rate will be lowered, an applicant can claim the unrecovered indirect costs as match per OMB Guidance.

**Question: Is there a requirement for affordability period of three years?**

For the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program, there is not a three-year period of affordability requirement.

**Healthy Homes Activity Questions**

**Question: Who will provide training for this grant program?**

Training for the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program will be provided at the OLHCHH's New Grantee Orientation for awarded applicants.

**Question: Is there a list of eligible activities that meet the healthy homes requirement?**

Per section III. Eligibility Information, F. Program Specific Requirements. 1. Eligible activities. Healthy Homes Direct Costs are described. Additional information regarding healthy home activities will be provided to awarded applicants during New Grantee Orientation.

**Question: How do you become "Healthy Homes Certified"?**

Awarded applicants will receive Healthy Homes training/ certification at New Grantee Orientation.

**Question: How do obtain a Healthy Homes Assessment?**

Healthy Homes Assessment information will be provided at New Grantee Orientation for awarded applicants.

**Question: Will HUD supply a list of the certification/courses to take?**

A list of Healthy Homes courses will be provided to awarded applicants.

**Question: The link in Rating Factor 2a. takes me to a general landing page. I cannot find the list of hazards that is referred to in the NOFO. Can you please provide another link?**

A list of Healthy Homes Hazards can be found here <https://www.hud.gov/sites/documents/HHRSCHART.PDF>.

**Question: Is there a specific inspection process that needs to be used on the units? Will training be provided for those inspections?**

Yes, there is an inspection process to address health hazards within units. An inspection overview will be provided at New Grantee Orientation.

**Question: Can experience with healthy homes assessment substitute Healthy homes certification?**

While experience with healthy homes will be helpful, it may not substitute the Healthy Homes certification. Awarded applicants must attend the Healthy Homes training/ certification at New Grantee Orientation.

**Question: Must each home have a report or testing results that shows a hazard e.g. mold etc.?** Yes, in order provide healthy homes assistance, each qualifying unit must have a healthy homes assessment completed.

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**Question: Could awarded funds go toward replacing inferior heating equipment that poses a health risk such as dust and air quality, along with fire risks such as electric baseboard, wall heaters, inefficient forced air systems, etc.?**

Depending on the Healthy Homes Assessment provided on the home, some of the interventions mentioned may be addressed.

**Question: Can funds be used for health and safety improvements such as furnaces, hot water heaters, roofing repairs, leaking windows.**

Depending on the Healthy Homes Assessment provided on the home, interventions mentioned may be addressed.

**Question: If we have licensed assessors and certified healthy homes inspectors on staff who complete our assessments. Would their time spent on assessments and inspections fall under the \$10,000 average unit cost?**

The staff licensed assessors and certified healthy homes inspectors' time will fall under personnel costs, not the \$10,000 average unit cost.

**Question: Am I also right to assume that soft costs that include application intake and approval are outside the \$10K average?**

Yes, the soft costs identified in the NOFO fall outside of the \$10,000 average unit cost.

**Question: Is permission required to spend more than \$10,000 on any one home?**

Yes, approval from the assigned Government Technical Representative (GTR) to spend more than \$10,000 on a unit is required, pending supporting documentation provided for the approval.

**Question: Since you are considering increasing the project average from \$10,000 to \$15,000, should we base our proposed number of projects in our budget on \$10,000 or \$15,000?**

Applicants are advised to base their proposed number of units based on the \$10,000 average unit cost provided in the NOFO. Changes may be made if awarded.

**Question: Do landlords have to commit to rent to LMI, other eligible clients/children, etc. if their units receive funding?**

Given the program is designed to address hazards within the homes of families 80% and below average are below eighty percent (80%) of the area median income, landlords should commit to renting units within this income range.

**Question: Will we need to do an environmental review? Do we need a Tier 1 review and then a Tier 2 for each individual property?**

The simple answer is "yes", the program is subject to 24 CFR part 58, and the most efficient and economical process to comply with Part 58, is to prepare a tiered environmental review. If awarded, you will be required to obtain access to and use the HUD Environmental Review Online System (HEROS), to prepare and maintain Environmental Review Records for the grant program and projects. Comprehensive guidance and training will be provided following grant awards. Also see APPENDIX C of the NOFO:

**Environmental Requirements**, Award of an FY 2021 Healthy Homes Production Grant does not constitute approval of specific sites where activities that are subject to environmental review may be carried out.

