



Oregon Housing and Community Services

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Housing Opportunity Bill

Homeownership Innovations

For more information:

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Program objective

OHCS will use the Discretionary Pool to fund innovative strategies to increase homeownership opportunities among underserved populations such as war veterans, low- and very low-income households and to reduce the minority homeownership gap.

Funds available

OHCS projects that \$271,643 in resources will be available in the 2009-11 biennium.

Subject to fund availability, OHCS will announce a competitive application round by March 1, 2011; applications will be due April 15, 2011; and awards announced by June 15, 2011.

Eligibility for funding

The following entities will be eligible for funding:

- Non-profit organizations registered to do business in Oregon
- Housing Authorities
- Local governments

OHCS will consider the following when making funding decisions:

- The extent to which the proposal will employ innovative strategies to increase and maintain homeownership opportunities for underserved populations, such as war veterans, low- and very low-income households, seniors and people with disabilities, and minority populations.
- How the proposed strategies will reduce the minority homeownership gap.
- The incorporation of relevant, related programs such as down payment assistance, gap funding assistance, ongoing resident services and financial fitness training.
- Outputs/outcomes/reporting – such as the number of households served broken out by income levels; number and type of classes offered throughout the year; anticipated number of successful homeowners
- How the proposed project addresses the needs in the community.

continued



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Eligibility for funding continued

- What assessment or research has been done to indicate that the proposed project will achieve program objectives.
- Organizational and administrative experience in providing similar service to clients-prior successful grant awards, structure of organization to provide services proposed.
- Geographic coverage – the proposed project should clearly reflect the areas of the state or the clientele the project will serve.
- Project finances (leverage, etc.) – if other financial resources are included, a description of how the organization will acquire those resources.

Application process

- Round one: March 1, 2011
- Competitive applications would be announced once each biennium

Monitoring, compliance and reporting

Awardees must report on a quarterly basis. OHCS will conduct onsite monitoring at least once a year. Required reporting elements will include the following, at a minimum:

- Populations served – race and ethnicity
- Number of clients served
- Number of households achieving homeownership –breakdown by income, race and ethnicity
- Number of clients who participated in homeownership education classes from Housing Center or obtained additional down payment funds through participating in an IDA.

How to access the funds:

Organizations will apply through a competitive application process.

OHCS is the state housing finance agency, providing financial and program support to create and preserve opportunities for quality, affordable housing for lower income Oregonians. The agency also administers federal and state antipoverty, homelessness prevention and intervention, energy assistance, and community service programs.

