

GRRP Application Survey

Consent form

Thank you for participating in our survey. Your feedback is important.

Please ensure this survey is filled out by a person(s) at your organization who is knowledgeable about your organization's recapitalization efforts. If your organization applied to the Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRP), please ensure this survey is filled out by someone familiar with that application.

1. GRRP Application Survey Consent Form

You have been selected to participate in a research study being conducted by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The purpose of this study is to help HUD assess the success of the Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRP) application process based on owners' perceptions of the design of the application and the program.

If you agree to participate, here are some things you should know:

1. If you are not a GRRP awardee, your participation is completely voluntary (not required), and will not affect your relationship with HUD in any way.
2. Your name will not be used in any reports about this interview.
3. All information collected during this study will be kept confidential, and your responses will not be identified individually in any way.

Completing this survey will help HUD answer the following research questions: Do property owners want the resources (loans and grants) that are offered through GRRP? Are the funds addressing the right needs? How can HUD balance reaching owners with properties most in need of upgrading, who may not have the capacity to leverage the funds offered through GRRP, with achieving the energy, carbon, and resilience goals of the program?

You may choose to skip or not answer any questions. You may also leave the survey at any time. You will not be affected in any way if you stop the survey or decide not to answer a question.

The survey will take up to 45 minutes.

Contact Information: The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development has authorized XXX to conduct this study. If you have any concerns about your participation in this survey or have any questions about the study, please contact XXX.

Please provide the following information in the boxes below: Name, property you represent (as designated in your outreach e-mail), and e-mail address.

Name

Property

E-mail address

2. Certification: Do you agree to participate in the study?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

GRRP Application Survey

Survey Sorting

3. Which of the following best describes you?

- ☐ I applied to GRRP and received an award for this property.
- ☐ I applied to GRRP and did not receive an award for this property.
- ☐ I did not apply to GRRP.

GRRP Application Survey

Awardees

4. Do you plan to highlight improvements funded by GRRP when you advertise your property to prospective tenants?

☐ Yes

☐ No

GRRP Application Survey

Non-awardees

5. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It was clear why my property's application was denied.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

GRRP Application Survey

Cohort Sorting

6. Which cohort did you apply to for this property? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Elements
- ☐ Leading Edge
- ☐ Comprehensive

GRRP Application Survey

Question for Elements applicants

7. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? GRRP allowed us to add scope on top of our existing recapitalization transaction.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

GRRP Application Survey

Question for Leading Edge applicants

8. Why did you choose the green certification you chose in your application? Check all that apply.

- ☐ It was the easiest green certification to achieve.
- ☐ It was the only achievable green certification.
- ☐ It was the green certification that our developer and/or architect was most familiar with.
- ☐ Our consultant, developer, or architect chose it.
- ☐ Other (please specify)

GRRP Application Survey

All applicants

9. How did you hear about the GRRP funding opportunity? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Email from HUD
- ☐ Direct contact from HUD staff
- ☐ Grants.gov
- ☐ Federal Register
- ☐ Member organization, industry association, or other organization (please specify the organization below)
- ☐ Another owner
- ☐ Consultant or vendor
- ☐ News
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Other (please specify)

10. Approximately how many hours did it take to prepare the application form?

11. Approximately how many hours did it take to submit the application on grants.gov?

12. (If applicable) Approximately how many hours did it take to complete the MBEST?

13. Did you consult a third party to prepare or help prepare the application?

- ☐ We hired a third party to complete the application.
- ☐ We consulted a third party on the application and got assistance completing part of the application.
- ☐ We consulted a third party on the application, but we completed it ourselves.
- ☐ We attempted to consult a third party on our application but were unsuccessful.
- ☐ We did not consult a third party on our application.

GRRP Application Survey

All applicants

14. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It was easy to determine which GRRP cohort (Elements, Leading Edge, or Comprehensive) to apply to.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

15. Why did you choose to apply to the cohort(s) (Elements, Leading Edge, or Comprehensive) you applied to? Check all that apply.

- ☐ The maximum award amount best fit my property's needs or goals.
- ☐ The eligible investments funded for the cohort best fit my property's needs or goals.
- ☐ The level of technical assistance available for the cohort was the right amount for my needs.
- ☐ The application requirements of the other cohorts were too challenging (please specify the requirements below).
- ☐ The award requirements of the other cohorts were too challenging (please specify the requirements below).
- ☐ It was the one my property was eligible for.
- ☐ It was the one I thought my property would be most competitive on/would be scored the highest on.
- ☐ It was the one that offered the most flexibility.
- ☐ Other (please specify)

16. For each of the following resources HUD provided to explain the GRRP program and the application process, please rate how useful you found the resource.

	Not at all useful	Somewhat useful	Very useful	N/A--I did not use this resource.
Webinars and/or overview videos	☐	☐	☐	☐
Office hours	☐	☐	☐	☐
E-mail assistance inbox	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fact sheets	☐	☐	☐	☐
FAQs	☐	☐	☐	☐
GRRP website	☐	☐	☐	☐

17. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The GRRP application requirements (Excel application form and required documentation) are reasonable.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

18. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Based on my understanding of the scoring criteria, I could determine whether my property would be competitive for an award.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

19. How important were the following factors in your decision to apply to GRRP?

	Not so important	Somewhat important	Very important
Making physical improvements to the property	☐	☐	☐
Reducing utility costs	☐	☐	☐
Achieving deeper efficiency improvements	☐	☐	☐
Avoiding potential damage due to climate or disaster events	☐	☐	☐
Reducing future hazard insurance premiums	☐	☐	☐
Other (specify below)	☐	☐	☐

Other (please specify)

20. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The extended use restriction regarding affordability is a reasonable tradeoff for the investment.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

GRRP Application Survey

Capital Needs

21. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The types of retrofit projects covered under GRRP are consistent with my property's currently known capital needs.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

22. Approximately what proportion of your property's known capital needs (in terms of dollars) are eligible for GRRP funding?

