

## **RBS and RUS, USDA**

**§ 4284.656**

(3) Has experienced long-term poverty—10 points;

(4) Has experienced long-term population decline—10 points; and

(5) Has experienced long-term job deterioration—10 points.

(e) A score of 0 to 10 points will be awarded based on the Agency determination of the extent of the project's usefulness as a new best practice as defined in § 4284.603.

(f) The State Director may assign up to 15 discretionary points to an application. If allocation of funds under National Office control is being considered, the Agency Administrator may assign up to 20 additional discretionary points. Assignment of discretionary points by either the State Director or the Agency Administrator must include a written justification. Permissible justifications are geographic distribution of funds, special importance for implementation of a strategic plan in partnership with other organizations, or extraordinary potential for success due to superior project plans or qualifications of the grantee.

### **§ 4284.640 Appeals.**

Any appealable adverse decision made by the Agency may be appealed in accordance with USDA appeal regulations found at 7 CFR part 11. If the Agency makes a determination that a decision is not appealable, a request for a determination of appealability may be made to the National Appeals Staff.

### **§§ 4284.641–4287.646 [Reserved]**

### **§ 4284.647 Grant approval and obligation of funds.**

(a) The following statement will be entered in the comment section of the Request For Obligation of Funds, which must be signed by the grantee:

The grantee certifies that it is in compliance with and will continue to comply with all applicable laws; regulations; Executive Orders; and other generally applicable requirements, including those contained in 7 CFR part 4284, subpart G, and 7 CFR parts 3015, 3016, 3017, 3018, 3019, and 3052 in effect on the date of grant approval; and the approved Letter of Conditions.

(b) [Reserved]

### **§ 4284.648 Fund disbursement.**

The Agency will determine, based on 7 CFR parts 3015, 3016, and 3019, as applicable, whether disbursement of a grant will be by advance or reimbursement. A Request for Advance or Reimbursement, (available in any Agency office) must be completed by the grantee and submitted to the Agency no more often than monthly to request either advance or reimbursement of funds.

### **§§ 4284.649–4284.655 [Reserved]**

### **§ 4284.656 Reporting.**

(a) A Financial Status Report (available in any Agency office) and a project performance activity report will be required of all grantees on a quarterly basis. The grantee will cause said program to be completed within the total sums available to it, including the grant, in accordance with the scope of work and any necessary modifications thereof prepared by grantee and approved by the Agency. A final project performance report will be required with the final Financial Status Report. The final report may serve as the last quarterly report. The final report must provide complete information regarding the jobs created and saved as a result of the grant. Grantees shall constantly monitor performance to ensure that time schedules are being met, projected work by time periods is being accomplished, and other performance objectives are being achieved. Grantees are to submit an original of each report to the Agency. The project performance reports shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives established for that period;

(2) Problems, delays, or adverse conditions, if any, which have affected or will affect attainment of overall project objectives, prevent meeting time schedules or objectives, or preclude the attainment of particular project work elements during established time periods. This disclosure shall be accompanied by a statement of the action taken or planned to resolve the situation; and

(3) Objectives and timetable established for the next reporting period.