

Farmworker Housing Program

The Farmworker Housing Program is a low-cost loan program, in existence since 1995, which assists in the improvement of existing housing or the construction of new housing.

Under this program, the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR) has entered into Master Servicing Agreements with participating lending institutions (“local loan administrators”) to originate and service loans of up to \$100,000 per year to agricultural producers who apply and demonstrate the need to improve or construct farmworker housing. While DHCR’s priority is to provide loan funds for projects which will bring existing farmworker housing into compliance with building codes (i.e., NYS Sanitary Code or NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code), loan funds may also be used for the new construction of farmworker housing or the enlargement of existing facilities.

The Farmworker Housing Program is administered by DHCR and participating local loan administrators with the cooperation of the New York State Department of health and county health departments. (At present, Farm Credit of Western New York, ACA, which serves the sixteen western counties of New York State and First Pioneer Farm Credit. ACA, which serves Central and Eastern New York, have contracted with the Division of housing and Community Renewal to participate as local loan administrators under the program.)

Any agricultural producer, or anyone who handles, grades, stores, preserves or delivers any agricultural commodity, who can demonstrate the need to improve seasonal or year-round farmworker housing which they own or operate, is eligible for a loan.

An agricultural producer who is interested in obtaining a Farmworker Housing Program loan should contact the participating Farm Credit institution that serves the county in which their farm is located. Loan funds will be made available by the Division of housing and Community Renewal on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For more information contact:

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