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Recipients of funding under this NOFO that are states, units of general local government or Native American tribes must carry out environmental review responsibilities as a responsible entity under 24 CFR part 58, “Environmental Review Procedures for Entities Assuming HUD Environmental Responsibilities.” For recipients that are not a state, unit of general local government, or Native American tribe (or a consortium with such a government as principal applicant), the responsible entity designated under section 58.2(a)(7) will (per sections 58.1(b)(7) and 58.4(a)) perform environmental reviews of proposed activities under part 58. Under 24 CFR 58.11, where the recipient is not a State, unit of general local government or Native American tribe, if a responsible entity objects to performing the environmental review, or the recipient objects to the responsible entity performing the environmental review, HUD may designate another responsible entity to perform the review or may perform the environmental review itself under the provisions of 24 CFR part 50. When HUD performs the review itself, following grant award execution, HUD will be responsible for ensuring that any necessary environmental reviews are completed. If awarded, grantees will receive Environmental Review training with the Environmental Review Officer.

**Question: Does the assessment have to cover all Healthy Homes categories, if we are focusing on certain aspects of healthy homes issues?**

Yes, all Healthy Homes hazard categories should be included in the assessment; however, all interventions do not have to be addressed in the scope of work. The determination of which hazards to address is at the discretion of the Program Manager.

**Question: Does the subcontractor need to be identified at the time of the proposal submission?**

No, a subcontractor does not need to be identified at the time of the proposal submission.

**Question: Where can we find asthma data in response to a question in Rating Factor Two?**

To respond to Rating Factor 2b., applicants may find asthma-related data at the following links below <https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/Behavioral-Risk-Factors/Behavioral-Risk-Factors-Selected-Metropolitan-Area/j32a-sa6u> or [https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/mmsa/table\\_2017.html](https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/mmsa/table_2017.html).

### **Radon Testing Questions**

**Question: What is the typical cost for radon testing and remediation? I know this will vary across the country but wanted to get a sense of what you are anticipating?**

Per section III. Eligibility Information, F. Program Specific Requirements. 1. Eligible activities. Healthy Homes Direct Costs ii. Radon Testing, the average cost of professional radon testing is about \$140 for a single-family home, with an average mitigation cost of \$1,500.

**Question: If one must do radon testing, then does one have to address radon remediation?**

Yes radon testing and remediation is a requirement of the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program NOFO.

**Question: Does the grant opportunities include radon testing, radon mitigation and awareness education?**

The Healthy Homes Production Grant Program funding includes radon testing and radon mitigation.

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Awarded applicants should also include radon information in their outreach or healthy housing education materials.

**Lead Hazard Reduction and Healthy Homes Questions**

**Question: Can an organization have Lead Hazard Control, Healthy Homes Supplemental, and Healthy Homes Production funding?**

Yes, an organization can have Lead Hazard Control, Healthy Homes Supplemental Funding, and Healthy Homes Production funding. However, Healthy Homes Production funding and Healthy Homes Supplemental funding **cannot** be combined.

**Question: Can this grant program be used in combination with the Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program?**

Yes, if a current program does not have Healthy Homes Supplemental funding, Healthy Homes Production Grant funding may be used in combination with a Lead Hazard Control program. If a Lead Hazard Control program has Healthy Homes Supplemental funding, Healthy Homes Production grant funding may not be used.

**Question: If we received Healthy Homes funding for a portion of our Lead Hazard Reduction grant, are we eligible for this funding? Wouldn't the reporting be separate for these two grants?**

Applicants who have Healthy Homes Supplemental funding and a Lead Hazard Reduction Grant are eligible to apply for this funding. As mentioned previously, because the Healthy Homes Production and the Healthy Homes Supplemental program are separate, grantees of the Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Supplemental grant program may receive Healthy Homes Production (HHP) program and must manage them separately. Please note the Healthy Homes Production grant program awarded applicants must hire separate staffing to manage the grant.

**Question: Is a child's blood level a requirement for Eligibility?**

Since lead interventions are not a requirement of the Healthy Homes Production Program, a child's blood lead level does not have to be requirement for unit enrollment.

**Question: Under program requirements, the NOFO states lead based paint and lead based paint hazard identification states a lead inspection is required for all properties enrolled in the program. Are we required to complete lead inspections in all properties?**

If the applicant plans to address lead hazard control issues with the Healthy Homes Production funding, a lead inspection is required for all properties enrolled in the program and should adhere to the requirements section III. Eligibility Information., F. Program-Specific Requirements., 3. Program Requirements and Prohibitions. I. Lead-Based Paint and Lead-Based Paint Hazard Identification.

**Question: Will HUD require Lead Abatement certification for all contractors or will RRP be accepted?**

If applicants plan to address lead hazard control issues with the Healthy Homes funding, the contractors must be lead certified.

**Question: Can you use the \$10,000 on a unit with lead, and not address lead (leave behind lead hazards)?**

If lead hazards are identified a unit, the issues regarding the lead must be addressed.

