

Appendix B -- Certifications

Applicants to the PRO Housing program must use this Appendix to certify their compliance with various requirements. Applicants should complete the certifications relevant to them and submit them with their application. Please note that all applicants must complete the lobbying certification.

PRO HOUSING CERTIFICATIONS FOR STATE APPLICANTS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the State certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing -- The State will affirmatively further fair housing.

The Uniform Relocation and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (URA), and Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan (RARAP) -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the URA (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It has in effect and is following a RARAP as required under 24 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under either the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.

Anti-Lobbying --To the best of the State's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
3. It will require that the language of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of State -- The submission of the PRO Housing application is authorized under State law and the State possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs under the consolidated plan for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan -- The housing activities to be undertaken PRO Housing funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the State's consolidated plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 75.

Build America, Buy America (BABA) – It will comply with Title IX, Subpart A of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (41 U.S.C. 8301 et seq.).

Public Participation -- It is in full compliance with the PRO Housing streamlined public participation requirements found in Section VI.E of the PRO Housing NOFO and each unit of general local government that receives assistance from the State is in full compliance with the same.

Consultation with Local Governments --

1. It has consulted with affected units of local government in the non-entitlement area of the State in determining the method of distribution of funding, if applicable;
2. It engages in or will engage in planning for community development activities;
3. It provides or will provide technical assistance to units of local government in connection with community development programs; and
4. It will not refuse to distribute funds to any unit of general local government on the basis of the particular eligible activity selected by the unit of general local government to meet its community development needs, except that a State is not prevented from establishing priorities in distributing funding on the basis of the activities selected.

Local Needs Identification – It will require each unit of general local government to be funded to identify its community development and housing needs, including the needs of low-income and moderate-income families, and the activities to be undertaken to meet these needs.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR parts 91 and 570.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with PRO Housing funds, it has developed its proposal so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The proposal may also include activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available (see Optional PRO Housing Certification).
2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of PRO Housing funds shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons.
3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with PRO Housing funds by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements. However, if PRO Housing funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with

PRO Housing funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than PRO Housing funds. In addition, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than PRO Housing funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks PRO Housing funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It will require units of general local government that receive CDBG funds to certify that they have adopted and are enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR part 35, subparts A, B, J, K and R; and EPA's lead-based paint rules (e.g., Repair, Renovation and Painting; Pre-Renovation Education; and Lead Training and Certification (40 CFR part 745)).

Compliance with RFRA -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with the requirements of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (42 U.S.C. 2000bb) and 24 CFR 5.109, allowing the full and fair participation of faith-based entities.

Environmental Review -- It will comply with environmental review procedures and requirements at 24 CFR parts 50 and 58.

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.

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Signature of Authorized Official	Date
Deputy Director	Montana Department of Commerce
Title	