

HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION PACKET – TOWNSHIP OF IRVINGTON

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Kindly complete the herein application and return to:

Shelby Blair –Home Program Monitor Kimbelyn Smith – Home Program Coordinator

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GRANTS OVERSIGHT

Irvington Township Municipal Building

1 Civic Square, Room 203

P. 973.399.6737

bswdc@irvingtonnj.org / www.irvington.net



Tel: 973-399-6785

Township of Irvington Homeownership Program Questions and Answers

O: WHO IS A FIRST TIME HOMEOWNER?

A: An individual or family that has either never owned a home or has not owned a home in the last three (3) years and meets the eligibility requirements based on family size and income. A homeowner can purchase a condominium or a one, two, three, or four family property.

Q: WHAT ARE THE INCOME AND FAMILY QUALIFICATIONS?

A: The family income must be within the ranges found in the Income Qualification Chart on page 7.

Q: WHAT ARE THE CREDIT REQUIREMENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM?

A: The applicant must have a minimum credit score of **640**, with no late payments, collections, or tax liens in the past twelve (12) months.

Q: HOW DO YOU BECOME A TOWNSHIP OF IRVINGTON FIRST TIME HOMEOWNER?

A: You must:

- Complete our pre-qualification application;
- Participate in the Urban League of Essex County's (ULEC) First Time Homeowners Program;
- Obtain an official First Time Homebuyer's Training Certificate of Completion;
- Receive a letter and Certificate of Eligibility from this Department;
- Not have entered into a contract of sale prior to certification by this Department;
- Have at least \$1,500 in savings; and,
- Be qualified for a mortgage.

Q: WHAT IS THE SUBSIDY AMOUNT?

A: Eligible homeowners can receive up to \$10,000.00 for the down payment or closing costs.

Q: WHAT STEPS ARE REQUIRED TO RECEIVE THE SUBSIDY?

A: The subsidy is awarded to the Homeowner once:

- The participant finds a home in Irvington, meets the eligibility requirements on Page 4, and successfully closes on the purchase of the home.
- The participant receives an appraisal for the property and secures a mortgage commitment from a lender
- The property passes the mandatory local Housing Standards and Lead Based Paint Inspections



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Q: WHEN DOES THE PARTICIPANT RECEIVE THE SUBSIDY?

A: The payment is delivered prior to closing of closing in the name of both the buyer and their attorney.

Q: DOES THE SUBSIDY HAVE TO BE REPAID

A: The homeowner must maintain the home as their primary residence throughout the affordability period (5 years). The subsidy is considered a grant, not a loan. There are no interest charges or payments for the life of the grant. It becomes a loan if the buyer moves, sells the property prior to the end of the required affordability period of 5 years, or defaults on the mortgage prior to 5 years. The homeowner is required to repay a portion of the grant based upon a recapture schedule if it is sold or defaulted on the mortgage before the expiration of the 5 year affordability period.

Q: HOW IS THE FIRST TIME HOMEOWNER PURCHASE DIFFERENT FROM A CONVENTIONAL REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION?

A:

- The Homeowner receives mandatory pre and post Homebuyers training
- The Homeowner receives a federal subsidy for down payment and/or closing costs
- The Homeowner, Seller, Realtor, and Lending Institutions must follow specific guidelines that are not applicable to a conventional transaction
- The Homeowner has an advocacy team and this Department working with them through the ULEC



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HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM

SERVICE AREA
TYPE OF RESIDENCE
ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

Township of Irvington 1-4 Family Homes or Condominiums

Closing cost or down payment assistance (as specified in Lender's "Good Faith or Closing Disclosure") with a maximum subsidy of \$10,000.00.

HOMEOWNERSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

I. ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Prospective homeowners must meet eight (8) requirements to be eligible for HOME funds or they are not eligible. They must:

- be a **first-time** homeowner or have not owned a home in the last three (3) years;
- be a qualified **low-income** or **very low-income** household;
- have not co-signed on an existing loan, home bankruptcies and or repossessions;
- must not have late payments, collections, judgments or tax liens in the past twelve (12) months;
- not have entered into a Contract of Sale:
- must have a minimum credit score of 640;
- must have minimally \$1,500.00 (One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) in savings account; and,
- attend **HUD-certified** housing counseling certificate classes offered locally through the Urban League of Essex County, obtain a certificate of completion, and, be committed to post-purchase counseling

II. ELIGIBLE PROPERTY

Any property that will serve as the prospective homeowner's principal residence is an eligible property type, as follows:

- A single family property (one unit) OR a two-to four-unit property.
- If HOME funds are used to assist a purchaser to acquire one unit in a two- to- four-unit property and that unit will be the principal residence of the purchaser, the long-term affordability requirements apply to the assisted ownership unit only.
- If HOME funds are used to help a purchaser acquire one or more rental units along with the homeownership unit, the HOME rental affordability requirements apply to the following rental units.
- A condominium unit.
- A cooperative unit or a unit in a mutual housing project.
- A manufactured home. At the time of completion, the manufactured housing must be connected to permanent utility hook-ups. Also, the manufactured housing must be located on a land that is owned by the manufactured housing unit owner, or on land for which the manufactured housing unit owner has a lease.
- HUD Foreclosures, short sales, REO's and Handyman Specials are only allowed if they fit the criteria for local Housing Standards.
- Located within the Township of Irvington.



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III. HOME INCOME LIMITS

The prospective homeowner's household must have an annual income equal to or less than 80% of the median income for the target area. The HOME Program uses the HUD Section 8 low-income limits. These limits are based on 80% of the area median income with adjustments for household size. These figures are revised annually. See the current income guidelines.

To ensure that all prospective homeowners who receive assistance are eligible, the Township will need to collect income verification documentation from all applicants.

IV. ELIGIBLE COSTS

HOME funds can be used to cover:

- Acquisition (eligible homeowners can receive funds to purchase affordable homes with down payment and/or closing cost assistance, or by reducing the monthly carrying costs of a loan from a private lender);
- Acquisition and rehabilitation (in addition to acquisition assistance, eligible homeowners can receive funds
 associated with general property improvements that are considered standard for the area. These may
 include the correction of code violations, incipient code violations, and general property improvements.
 However, HOME funds cannot be used for luxury improvements.) Funding for this option may not always be
 available, and certain limitations apply.
- New construction (the Township can provide funds directly to developers to construct affordable housing. Eligible costs include project hard and soft costs.)
- Funding for the purchase of stoves and refrigerators, furnaces and boilers, and hot water tanks, may be available

V. INELIGIBLE COSTS

Ineligible costs include:

- creation of secondary housing attached to a primary unit;
- installation of luxury items such as swimming pools;
- costs of equipment, furnishings, or other personal property not an integral structural fixture, such as window air conditioners, washers or dryers (however, stoves and refrigerators are eligible costs); and,
- Rehabilitation of property that includes income producing rooms or units.

VI. LEVEL OF HOME ASSISTANCE

The minimum level of **HOME** funds to be used for the homeowners purchase program is \$1,000 per dwelling unit. The maximum HOME assistance per project for homeowners purchase is based on a sliding scale depending on the primary mortgage but will not exceed \$10,000.00.



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HOW TO APPLY FOR A HOMEOWNERS PURCHASE LOAN

I. Preliminary Application

When a potential applicant visits the office applicants will be given a "preliminary application" to complete. The preliminary application is used not only to document applicant information, but also to assess the effectiveness of marketing efforts. Attached to the preliminary application is a Certification that must be completed by the homeowner. The applicant will then be referred to the Homeowner's Counseling Program one the application is approved.

II. Homeowner's Counseling Workshop

Monthly Homeowners Workshops are offered free to prospective homeowners needing assistance for acquisition, and, in some instances, rehabilitation applicants, must attend a housing counseling class sponsored by the Urban League of Essex County, a HUD-approved housing counseling agency and receive a certificate. Upon receipt of the Certificate, the applicant will be given the Program Participation Application to complete.

