

Department of Agriculture
Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Telecommunications Program

Weather Radio Transmitter Grant Program Application Checklist

The following information is required to support an application for a grant to finance the installation of new transmitters to extend the coverage of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Weather Radio system in rural America. Please refer to the April 4, 2001, Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA), application guide, and additional information on our web site: www.usda.gov/rus/telecom.

- A Weather Radio Transmitter Grant Program Application, including general applicant and grant information, such as the first form in the application guide.
- A description of the new NOAA Weather Radio transmitter, its location, and projected area of coverage. The location must be on the National Weather Radio site listing included in the NOFA or a published update to that list.
- A detailed description of the community's need for the proposed system.
- A description of the environmental impact of all equipment and facilities.
- A project budget, showing:
 - The amount of grant funds requested (generally limited to \$80,000 per site) and description of the equipment proposed to be purchased; and
 - The amount of funds, facilities, and services required that will be applied to **meet the matching funds** requirement to complete and sustain the project. Matching funds cannot be obtained from a Federal source or in-kind matching facilities purchased with Federal funds.
- Binding commitments from the applicant and the tower and site owner, if other than the applicant, that any offered commitments will be provided, regardless of changes in ownership, for the life of the transmitter (a minimum of 15 years).
- The names of the community and county in which the transmitter is located, the population of the community, and the per capita income of the county.
- A description of any physical facilities offered to satisfy the matching fund requirements (e.g., tower height, age, load capacity, elevation of tower, building space).
- A statement that the applicant, if it receives a grant, will execute a grant agreement satisfactory to RUS.

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- A statement that the transmitter will cover at least 60 percent of a hypothetical site area (the area within a circle with a 45-mile radius around a proposed rural transmitter site).
- A list from all matching contributors detailing all funds and in-kind facilities to be contributed, plus unqualified written commitments for delivery, including the time of delivery, and the estimated value (based on local market conditions) of the contributions.
- A statement from the applicant that other funding, such as loans at reasonable rates and terms, state or local grant funding, or internally generated funding, is not available to establish a new NOAA Weather Radio transmitter.
- Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination Certification.
- Certificate Regarding Architectural Barriers.
- Certificate Regarding Flood Hazard Area Precautions.
- Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Certification.
- Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements.
- Certification Regarding Debarment.
- Certification Regarding Lobbying.
- Federal Obligations Certification on Delinquent Debt.
- Evidence of legal authority to contract with the Government.
- Evidence of legal existence.

NOTE: While not an application requirement, RUS strongly encourages all applicants to consult and coordinate with the NOAA National Weather Service prior to submitting a completed application.

For additional information contact:

Craig Wulf, Telecommunications Program Advisor, at 202-720-8427.

Completed applications should be mailed to:

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