**Program Overview**

The Conduit Program’s objectives provide for additional flexibility in the financing structure using tax-exempt bond financing (an allocation of the State’s volume cap). Experienced affordable housing development teams have the ability to maximize control in selecting the financing team and negotiate financing terms. The Conduit process assumes the tax-exempt bond allocation request is coupled with a request for 4% Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) and possibly other OHCS funding sources; bond allocation requests that do not include LIHTC requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The Program offers a single-point (the OHCS Loan Officer) for the development team. A single application with supplemental forms is used to access all available OHCS funds (one-stop shopping). Department staff will work in partnership with the selected lender(s) and equity investors to concurrently underwrite the bond allocation, coordinate the varying underwriting criteria, and synchronize all funding sources to have received full commitment well in advance of a potential bond sale.

Visit webpage for full program details at: [http://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/Pages/multifamily-housing-loan-conduit-program.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/Pages/multifamily-housing-loan-conduit-program.aspx)

** Eligibility Requirements**

- Eligible borrowers include for-profit, non-profit and governmental entities.
- The proposed project must meet the tax-exempt bond (Section 142(d)) affordability requirement for a minimum of 15 years or as long as the bonds are outstanding; whichever is longer.
- The development team must have adequate financial strength and credit-worthiness to support the proposal.
- The team must demonstrate the capacity to develop, own, maintain and manage the proposal as an affordable bond/4% LIHTC housing project for a minimum of 15 years.

**Program Requirements**

- Loan funds are disbursed in an escrow company acceptable to the Department.
- Bond Counsel, Trustee, bond purchaser and others must be acceptable to the Department.
- Borrowers select a complete development team (lender, equity investor, bond purchaser, property management, general contractor, architect, and other professionals) experienced in developing similar affordable housing properties.
- The experienced development team must be complete and issued firm written commitments without substantial conditions at least 30 days prior to the potential bond sale.
- The Department relies primarily upon the lender and equity investor’s underwriting criteria.
- Therefore it is necessary for the lender and equity investor to be prepared to provide their underwriting criteria, analysis and conclusions to Department staff.
- Bond denominations must be a minimum of $100,000.

**Loan Terms and Interest Rate**

There are no minimum or maximum bond allocation request limits at this time. The permanent financing term is generally 30 years, but the combined construction and permanent terms may not exceed 45 years. Financing may allow for prepayment, but affordability commitments and compliance monitoring will continue for the affordability period. The interest rate is estimated during bond allocation underwriting and is fixed at bond sale closing.
| Loan Charges | Borrowers pay a $1,500 application charge at the time they submit the loan request (this is in addition to any LIHTC charges). Bonds totaling less than $10,000,000 will pay a 1.5% issuance charge (with a cap of $100,000). Bonds greater than or equal to $10,000,000 will pay a 1.0% issuance charge (with a cap of $100,000). A draw down of funds can be requested on an exception basis. A draw down is only allowed on bonds of $10,000,000 or greater and will incur and additional 0.5% issuance fee. |
| Fund Availability | Conduit bond allocation requests are non-competitive at this time and the application is open year round. |
| Learn More | To learn more about this program, please visit our webpage at: [http://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/Pages/multifamily-housing-loan-conduit-program.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/Pages/multifamily-housing-loan-conduit-program.aspx) |