After an initial determination of eligibility, the applicant will be contacted by letter to schedule an interview at the office. The applicant will be provided with a list of "items to bring to the interview" that are required in order to continue the application process.

NOTE: Ineligible applicant will be informed in writing that they do not qualify. If known, the staff will refer ineligible applicants to other resources in the community.

After carefully considering the interview, completed application, and supporting documentation, as well as the type and amount of financial assistance the homeowner is requesting, a letter is sent to the homeowner notifying him/her of the decision. The letter of notification will inform the homeowner of their eligibility to receive financial assistance, the amount of assistance and any conditions under which the assistance is offered.

Funds will be disbursed from the Program account in accordance with Township procedures and federal and state regulations. Basically, these procedures and regulations are designed to assure that approved funds are properly expended on eligible homeowner's costs, and may be summarized as follows:

- 1. A lien will be placed on the property and recorded in the **Essex County Hall of Records** to assure the Homeowners Purchase Program funds are refunded in the event of a transfer of title or the relocation of the homeowner prior to the expiration of the affordability period.
- 2. All payments will be made in accordance with the Township's Homeowners Purchase Program procedures and will require proper verifications and certifications.
- 3. Certificate of Occupancy documentation must be provided at the time closing documents are provided
- 4. At the closing, before a Township's check is released, the homeowner's attorney must provide a signed HUD-1 RESPA form, and a Title Insurance binder.



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III. SUBORDINATION POLICY / REFINANCING

The Township of Irvington hereby certifies that its policy for its recapture provision under the HOME program complies with the Section 92.544 of the Final Rules that pertain to recapture vs. resale provisions.

With respect to the Homeowners Program, the Township is committed to benefiting the homeowner, thus improving their equity position in the home over time. The Township has established the following with the allowance for case-by-case alterations, for HOME subsidies supporting homeowners:

- Only one condition of subordination by the Township to second position will be approved in the instance that the HOME-assisted homeowner refinances the property to improve his/her primary mortgage interest rate.
- The Restrictive Covenant Deed may be subordinated to second position to the primary lender.
- The Township will not consider subordination for the following types of loans: equity, revolving, cash out, or others loans of any kind. (There may be a consideration of a cash out loan, if the funds are being used to rehabilitate the property).
- The Township under any circumstances will consider no other subordination position.
- The full repayment of the HOME subsidy to the Township will be required if the homeowner does not remain the principal resident of the home which was provided a HOME subsidy.
- The enforcement vehicle for this policy will be the second mortgage placed as a lien on the subject property.

Release from this policy can only occur after the homeowner satisfies the full grant repayment terms as set forth in the Mortgage and Note signed at closing.



Department of Economic Development & Grants of Oversights
Irvington Municipal Building RM 203-A
1 Civic Square, Irvington, NJ 07111
Tel: 973-399-6785 Deborah F. Smith, Director

Administrator Information				
Application Number		Date:		

