



2010 Quick Start Disaster Recovery Program Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Homeowner Quick Start Disaster Recovery Program?

The Homeowner Quick Start Disaster Recovery Program provides assistance as a last resort when private insurance and federal assistance are not adequate to return a damaged home to its pre-disaster condition.

The Minnesota State Legislature appropriated \$4 million to Minnesota Housing for disaster relief for housing purposes in counties eligible for federal assistance from the Small Business Administration (SBA) to homeowners. Only homeowners in communities affected by the September 2010 fall flooding in southern Minnesota under the Presidential Declaration of Major Disaster, DR-1941, will be eligible to apply for Quick Start assistance.

How much assistance will this program provide?

Quick Start is a forgivable, no-interest loan from a minimum of \$1,000 to a maximum of \$30,000 per house.

What are the eligible properties?

In order to qualify as an eligible property, the residence must be a residential property, which includes: a single family detached home; duplex; triplex; fourplex; twin home; an eligible unit in a Planned Unit Development (PUD); condominium; town home; manufactured home on a permanent foundation; a manufactured home in a manufactured home park.

What can I use the loan for?

The loan must be used for capital improvements to return a house to its pre-disaster—or comparable—condition, to replace an owner's home destroyed as a result of the disaster, or to repair (not replace) a 1-4 unit rental property.

What are the terms and condition of the loan?

No principal or interest payments are made during the term of the loan. The loan will be forgiven in 10 years as long as the home is the primary residence of the borrower. The loan principal must be repaid only if the borrower sells the house or no longer uses it as a primary residence within the 10 year loan period.

Are there income limits for eligibility for this program?

No.

How will my final loan amount be determined?

The final amount—from \$1,000 up to \$30,000—will be the difference between (1) the amount of any insurance proceeds and money received from SBA and (2) the amount necessary to repair a house to its condition before the flood. Quick Start is intended to fill this gap up to the maximum of \$30,000. In some cases, there may be no gap and therefore no Quick Start loan. Borrowers must accept the maximum SBA loan offered to them before Quick Start can be used.

What is the process for obtaining a loan?

- 1) Make sure you have applied to SBA for a physical disaster loan.
- 2) Apply for a Quick Start loan. Bring as much information as you can when you apply, including your SBA loan application and any repair cost estimates you have.

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- Apply even if you do not have all this information so that you can start the process.
- Apply for a Quick Start loan even if you have been declined a loan from SBA as you may still be eligible for Quick Start.
- If you are determined eligible for Quick Start, you will receive a “conditional” commitment. It is possible that the final loan could be greater or less than the conditional commitment.

3) Follow the instructions provided when you apply for a Quick Start loan.

Is there a deadline to apply for funding?

The deadline for Quick Start is two months after the SBA application deadline. The SBA deadline is December 14, 2010, and the Quick Start deadline is February 14, 2011.

What if I’m told that I am not eligible?

You still may be eligible for other forms of housing or public assistance. The organization accepting applications will be able to provide you additional information.

What if I was a renter of a damaged apartment building?

Quick Start does not assist renters.

Where do I apply?

Apply based on the county in which you live. See list below for contact information. Applications will also be available at www.mnhousing.gov.

Dodge County

SEMCAC
20 Veterans Memorial Hwy E
Kasson, MN 55944
Marty Pogalz: 507-634-4350

Mower County

SEMCAC
301 N. Main, Lower Level
Austin, MN 55912
Jenni Silvis: 507-433-5889

Freeborn County

SEMCAC
2202 Stevens St.
Albert Lea, MN 56007
Linda Lares or Vicky Helland
507-373-1329

Steele County

SEMCAC
545 Dunnell Drive
Owatonna MN 55060
Michele Lammi: 507-451-7134

Fillmore and Winona Counties:

SEMCAC
Main Office
204 South Elm Street
PO Box 549
Rushford, MN 55971
Cindy Vitse: 507-864 8207
Vonda Budde: 507-864-8241

Goodhue, Rice and Wabasha Counties:

Three Rivers Community Action, Inc.
1414 North Star Drive
Zumbrota, MN 55992
507-732-7391 or 1-800-277-8418

Ext. 0: Front desk, to request an application
Ext.152: Janine Jasinski
(janine.jasinski@threeriverscap.org)

Ext. 132: Nichole Rude
(nichole.rude@threeriverscap.org)

Blue Earth and Waseca Counties:

Minnesota Valley Action Council, Inc.
464 Raintree Road
Mankato, MN 56065
(507) 345-6822
Sheila Ous: 507-345-6822, x2416

Faribault, Jackson, Martin, and Watonwan Counties:

Minnesota Valley Action Council, Inc.
100 State St. North
Fairmont, MN 56031
(507) 345-6822
Kaye Schultze: 507-238-1663, Ext. 3

Olmsted County:

Olmsted County HRA
2122 Campus Drive SE
Suite 100
Rochester, Minnesota 55904
Rob Mathias: 507-328-7154

