The Rural Housing Assessment Grant program supports the use of publicly available, online information through the “Profile of Iowa” tool and rural community efforts to interpret publicly available hard data to implement changes through development codes, local ordinances and housing incentives specific to individual community needs. This program is a result of the Governor’s Empower Rural Iowa Initiative’s 2018 Recommendations.

In partnership with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach’s Rural Housing Readiness Assessment workshops, program funding will empower communities to assess their current development environment and enact changes resulting in the creation of policies and procedures attractive to potential developers.

The program is administered by the Iowa Economic Development Authority’s (IEDA) Center for Rural Revitalization in consultation with the Governor’s Empower Rural Iowa Initiative Task Forces and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.
PROGRAM DETAILS

• Funding based on annual availability
• Grant Award: $10,000
• Cash Match: $5,000
• City must be the applicant with a population of 20,000 or fewer and not contiguous to a city with a population of 40,000 or greater
• An eligible city may submit an application that includes one or more partners and may apply on behalf of an entire county assessment if the county is one of the 88 least populous counties in Iowa
• Applicants must utilize Iowa Profile Tool and contract with Iowa State University Extension & Outreach for the facilitated Rural Housing Assessment Readiness Workshop
• Applicants must form a local Housing Committee
• Applications are reviewed by a panel including: Governor’s Empower Rural Iowa Initiative Task Force members; Iowa State University Extension & Outreach staff; and expert professionals
• Extra consideration is provided to applications that have projects supporting housing initiatives endorsed by the Iowa Great Places Citizen’s Advisory Board as well as those located in a community of 10,000 or fewer

SCORING CRITERIA

• Timing & Need
• Housing Committee & City Resolution
• Existing Documentation
• Implementation
• Budget & Local Support

CONTACT

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