Applicant Cor	tact Infor	matio	n					
Applicant Name(s):								
Street Address:								
City/ State/ Zip:					Hor	me Phone:		
Email Address:					Cel	l Phone:		
Household Co	mposition	n Infor	mation					
Full Name (exactly as it appears on drivers license or other government document)	Relationship to Head of Household	Marital Status	Date of Birth	Age	Gender	Disabled?	Student Status FT= Full Time PT= Part time N/A= Not applicable	Receives Income?
A.	Head of Household				□ M □ F	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ FT ☐ PT ☐ N/A	☐ Yes ☐ No
В.	☐ Spouse ☐ Dependent ☐ Co-Head ☐Other Adult				□ M □ F	☐ Yes ☐ No	□ FT □ PT □ N/A	☐ Yes ☐ No
C.	☐ Spouse☐ Dependent☐ Co-Head☐ Other Adult				□ M □ F	☐ Yes ☐ No	□ FT □ PT □ N/A	☐ Yes ☐ No
D.	☐ Spouse ☐ Dependent ☐ Co-Head ☐ Other Adult				□ м □ ғ	☐ Yes ☐ No	□ FT □ PT □ N/A	☐ Yes ☐ No
E.	☐ Spouse ☐ Dependent ☐ Co-Head ☐ Other Adult				□ M □ F	☐ Yes ☐ No	□ FT □ PT □ N/A	☐ Yes ☐ No
F.	☐ Spouse ☐ Dependent ☐ Co-Head ☐ Other Adult				□ M □ F	☐ Yes ☐ No	□ FT □ PT □ N/A	☐ Yes ☐ No
G.	☐ Spouse ☐ Dependent ☐ Co-Head ☐ Other Adult				□ м □ ғ	☐ Yes ☐ No	□ FT □ PT □ N/A	☐ Yes ☐ No

Tony Vauss, Mayor



Department of Economic Development & Grants of Oversights Irvington Municipal Building RM 203-A 1 Civic Square, Irvington, NJ 07111 Tel: 973-399-6785

Tony Vauss, Mayor Deborah F. Smith, Director

Household Composition Inform	mation (Continued)				
 Was any household member a full-time st year? 	□ No □ Yes,				
2. Is any household member listed above a fo	oster child?	☐ No ☐ Yes,	who?		
3. Is any household member listed above a li	ive-in attendant?	□ No □ Yes,	who?		
4. Is any household member temporarily abs	sent from the home?	□ No □ Yes,	who?		
5. If Yes, Indicate reason for temporary abse	nce:				
6. Do you anticipate other members will join next 12 months?	your household within the	□ No □ Yes,	, explain:		
Annual Income of All Household (List ALL income of household members, except for the earned member has multiple sources of income, list their name again	d income from employment by persons	under the age of 18)	. If a single household		
Income Types	s include but are not limited to				
Salary Overtime Commissions/ Fees Tips and Bonuses Temporary Income Workers Compensation	Income from Military Interest/ Dividends New Business Income New Rental Income Social Security Alimony	Per Retirement Familial S Unemployr Child	Security Income nsion support/ Recurring Gifts ment Benefits Support		
Household Member Name	Income Type		Total		
			\$		
			\$		
			\$		
			\$		
			\$		
			\$		
			\$		
			\$		
	Total Combined	Annual Income:	\$		



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Tony Vauss, Mayor Deborah F. Smith, Director

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Current Employment Information

List the employment information for any current household members. Be sure to include the most current contact information for employers.

1. House	ehold Member Name:		Occupation:		Work Phone:		
Employer Nar	ne and Address:		City:		State:	Zip code:	
Date Hired:	Salary:	Pay Per	eriod: Hour		ours Worked Per /eek:	Fax:	
				T			
2. House	ehold Member Name:		Occupation:		Work Phone:		
Employer Nar	me and Address:		City:		State:	Zip Code:	
Date Hired:	Salary:	Pay Period	od: Hours Worked Per Week:		orked Per	Fax:	
3. House	ehold Member Name:		Occupation:		Work Phone:		
Employer Nar	ne and Address:		City:		State:	Zip Code:	
Date Hired:	Salary:	Pay Period	d: Hours Worked Week:		Vorked Per	Fax:	
4. Household Member Name:			Occupation:		Work Phone:		
Employer Nar	Employer Name and Address: City:		City:		State:	Zip Code:	
Date Hired:	Salary:	Pay Period	:	Hours W Week:	orked Per	Fax:	



Department of Economic Development & Grants of Oversights Irvington Municipal Building RM 203-A

