

## **DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY SUBSIDIES**

Communities that meet the disadvantaged eligibility criteria described below may receive additional subsidies. This includes communities that will meet the disadvantaged criteria as a result of the project.

Definition. To be eligible for loan subsidies a community must meet the following criteria:

1. for municipalities and sanitary districts:
  - a. the median household income is below the state-wide median household income; and
  - b. the monthly residential water bill is \$45 or more for 5,000 gallons usage; or
2. for other community water systems:
  - a. the median household income is below the state-wide median household income; and
  - b. the monthly water bill for rural households is \$70 or more for 7,000 gallons usage.

The source of median household income statistics will be the American Community Survey or other statistically valid income data supplied by the applicant and acceptable to the board.

Affordability criteria used to determine subsidy amount. Disadvantaged communities below 80 percent of the statewide median household income, but at or greater than 60 percent may receive up to a one percentage point reduction in interest rates. Disadvantaged communities with a median household income less than 60 percent of the statewide median household income may receive a zero percent loan. See Table 1 for the disadvantaged interest rates for FFY 2024.

Amount of capitalization grant to be made available for providing additional subsidies to disadvantaged communities. Disadvantaged communities are eligible for additional subsidy in the form of principal forgiveness. South Dakota utilized the option to provide additional subsidy in the form of principal forgiveness to disadvantaged communities in federal fiscal years 2016 through 2018, in an amount equal to 30 percent of the annual capitalization grant.

The American Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) of 2018 added new requirements to provide additional subsidy to disadvantaged communities. The FFY 2019 through 2021 capitalization grants mandated states must provide a minimum of 6 percent and may provide up to 35 percent of the capitalization grant amount as additional subsidy to disadvantaged communities.

The 2021 BIL amendments increased the minimum to 12 percent and maximum of 35 percent of the capitalization grant amount must be provided as additional subsidy to disadvantaged communities. This applies to 2022 and subsequent base program capitalization grants unless amended by Congress.

Table 3 on page 14 summarizes the amounts of disadvantaged principal forgiveness provided to date.

Attachment II – List of Projects to be Funded in FFY 2024 identifies \$19,537,444 in principal forgiveness.

Identification of systems to receive subsidies and the amount. Systems that are eligible to receive disadvantaged community rates and terms are identified in Attachment I and Attachment II.