IHDA Homebuyer/Rehabilitation Program

To qualify for assistance, applicants must qualify for 1st mortgage financing. Although it is not required, getting a pre-approval for a 1st mortgage **prior** to applying is preferred. If you are unable to get pre-approved, call HomeStart at 815-962-2011 and ask for a homebuyer counselor.

Is the combined income of everyone 18 years or older planning to live in your new home less than $19,000?
• If yes and you have a pre-approval from a lender, please continue with the application.
• If yes and you do not have a pre-approval from a lender or have not worked with a homebuyer counselor, please contact HomeStart at 815-962-2011.
• If no, please confirm that your family's income meets the requirements below. If it does, please continue with the application.

# of people that will live in your new home	Maximum Income	# of people that will live in your new home	Maximum Income
1	$34,550	5	$53,300
2	$39,500	6	$57,250
3	$44,450	7	$61,200
4	$49,350	8	$65,150

! IMPORTANT !

- Use the Application Checklist to make sure you are submitting a complete application packet. Incomplete application packets will be returned.
- Submit your application (with all checklist items) in person to

City of Rockford – City Hall
Community & Economic Development Department
425 East State Street - 2nd Floor
Rockford, IL 61104

If you have questions about the Application Checklist or need to make special arrangements to submit your application packet, please contact Andrea at 779-348-7437.

Application Checklist

To determine the maximum amount of assistance you qualify for please submit with your application packet with all applicable income and asset documentation for everyone eighteen (18) and over planning to live in the new home.

Please keep in mind the following:

- Original documents (check stubs, award letters, etc.) must be submitted with your application in person. A City representative will be happy to make copies and return the originals at the time an application is submitted.
- Each applicant's financial situation is different and may require a City representative to request additional information.

☐ **IHDA Homebuyer/Rehabilitation Program Application**
☐ **Request for Transcript of Tax Return (if applicable, see the Tax Information section)**
☐ **Consumer Authorization and Release**
☐ **Federal Program Eligibility Release Form**
☐ **Authorization to Share Information**
☐ **Authorization for Investigation**
☐ **Income Information (for everyone over the age of 18 planning to live in the new home)**

- Two months of pay check stubs
- Social Security Award Letter
- Court Ordered Child Support statement
- Any other documents demonstrating income

☐ **Tax Information (for everyone over the age of 18 planning to live in the new home)**

- Most recent Federal tax return
- Most recent State tax return
- W-2 Statements
- If you do not have tax returns or W-2's, please complete the 4506-T included in the application packet.

☐ **Asset Information (for everyone over the age of 18 planning to live in the new home)**

- Six most recent statements for all checking accounts
- One most recent statement on all savings accounts, including Certificate of Deposits, IRA's, 401(k) and stocks, etc.
- Documentation of assets owned, such as statement indicating the cash value of a life insurance policy, an assessment of any property owned, etc.

☐ **Other Information:**

- Letter from doctor, if house modifications are needed for an elderly or physically disabled person planning to live in the home.
- Divorce decree
- Pre-approval letter from Lender, if applicant has been pre-approved
- Contract for Purchase, if one has been signed by the Buyer & Seller.

Note – The City Representative taking your application will need to see and copy your original Illinois driver's license or Illinois identification card and social security card. Please bring them with you when you submit your application packet.

For Office Use Only:
Date: _____
Time: _____

IHDA Homebuyer/Rehabilitation Program Application

Return completed application packet to:
City of Rockford Community & Economic
Development Dept. – 2nd Floor
425 East State Street; Rockford, IL 61104

Applicant:		Social Security #:	
E-mail:		Head of Household?	[ ] Yes [ ] No
Phone Number:			
Mailing Address (including City, State & Zip code):			
Pending Address (including City, State & Zip code):			
Do you currently: ☐ Own ☐ Rent ☐ Other		First time buyer: ☐ Yes ☐ No	
Marital status: ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated ☐ Widowed ☐ Single			
Education: ☐ None ☐ Primary ☐ High school or equivalent ☐ Vocational ☐ College ☐ Post-college			
Are you on active military status: ☐ Yes ☐ No	Are you a veteran: ☐ Yes ☐ No		

Co-Applicant:		Social Security #:	
E-mail:		Head of Household?	[ ] Yes [ ] No
Phone Number:			
Mailing Address (including City, State & Zip code):			
Pending Address (including City, State & Zip code):			
Do you currently: ☐ Own ☐ Rent ☐ Other		First time buyer: ☐ Yes ☐ No	
Marital status: ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated ☐ Widowed ☐ Single			
Education: ☐ None ☐ Primary ☐ High school or equivalent ☐ Vocational ☐ College ☐ Post-college			
Are you on active military status: ☐ Yes ☐ No	Are you a veteran: ☐ Yes ☐ No		