1 Civic Square, Irvington, NJ 07111 Tel: 973-399-6785

Tony Vauss, Mayor Deborah F. Smith, Director

Assets of All Household Members

(When listing the cash value of any asset marked with an asterisk (*), indicate the amount you would have if you were to convert the asset to cash (i.e. sell or exchange the asset), deducting any penalties for early withdrawal, amounts used to pay off a balance, and any fees which may be assessed for the conversion.) Asset Types include but are not limited to: **Checking Account** Trust Fund Income from Military Mortgage Note Held Savings Account Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds* Whole Life Insurance* Credit Union Account Real Estate/ Home* Lump Sums Received (Inheritance, Capital Personal Property Held As an Investment Real Estate/Land* Gains, Insurance) (gems, coins, etc.) Name of Financial Asset Income **Account Holder Name Asset Type Cash Value** Institution Interest/Dividends \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ **Disposal of Assets Information** Has anyone in the household given away any asset of value within the last two years? (If a home was released due to bankruptcy, foreclosure, or divorce, answer No): \(\square\) No \(\square\) Yes, who? Provide explanation (including the type of asset, estimated value of asset, amount disposed for and the date of disposal): Has anyone in the household owned a home in the last three years? \square No \square Yes, who? What happened to the home?

Disposal of Assets Information (Continued)



Department of Economic Development & Grants of Oversights Tony Vauss, Mayor Irvington Municipal Building RM 203-A 1 Civic Square, Irvington, NJ 07111 Tel: 973-399-6785 Deborah F. Smith, Director

Do they currently own it?	☐ No If N	If No: When was it posted for, and date of?				
	☐ Yes, If Y	es: Is it being rented?	P□No	□Yes		
	Is	it sitting vacant?	□No	□Yes		
	Is i	t in the process of bei	ng sold?	¹ □ No □ Yes		
Demographic an	d Specia	al Needs Info	rmati	ion:		
	_			orting requirements. Although TOI would appreciate receiving this		
information, you may choose not to f		not wish to furnish this inform	nation, plea	ise initial below.		
RACE (Check all that apply:						
American Indian or Alas	kan Name	Ameri	can India	an, Alaskan Native & White		
Native Hawaiian or Othe	er Pacific Islar	ider Asian	& White			
Black or African America	Black or African American Black			ack African American & White		
Hispanic		Ameri	can India	an Alaskan Native & Black African American		
White		Non-Hispanic				
Other			Multi- R	tacial		
Hispanic or Latino- A pe	rson of Cubar	n, Mexican, Puerto Ric	an, Sout	th or Central American or other Spanish culture		
of origin, regardless of race. The term "Spanish origin", can be used in addition to "Hispanic or Latino."						
Non-Hispanic or Latino- A person not of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other						
Spanish culture or origin, re	egardless of r	ace.				
Check all that apply:						
Head of Household		_	_Single F	Parent, non-elderly		
Female Head of Househ	Female Head of Household		Two Parents, non-elderly			
Elderly		_	Other			
For Official Use Only						
Extremely Low Income	Extremely Low Income		Moderate Income			
Low Income			Non Low/Moderate			

composition



Department of Economic Development & Grants of Oversights
Irvington Municipal Building RM 203-A
1 Civic Square, Irvington, NJ 07111
Tel: 973-399-6785

Tony Vauss, Mayor Deborah F. Smith, Director

Property Information:						
Provide the following information about the property to be acquired with this grant.						
Have you entered into a contract of sale to purchase a home? \Box No \Box Yes						
If so, what is the property Address?						
How many units does this property have?						
Is this property commercial or residential?						
Do you currently have a letter of commitment to purchase a property \Box No	☐ Yes					
Do you have a date set for the closing of a property? ☐ No ☐ Yes						
If so, what is the scheduled closing date?						
(4) weeks prior to the date of closing. All documents must be summited to our office at least two weeks prior to closing. ANY APPLICANT THAT CLOSES PRIOR TO FINAL APPROVAL WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY DENIED PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM AND THEIR FILE WILL BE CLOSED. This is a need based program and closing prior to an approval indicates that the funds requested was not needed to acquire the home. Third Party Contact Information:						
Name of Attorney	Phone					
Email		Yes, include on correspondence regarding my application	Initials			
Name of Realtor	Phone					
Email		Yes, include on correspondence regarding my application	Initials			



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Release and Signatures

Each of the undersigned applicants for HOME Program Assistance hereby certify that all of the information provided in the above application is true and correct, ad do hereby authorize the release and/or verification of mortgage loan, employment, asset, liability and income information. All household members age 18 or older must sign application.

