

OneRural Technical Assistance

Terms and Conditions

Program Purpose

The OneRural Technical Assistance Program, administered by the Housing Assistance Council, provides federally funded capacity-building services to strengthen rural housing and community development organizations. Services are designed to build long-term organizational capacity, improve systems and strategy, and support sustainable impact in rural communities.

Participation is subject to federal funding requirements and program guidelines.

Eligibility Requirements

Participation in OneRural Technical Assistance is limited to:

- Nonprofit organizations
- Tribal Designated Housing Entities
- Federally recognized Native American Tribes

Eligible organizations must be engaged in affordable housing, community development, or economic development activities and demonstrate leadership commitment to capacity-building.

For-profit entities, state agencies, municipalities serving urbanized areas, public housing authorities, and statewide organizations are not eligible.

Eligibility does not guarantee acceptance.

Geographic Eligibility

Because OneRural is supported by multiple federal funding sources, rural eligibility requirements vary depending on the funding stream.

Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI)

Organizations participating through USDA's Rural Community Development Initiative must be physically located in a rural community with a population of

15,000 or fewer and where the AMI is at or below 80% of the state or national AMI.

RCDI eligibility is verified prior to acceptance into the program.

Rural Capacity Building (RCB)

For services funded through HUD's Rural Capacity Building Program, each project receiving technical assistance must be located in an eligible rural area as defined by HUD.

Project locations will be validated using HUD's rural eligibility mapping tools.

If an activity includes both rural and urban areas, technical assistance must be directed primarily to the rural portion. Activities where more than 20 percent of the housing units or beneficiaries are located in urbanized areas may not qualify for support under RCB.

If project scope or location changes during the engagement, eligibility may be re-evaluated and services adjusted accordingly.

Not all approved activities may qualify under all funding sources.

Competitive Selection Process

OneRural Technical Assistance is competitive.

Selection is based on:

- Strength of the application
- Organizational readiness
- Commitment to receiving technical assistance
- Alignment with program goals
- Potential for measurable impact

Funding and staff capacity are limited. Not all eligible applicants will be selected.

HAC reserves sole discretion in final selection decisions.

Participation Expectations

Selected participants agree to:

- Designate an executive sponsor.

- Identify a primary staff contact with decision authority.
- Attend scheduled meetings and trainings.
- Participate actively in planning and implementation.
- Provide requested documentation and information.
- Complete evaluations and reporting requirements.

Technical assistance is a partnership. Consistent engagement and follow-through are required for success.

Conflict of Interest

Participants must disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest that could affect their participation in OneRural Technical Assistance.

This includes:

- Financial or contractual relationships with HAC staff or subcontractors
- Situations where organizational leadership or board members may personally benefit from services provided
- Any arrangement that could create the appearance of preferential treatment

HAC reserves the right to review disclosed conflicts and determine appropriate safeguards. Failure to disclose relevant conflicts may result in suspension or termination of services.

Scope and Nature of Services

OneRural provides advisory and capacity-building support. Services may include technical assistance, training, tools, peer learning, and information resources.

Technical assistance does not:

- Substitute for staff capacity.
- Serve as legal or accounting services.
- Function as part of an organization's development team.
- Guarantee funding awards.

Participation does not imply endorsement or preference in other HAC programs or funding opportunities.

Compliance with Federal Requirements

OneRural services are funded through federal programs and must comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Selected participants must maintain compliance with program requirements throughout the engagement period.

Activities that fall outside eligible federal parameters may be adjusted or discontinued.

Coordination and Duplication of Services

To maximize impact and avoid duplication, participants must disclose any other technical assistance, capacity-building services, or federally funded advisory support they are receiving during the period of engagement.

HAC may coordinate with other providers, when appropriate and with participant awareness, to align efforts and prevent overlap.

If duplication of services is identified, HAC reserves the right to adjust, limit, or decline specific activities to ensure federal resources are used efficiently and in accordance with program requirements.

Data Collection and Reporting

As part of federal reporting requirements, participants agree to provide organizational and project information necessary to demonstrate program impact.

Aggregated or anonymized information may be shared with federal partners and the public.

Personally identifiable information should not be submitted as part of reporting.

Confidentiality

HAC respects the confidentiality of organizational information shared during technical assistance engagements.

Proprietary materials, internal documents, strategic plans, and non-public information will not be shared outside the engagement without permission, except as required for federal reporting or audit purposes.

Participants are responsible for ensuring that personally identifiable information is not submitted as part of technical assistance materials unless specifically required for approved reimbursement purposes.

Confidentiality obligations apply throughout the engagement.

Termination and Program Modifications

Either party may terminate participation with 30 days written notice.

HAC may pause, adjust, or discontinue services if:

- Eligibility requirements are no longer met
- Participation becomes inconsistent
- Compliance issues arise
- Funding is reduced or discontinued

HAC reserves the right to modify program terms as required by federal guidance. Changes will be communicated in writing.

Acceptance of Terms

By submitting an application, the organization acknowledges that it has read and understood these Terms and Conditions and agrees to abide by them if selected for participation.