

## **BSG Funding Alert**

# Funding Opportunity... USDA Community Facilities Program

JANUARY 2011

## **ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

The USDA Community Facilities Program offers grants and loans to community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population. Through this program, the USDA is striving to ensure that community facilities are readily available to all rural Americans.

## **DEADLINE**

USDA is accepting applications at this time for review and approval. There is a rolling deadline; this is the ideal time to apply for funding consideration for 2011.

## **FUNDING**

Loans and grants are available to public entities such as municipalities, counties and special-purpose districts as well as to non-profit corporations and tribal governments. Approved applications are ranked for determination on the amount of grant vs. loan for each project. The maximum term for all loans is 40 years; interest rates for direct loans are based on current market yields for municipal obligations.

## **ELIGIBLE PROJECTS AND USES**

Funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety and public services. This can include costs to acquire land needed for a facility, pay necessary professional fees, and purchase equipment required or its operation. Examples of essential community facilities include:

- **Healthcare** – Clinics, ambulatory care centers, hospital, rehabilitation centers and nursing homes
- **Telecommunications** – Medical and educational telecommunication links
- **Public Safety** – Communications centers, police and fire stations, fire trucks, rescue vehicles and jails
- **Public Service** – Adult and child care centers, city halls, courthouses, airports, garages, off-street parking facilities, sidewalks, street improvements, college classrooms and dormitories, libraries, museums, schools, fairgrounds and animal shelters

## **EVALUATION FACTORS USED**

Geographic location, population, and median household income along with need, services provided and community impact.



**For Additional Information, please contact:**

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