Applicant's Printed Name	Signature	Date
Co-Applicant's Printed Name	Signature	Date
Adult Household Member's Printed Name	Signature	Date
Adult Household Member's Printed Name	Signature	Date
Adult Household Member's Printed Name	Signature	Date
Adult Household Member's Printed Name	Signature	Date



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Please Be Advised

You must report any changes to household structure, employment, assets, etc. while the application is in process. Failure to do so may delay the review and possibly and denial in your application.

WARNING: Title 18, Section 1001 of the U.S. Code states that a person is guilty of a felony for knowingly and willingly making false or fraudulent statements to any department of the United States Government.

APPLICANT'S AUTHORIZATION

For The Township to Access Information

I authorize the above-named Home Participating Jurisdiction to obtain information about me and my household that is pertinent to determining my eligibility for participation in the Program. I acknowledge that:

- (1) A photocopy of this form is as valid as the original; AND
- (2) I have the right to review information received using this form (with a person of my choosing to accompany me); AND
- (3) I have the right to a copy of information provided to the Township of Irvington and to request correction of any information I believe to be inaccurate; AND
- (4) All adult household members will sign this form and cooperate with the Township of Irvington in the eligibility verification process.

Signatures:					
Signature-Head of Household	Print Name	Date			
Other Household Member	Print Name	Date			



Tel	: (973	3-399	9-67	785

Other Household Member	Print Name	Date
Other Household Member	Print Name	Date
Other Household Member	Print Name	Date
Other Household Member	Print Name	Date



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Required Documents:

Please submit all applicable documents for each adult household member

Directions: Submit the following documents in the order requested and separate by a sheet with the name of the document and associated number on the sheet. Failure to submit the application and attached documents per this instruction will delay review of your application.

1. 2 Forms of Government Issued Identification (One must be photo)

Driver's License, Passport, Birth Certificate, Social Security Card, etc.

2. Proof of Income:

3 Consecutive Months of Paystubs, , Last two quarters of Profit and Loss Statement, Recent Award Letter Child Support Judgement, etc.

3. Proof of Assets:

Last 6 Months of Checking/ Savings statements, CD401k, Money Market, Investment Statements

4. Last Two Years 1040

5. Last Two Years W2 and/or

6. Proof of Rent

Six Consecutive Months Rent Receipts, Copy of Current Lease

7. Credit Report

Copy of Most recent credit report with credit score from one of three reporting agencies (640 Minimum Score)

Please keep in mind this is not an exhaustive list of required documents as each household is different. Upon review you may be asked to supply additional documentation.

Note: Submission of this application does not guarantee there will be assistance available for you, nor does certification of income eligibility automatically qualify you. You must also qualify for a mortgage.

All loans and grants are subject to township, state and federal laws, rules, regulations and requirements. All loans and grants are subject to the availability of program funds.

Your application will not be considered complete until all information has been received and statements/ documents have been certified to the satisfaction of the Department of Economic Development and Grants Oversight.

PLEASE ONLY SUBMIT COPIES, WE WILL NOT ACCEPTED ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS!
PLEASE MAKE COPIES OF ALL ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS PRIOR TO SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION!
WE WILL NOT MAKE COPIES OF ANY DOCUMENT AT OUR OFFICE; NO EXEPTIONS!



Department of Economic Development & Grants of Oversights
Irvington Municipal Building RM 203-A
1 Civic Square, Irvington, NJ 07111
Tel: 973-399-6785 **Tony Vauss, Mayor** Deborah F. Smith, Director