

H.O.M.E. Program



ROCK ISLAND
ILLINOIS

Home Ownership Made Easy

Program Guide

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H.O.M.E. PROGRAM

The Rock Island *H.O.M.E.* Program offers an exciting opportunity for anyone looking to build a new home on existing neighborhood infill sites owned by the City of Rock Island. The goal of the program is to make the home building process as smooth and simple as possible. All building permit applications shall be applied for with the fees being waived, and real estate transaction costs will be covered by the City. We want you to make Rock Island your *H.O.M.E.*!

Eligibility

- *H.O.M.E.* buyers must secure financing
- *H.O.M.E.* buyers must build within 6 months
- No income restrictions
- Not restricted to first-time homebuyers
- Shall live in the property for a minimum of 5 years

Incentives

- Lots available for \$5
- Real estate closing costs paid by City
- Building permit applications shall be applied with the permit fees being waived
- Participants qualify for the Rock Island New Construction Property Tax Incentive Program (Must be owner-occupied)

Contact Information

Community & Economic Development Department
1528 3rd Avenue
Rock Island, IL 61201
(309) 732-2900
www.rigov.org/HOME

H.O.M.E. Process

Step 1. Initial Meeting with City Staff

Schedule a meeting with City staff to review the *H.O.M.E.* program requirements and begin the *H.O.M.E.* Application and Authorization Form. (WEBLINK)

Step 2. Reserve a Building Site

Available *H.O.M.E.* sites are viewable at (WEBLINK); location, aerial maps, parcel square footage, and details are available for each site. The site map may be used to visit program sites; include the site number in your *H.O.M.E.* application. Submit your completed *H.O.M.E.* application and authorization forms to the City of Rock Island Community & Economic Development Department. Proof of financing is required within 14 business days of reserving the site or the site is released back into the program.

Step 3. Secure Financing

Select a lender to complete the prequalification process to receive a construction loan amount. **You may utilize any lending institution of your choosing**, but proof of financing is required to participate in the *H.O.M.E.* program. Proof of financing is required within 14 days of reserving a site or the site is released back in the program.

Step 4. Select Builder and Home Plan

Select a home builder and building plan that conforms to single family residence zoning, requirements, and standards. **You may use any homebuilder you chose!** If in doubt as to building criteria, contact City staff for assistance (309.732.2900).

Step 5. Work with Builder on Home Specifics

Work with the builder of your choice to pick out exterior and interior home finishes; flooring, cabinetry, paint color(s), etc.

Step 6. Submit Plans for Review/Apply for Permits

2 full sets of building plans, a residential energy check, and a New Construction permit application shall be submitted to the Community & Economic Development Department staff for review. The plan review process ensures your plans are written in accordance with all applicable building codes.

Step 7. Complete Purchase Agreement

Once financing has been secured, and a home plan has been selected; buyers will enter into an agreement with the City to build a new home on the selected *H.O.M.E.* program site within 6 months.

Step 8. Begin Construction

Once the plans have been approved for construction, all applicable building permit applications shall be completed. Per the development agreement and under the *H.O.M.E.* program guidelines the permit fees will be waived. During this phase of the *H.O.M.E.* program, you and your chosen home builder will work together to construct your new house in accordance with your budget, building codes, and the floor plan agreed upon between you and the builder. All proper inspections shall be called for and passed to move the process along.

Step 9. Pass Final Inspections and Receive Certificate of Occupancy

Upon all final and passed building inspections, you will receive a certificate of occupancy and your home will be move-in ready.

Step 10. Move In

Move into your new home!

H.O.M.E. BUILDING LOT SELECTION

The City of Rock Island has identified and mapped eligible *H.O.M.E.* lots that meet City zoning requirements and are otherwise ready for construction. Available lots are identified by yard signs and listed on the City's website at (LINK). You may also inquire within the Community & Economic Development Department for specific *H.O.M.E.* program lot availability (309.732.2900).

LOOK FOR THIS SIGN!



H.O.M.E. LOCAL LENDERS

- American Bank & Trust
- Blackhawk Bank & Trust
- Gas and Electric Credit Union
- IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union
- Vibrant Credit Union

**These are a small sample of the lending institutions (banks and credit unions) that are in the Quad Cities. You are encouraged to utilize the one that most closely fits your needs.*

H.O.M.E. FAQs

Q. Are there income restrictions with the H.O.M.E. program?

A. No. This is not a program specific to low and moderate income participants. There is no income minimum or maximum required for program participation. Buyers do, however, have to demonstrate proof of their ability to finance a new home.

Q. Can I bring my own builder or my own home design?

A. Yes, The H.O.M.E. program does not require the use of specific builders.

Q. Can I purchase more than one H.O.M.E. lot at a time?

A. No. Only one lot may be purchased at a time. There are requirements for these lots to be single family residential use and occupied by the homeowner for a minimum of 5 years.

Q. How can I obtain financing?

A. Financing the construction of your home may be obtained through the lender of your choice.

H.O.M.E Program Application

Applicant (s) _____

Current Address (own/lease) _____

Telephone Number (Home) _____ (Work) _____

Email _____

Name of Employer (s) _____

Proposed lending institution for construction loan _____

Estimated amount of funds for a down payment \$ _____

Preferred building Lot # _____

Will you be able to start construction in the next 6 months? Yes / No (circle one)

Do you understand that this lot shall be owner occupied for 5 years or a penalty will be assessed?
Yes/No (circle one)

I certify that I have received a copy of the *H.O.M.E.* Program Guide and understand and accept the Guide as the basis for acceptance into the Program.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____



H.O.M.E Authorization Form

I/We hereby authorize the City of Rock Island, to discuss pertinent information with my financial institution relating to financial capabilities, loan information and any other related assets that are needed to qualify for the *H.O.M.E.* Program.

I/We hereby authorize the City of Rock Island, to discuss pertinent information with my Builder/Developer and any other relevant parties regarding home plans, design and any other applicable information that is needed to qualify and attain the *H.O.M.E.* Program.

I/We further authorize the City of Rock Island, to receive and /or know of any documents and/or actions relating to our file. In addition, the City of Rock Island may, at its sole discretion, obtain a Credit Bureau Report to verify information submitted to help ascertain eligibility for the *H.O.M.E.* Program. It is understood that a photocopy of this form will also serve as authorization. The information the City of Rock Island obtains is only to be used in the *H.O.M.E.* Program.

Printed Name:

Signature:

Date

Printed Name:

Signature:

Date

[color copy of Drivers License(s) attached]