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**Question: Is lead in water a hazard that can be addressed with the funds?**

Generally, lead in water cannot be addressed with the Healthy Homes Production funding. However, funding may go towards the pipes, faucets, and fixtures within the home, not outside of the home. This grant does not cover lateral plumbing, the sanitary sewer pipe that carries wastewater from a home to the public sewer main that is typically in the street.

**Question: If I am a Program Manager for a current lead grant can I become a Healthy Homes Program Manager at same time?**

No, the Healthy Homes Production Program is a separate program that has a strict 50% of time requirement and is a full-time position. Similarly, the Lead Hazard Control Program Manager must dedicate at least 75% of time requirement, which is also mandatory. Therefore, they need to be separate staffing for each grant.

**Question: If we leverage this with our current lead grant can we count the unit for both programs, and can this grant be considered match towards our other lead grant.**

If you currently have Lead Hazard Control and not Healthy Homes Supplement funding, you can address the unit with Healthy Homes Production funding and count the unit as they require separate reporting requirements. No, the Healthy Homes Production Grant funding may not be considered match towards the lead program.

**Question: Will HUD disqualify any applications under this NOFO for applicants/jurisdictions that have received other HUD money for Lead Abatement/Healthy Homes?**

No, the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes will not disqualify any applications under this NOFO for applicants/jurisdictions that have received separate HUD money for Lead Abatement from another division. However, if awarded, please be mindful to keep the funding sources and program requirements separate.

**Question: Lead Inspection Risk Assessment (LIRA), Healthy Homes Assessment and Radon inspections are required for each unit. Are there any other required inspections required for developing scope of work?**

Healthy Homes Inspections (which include radon inspections) are required for each unit and to develop scopes of work. Lead Inspection Risk Assessment (LIRA) are only required if an awarded applicant chooses to address lead hazard issues with this funding. Additional information regarding Healthy Homes Assessments will be provided during New Grantee Orientation.

**Question: Is Dust Sampling Is this required for all homes?**

If the applicant plans to address lead hazard issues with the Healthy Homes Production funding, dust wipe sampling is required.

**Question: Do you have to do a Lead Inspection Risk Assessment (LIRA) or Lead Inspection for each of the units enrolled in this program?**

No, Lead Inspection Risk Assessments (LIRAs) for each of the units are not required. If applicants decide to address lead hazard issues with this funding, a full LIRA is required.



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**Question: If Healthy Homes intervention only is desired, must lead testing be performed?**

If an applicant does not plan to address lead hazard issues with the Healthy Homes Production funding, lead testing does not need to be performed.

**Question: If a property was completed in a previous lead grant, but no healthy homes was used, could you go back and use this healthy homes funding to look for healthy homes issues?**

If the property did not receive previous Healthy Homes Supplemental funding, the new Healthy Homes Production Grant may address Healthy Homes issues.

**Question: If we are only doing Healthy Homes activities the cap is \$10,000, if we are completing lead Activities, the cap would be less than \$24,999 or we need to do abatement?**

No, the average unit cost is \$10,000 regardless of the interventions. If lead hazard control work is needed based on the applicant's decision to address lead with this funding (as it is not required), the awarded applicant may request permission to go over the average unit cost. Supporting documentation as to why awarded applicants would need to go over the \$10,000 average is required.

**Question: Do you recommend that a current lead grantee apply if they have healthy homes supplemental funds? The NOFO seems to encourage lead programs to apply.**

If an applicant currently has Healthy Homes Supplemental funding through the Lead Hazard Control grants, they may apply for Healthy Homes Production Grant Program. However, applicants must be mindful the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program and the Healthy Homes Supplementation Program are separate grant programs that require separate staffing and funds cannot be commingled with each other.

**Unit or Property Eligibility**

**Question: How many homes are we expected to complete?**

The Healthy Homes Production Grant Program NOFO does not designate how many units are expected to be completed. Applicants should evaluate their community need and make data-driven decisions for the homes they anticipate assisting.

**Question: Is a property eligible if it has project-based rental assistance (not HUD 202)?**

No, per section I. Funding Opportunity Description. A. Program Description. 1. Purpose, privately-owned, low-income rental and/or owner-occupied housing are eligible. Tenant-based voucher holders (Section 8 tenant based) are eligible for the grant program, but not project-based rental assistance of any kind.

**Question: Can funding be used for mobile homes, pre-1978?**

Manufactured homes or mobile homes are not eligible for the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program.

**Native American Applicants**

**Question: In the past few years (2018 & 2019) there was an application specifically for Native American Tribes. My question is, will there be another application specifically for Native Tribes? or will this be the only one for this year from HUD?**

Funding for Native American tribes is based on appropriations. We have not received additional information regarding funding at this time.

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**Question: Also, will there be a tribal resolution requirement?**

Yes.