



LBC HOME IMPROVEMENT GRANT RULES AND QUALIFICATIONS

Purpose:

To provide free home repairs to low-income & elderly households in need.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Income Limitations:

- Applicants must meet the low-income threshold defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Income limits will be based on poverty line chart based on household income and number of people living in the home.

2. Age Requirements:

- For elderly applicants, individuals must be 60 years of age or older. Verification of age will be required through government-issued identification.

3. Residency:

- Applicants must be residents of Leachville, AR city limits and provide proof of residency (e.g., utility bill, lease agreement).

4. Property Ownership:

- Applicants must own the property for which repairs are requested. Homeowners must provide proof of ownership (e.g., deed, mortgage statement).

5. Repair Necessity:

- Repairs must be exterior improvements. Electrical and plumbing repairs not included. All other repairs can include, but is not limited to:
 - Roof repairs
 - Painting
 - Siding Repairs
 - Wood Repairs
- Accessibility modifications (e.g., ramps, etc)

6. Financial Documentation:

- Applicants must provide documentation of household income, including pay stubs, tax returns, and any other relevant financial information.

7. Limit on Grant Amount:

- Each eligible household may receive a maximum grant amount of \$2,500 (including labor and material). Repair value will be determined using Xactimate, a professional estimating software used by most insurance companies and major contractors. No one household can be awarded the grant twice within 3 years.

Application Process:

1. Submission of Application:

- Interested individuals must complete and submit an application form available online and must be turned in by the open application deadlines (see timelines below under #5).

2. Documentation Requirements:

- All required documentation (proof of income, residency, ownership, and necessary repair details) must accompany the application. Additional documents may be requested by the LBC board and if not provided, can result in disqualification.

3. Assessment:

- A site visit may be conducted by program representatives to assess the repair needs and verify the information provided in the application.

4. Annual Timeline of Grant Process:

January 1-31 (Application Window Opens)
February 1-March 31 (Review of Applications)
April (Announcement of Grant Winner #1)
July 1-31 (2nd Application Window Opens)
Aug 1-September 30th (Review of Applications)
October (Announcement of Grant Winner #2)

Grant Conditions:

1. Use of Funds:

- Grant funds must be used solely for the approved repairs and may not be utilized for other purposes.

2. Completion Timeline:

- Repairs must be completed within a specified timeframe (e.g., six months) from the date the grant is awarded.

3. Non-Discrimination:

- The program will operate in compliance with all federal, state, and local anti-discrimination laws.

4. Waiver of lien & lawsuits:

- Homeowner, the contractor, and the LBC must all sign waiver of lien and waiver of lawsuit for all parties (meaning the LBC, contractor or homeowner cannot sue or put lien on/against any party associated with this grant) or grant is null & void and will not be awarded. The grant will then go to runner up as decided by the board.

This set of rules and qualifications aims to ensure that the grant program effectively supports low-income households and elderly individuals in need of essential household repairs.