

FY15 Promise Zone Benefits from Partnering Agencies

Agency: United States
Department of Agriculture

Programs with PZ Benefits:
Community Facilities Program

Community Facilities Program

Website: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program>

Benefit Type: Loans, Grants, Loan Guarantees

Eligible Communities: Rural, Tribal

Benefits to Promise Zone: The Community Facilities Program (CFP) places an emphasis on projects located in persistent poverty areas as well as areas where the median household income of the population to be served by the proposed project is below the poverty line. In addition, grant level is determined according to where the median household income of the population to be served falls relative to the nonmetropolitan median household income of the state. In addition, the State Director may assign points to projects benefiting from the leveraging of funds in order to improve compatibility and coordination between the Agency and other agencies' selection systems and for those projects that are most cost effective. Projects identified and deemed eligible under the proposed Promise Zones Initiative may benefit from the consideration already afforded to these types of projects.

Eligible Applicants: Loans and guarantees are available to public entities such as municipalities, counties, parishes, boroughs, and special-purpose districts, as well as to non-profit corporations and tribal governments. Grants are available to public entities such as municipalities, counties, parishes, boroughs, and special-purpose districts, as well as non-profit corporations and tribal governments.

Funding Amount: CFP grants average between \$40,000 and \$50,000. CFP loans are dependent on an applicant's ability to repay, and may range from \$50,000 to \$75 million.

Application: Applications are handled by USDA Rural Development field offices. The application process is a two-stage procedure (pre-application and application). To file an application, contact the [local Rural Development office](#) in your area.

Program Description: CFP provides loans, grant and loan guarantees for essential community facilities in rural areas. Priority is given to health care, education and public safety projects. Typical projects are hospitals, health clinics, schools, fire houses, community centers and many other community based initiatives. CFP can make and guarantee loans to develop essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population. CFP provides grants to assist in the development of essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population. Grants are authorized on a graduated scale. Applicants located in small communities with low populations and low incomes may receive a higher percentage of grants.