

(13) -- "Owner of a migratory labor camp" means any individual, partnership, corporation, or other business entity which owns a migratory labor camp located in the State of Maryland.

(e) -- The Maryland Housing Rehabilitation Program is created. Except as otherwise specifically provided, the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to migratory housing facilities loans.

(1) -- The { Department } COMMISSION shall operate the program, and make rehabilitation loans from the fund under the provisions of this section.

(2) -- The { Department } COMMISSION shall allocate and annually reallocate the fund, among the counties, to ensure that all areas of Maryland are served, taking into account (i) the number of families of limited incomes in the county, (ii) the need for rehabilitation of buildings in the county, (iii) the extent of the capability of the county to administer a rehabilitation program, and (iv) any other criteria the { Department } COMMISSION deems relevant to ensure fair and equitable distribution of funds among the counties. In making its allocations, the { Department } COMMISSION may initially allocate on a countywide basis, and then make suballocations among participating political subdivisions within the counties.

(3) -- Each political subdivision certified by the { Department } COMMISSION as capable of administering a rehabilitation program may originate and administer loans made by the { Department } COMMISSION from the annual allocation or suballocation to the political subdivision, in accordance with regulations promulgated by the { Department } COMMISSION. The { Department } COMMISSION shall, by regulation, establish criteria for determining capability which shall include the size, training and experience of the professional staff responsible for the administration of a program and the capabilities of the staff for determining local rehabilitation needs, for establishing rehabilitation programs, for evaluating applications for rehabilitation loans, and for monitoring the loans and the rehabilitation work done under these loans. If the { Department } COMMISSION determines that a political subdivision is not capable or does not desire to administer a rehabilitation program, the { Department } COMMISSION may originate and administer loans from the annual allocation or suballocation to that political subdivision.

(4) -- The { Department } COMMISSION may assist in training employees of political subdivisions to help achieve and increase their capability to administer rehabilitation programs in accordance with the criteria determined by the { Department } COMMISSION. The { Department } COMMISSION may provide technical assistance and advice to the political subdivisions on the administration of their rehabilitation programs.