

**PUBLIC NOTICE –
OKALOOSA COUNTY
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING
STATE HOUSING INITIATIVES
PARTNERSHIP (SHIP) PROGRAM**

Okaloosa County hereby announces the availability of funds through the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program, as awarded by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation:

- \$1,400,202 for State Fiscal Year 2021–2022
- \$2,046,856 for State Fiscal Year 2022–2023
- \$2,481,498 for State Fiscal Year 2023–2024
- \$1,456,444 for State Fiscal Year 2024–2025

Beginning Wednesday, July 1, 2025, the County will accept applications for assistance starting with the Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation and Purchase Assistance strategies available as outlined in the County’s 2019–2022 and 2022–2025 Local Housing Assistance Plans (LHAPs).

This application period will remain open until all funds have been committed and will be utilized for other strategies listed in the LHAP. A waiting list will be created if the number of applicants exceeds available funding. Assistance will be provided on a first-qualified, first-assisted basis. In accordance with Florida Statutes, a minimum of 20% of SHIP funds will be reserved for Special Needs Households. Priority will be given as follows:

1. Eligible persons with special needs as defined in Section 420.0004, Florida Statutes;
2. Applicants meeting very-low and low-income criteria as defined by statute;
3. Essential service personnel as defined in the LHAP.

Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program – Assists income-eligible homeowners in addressing code violations, health and safety concerns, and necessary home repairs.

Purchase Assistance Program – Provides down payment assistance to income-eligible, first-time homebuyers. Applicants must be pre-approved for a mortgage by a lender on the County’s Participating Lender List.

Applications and program details are available online at <https://myokaloosa.com/housing> or may be picked up in person at the Okaloosa County Housing Department located at, 1B 9th Avenue, Shalimar, FL 32579. To be eligible to apply for the Purchase Assistance Program, applicants must be pre-approved for a home loan through a lender listed on the County’s Participating Lender List, available at website listed above.

Completed application packets for the Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program may be submitted in person at the Okaloosa County Housing Department, 1B 9th Avenue, Shalimar, FL 32579, or via email to housing@myokaloosa.com.

For questions or more information please contact Brittnee Orr at borr@myokaloosa.com or Housing staff at housing@myokaloosa.com.