0 100

GRRP Application Survey

Utilities Contribution

23. Do tenants contribute to payment of utilities at this property?

- ☐ Yes, tenants contribute.
- ☐ No, the owner pays for all utilities.

GRRP Application Survey

Shared Savings Retainer

24. Were you aware that, under GRRP, some of the savings from reduced utility bills paid by tenants would be retained for the owner?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

25. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? GRRP's Shared Savings Retainer, which would keep some of the savings from reduced tenant-paid utility costs for the owner, was a motivating factor for my application to GRRP.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

GRRP Application Survey

Non-Applicants

26. Have you heard of the Green and Resilient Retrofit Program, also known as GRRP?

☐ Yes

☐ No

GRRP Application Survey

Non-Applicants: Heard of GRRP

27. How did you hear about the GRRP funding opportunity? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Email from HUD
- ☐ Direct contact from HUD staff
- ☐ Grants.gov
- ☐ Federal Register
- ☐ Member organization, industry association, or other organization (please list organization below)
- ☐ Another owner
- ☐ Consultant or vendor
- ☐ News
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Other (please specify)

28. Did you consider applying to GRRP?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

GRRP Application Survey

Non-applicants: Reasoning for not applying

29. Why did you not apply to GRRP? Check all that apply.

- ☐ My property was recently constructed or recently completed a rehabilitation.
- ☐ The timeline for my property's future rehabilitation does not align with the timeline of the program.
- ☐ My property has capital needs not covered by GRRP.
- ☐ My property already has utility efficiency and/or climate resilience investments.
- ☐ My organization felt that the award amount was insufficient.
- ☐ My organization felt that identifying additional sources of funding would be too challenging.
- ☐ My organization does not have the staffing or capacity to manage the award.
- ☐ The GRRP application requirements were too challenging.
- ☐ The GRRP award requirements were too challenging.
- ☐ My organization did not want to disrupt residents.
- ☐ My organization did not feel the property would be competitive based on scoring criteria.
- ☐ The cost-sharing requirement was a barrier to our decision to apply.
- ☐ The extended use restriction regarding affordability is not a reasonable tradeoff for the investment.
- ☐ Other (please specify)

--

GRRP Application Survey

Non-applicants: Application requirements

30. Which application requirements were too challenging? Check all that apply.

- ☐ MBEST
- ☐ Benchmarking in Portfolio Manager
- ☐ Other (please specify)

GRRP Application Survey

Non-applicants: Award requirements

31. Which award requirements were too challenging? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Environmental review
- ☐ Section 3 requirements
- ☐ Davis-Bacon requirements
- ☐ Resident engagement requirements
- ☐ Capital needs assessment (for Comprehensive)
- ☐ Energy audit (for Comprehensive)
- ☐ Renewable energy assessment (for Comprehensive)
- ☐ Resilience survey (if applicable)
- ☐ Other (please specify)

GRRP Application Survey

Non-applicants: Did not hear about GRRP

32. What could HUD have done to improve the likelihood that you knew about the GRRP opportunity?

GRRP Application Survey

Other Green or Resilient Retrofits

33. Are you pursuing green or resilient retrofits outside of GRRP?

☐ Yes

☐ No

GRRP Application Survey

Other Green or Resilient Retrofits: Funding Source

34. Please list the programs or funding sources you are using to fund these.

GRRP Application Survey

Owner Demographics

35. Which option best describes the current ownership entity for this property?

- ☐ Nonprofit organization (including religious institution, labor union, or fraternal organization)
- ☐ LLP, LP, or LLC
- ☐ General partnership
- ☐ Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT)
- ☐ Real estate corporation
- ☐ Housing cooperative organization or stock cooperative
- ☐ Tenancy in common
- ☐ Individual investor, including joint ownership by two or more individuals, such as a married couple
- ☐ Trustee for estate
- ☐ Other kind of institution (please specify)

36. How many properties does your organization own?

37. If your organization owns multiple properties, where are they located?

- ☐ Primarily in one metro area
- ☐ Primarily in one state
- ☐ In multiple states and/or territories within the same region
- ☐ In multiple regions
- ☐ Not applicable -- my organization only owns one property
- ☐ Other (please specify)

38. (If applicable) How many properties does your highest-level parent organization own?

39. (If applicable) If your parent organization owns multiple properties, where are they located?

- ☐ Primarily in one metro area
- ☐ Primarily in one state
- ☐ In multiple states and/or territories within the same region
- ☐ In multiple regions
- ☐ Not applicable -- I do not have a parent organization
- ☐ Not applicable -- My parent organization only owns one property
- ☐ Other (please specify)

GRRP Application Survey

Suggestion Boxes

These questions provide an opportunity to provide feedback and suggestions for similar program offerings in the future. If you did not consider applying to GRRP, or if you had not heard about GRRP, you may wish to skip these questions.

40. If this program were to continue into the future, what would you highlight as things that went well, if any, with the application process?

41. If this program were to continue into the future, what are your suggestions, if any, for improving the application process?

42. What would you highlight as strengths in terms of the program's design (for instance, the three-cohort design, the program requirements, the award types, etc.)?

43. If this program were to continue into the future, what are your suggestions, if any, for improving the design of the program (for instance, the three-cohort design, the program requirements, the award types, etc.)?