List the names and ages of the people planning to live in the new home below. Please attach a separate piece of paper for additional household members.			
Applicant:		Age:	Annual Income: $
Co-Applicant:		Age:	Annual Income: $
Household Member:		Age:	Annual Income: $
Household Member:		Age:	Annual Income: $
Household Member:		Age:	Annual Income: $

Household type: ☐ Female single parent ☐ Male single parent ☐ Married with dependents
☐ Married without dependents ☐ Other ☐ Single adult ☐ Two or more unrelated adults

Prior to this application, did your household live in public housing or receive rental assistance such as Section 8? [ ] Yes [ ] No | If yes, explain:

Within the past two (2) years, have you sold any assets (stocks, bonds, real estate, etc) for less than fair market value? [ ] Yes [ ] No

If yes, please indicate the asset sold, its value, and the amount of money you received from the sale.

Will anyone be living in the home that is:

Physically disabled [ ] Yes [ ] No

62 years of age or older [ ] Yes [ ] No

Under the age of 6 [ ] Yes [ ] No

Will modifications be necessary? [ ] Yes [ ] No

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE REHAB PROGRAM?

[ ] Contacted Office [ ] Internet [ ] Through the Mail
[ ] Neighbor/Friend [ ] Event/Seminar [ ] Referral from another agency
[ ] Realtor [ ] Lender

Other Information

Loan officer(s): _____ Lending institution: _____

Realtor: _____

Information for Government Monitoring Purposes

The following information is requested by the Federal Government for certain types of loans related to a dwelling, in order to monitor the Lender's compliance with equal credit opportunity, fair housing and home mortgage disclosure laws. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. The law provides that a Lender may neither discriminate on the basis of this information, nor on whether you choose to furnish it. However, if you choose not to furnish it, under Federal regulations this Lender is required to note race and sex on the basis of visual observation or surname. If you do not wish to furnish the above information, please check the box below. (Lender must review the material to assure that the disclosures satisfy all requirements to which the Lender is subject under applicable state law for the particular type of loan applied for).

Applicant		Co-Applicant
[ ] I do not wish to furnish this information.		[ ] I do not wish to furnish this information.
Ethnicity: [ ] Hispanic or Latino [ ] Not Hispanic or Latino		**Ethnicity:** [ ] Hispanic or Latino [ ] Not Hispanic or Latino
Race: [ ] Amer. Indian/Alaska Native [ ] Amer. Indian/Alaskan Native & Black/African American [ ] Amer. Indian/Alaskan Native & White [ ] Asian [ ] Asian/White [ ] Black/African American [ ] Black/African American & White [ ] Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander [ ] Other Multi-Racial [ ] White		**Race:** [ ] Amer. Indian/Alaska Native [ ] Amer. Indian/Alaskan Native & Black/African American [ ] Amer. Indian/Alaskan Native & White [ ] Asian [ ] Asian/White [ ] Black/African American [ ] Black/African American & White [ ] Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander [ ] Other Multi-Racial [ ] White
Sex: [ ] Female [ ] Male		**Sex:** [ ] Female [ ] Male

I/we, the undersigned, certify, acknowledge, and agree the following:

- The information provided in this application is true and correct as of the date set forth opposite my/our signature(s).
- Any intentional or negligent misrepresentation of information contained in this application will result in disqualification from the program.
- The loans being requested by this application may be secured by a mortgage on the property purchased.
- I/we give the above information for the purpose of obtaining credit and authorize verification of any information contained in this application.
- I/we have received a copy of the lead based paint brochure, "Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home."

Applicant Signature	Date	Birthdate
Applicant Signature	Date	Birthdate

Form **4506-T**
(Rev. September 2013)
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Request for Transcript of Tax Return

▶ **Request may be rejected if the form is incomplete or illegible.**

OMB No. 1545-1872

Tip. Use Form 4506-T to order a transcript or other return information free of charge. See the product list below. You can quickly request transcripts by using our automated self-help service tools. Please visit us at IRS.gov and click on "Order a Return or Account Transcript" or call 1-800-908-9946. If you need a copy of your return, use **Form 4506, Request for Copy of Tax Return.** There is a fee to get a copy of your return.

1a Name shown on tax return. If a joint return, enter the name shown first.	**1b First social security number on tax return, individual taxpayer identification number, or employer identification number (see instructions)**
2a If a joint return, enter spouse's name shown on tax return.	**2b Second social security number or individual taxpayer identification number if joint tax return**

3 Current name, address (including apt., room, or suite no.), city, state, and ZIP code (see instructions)

4 Previous address shown on the last return filed if different from line 3 (see instructions)

5 If the transcript or tax information is to be mailed to a third party (such as a mortgage company), enter the third party's name, address, and telephone number.

City of Rockford-City Hall, Community & Economic Dev. Dept., 425 East State St - 2nd floor, Rockford, IL 61104

Caution. *If the tax transcript is being mailed to a third party, ensure that you have filled in lines 6 through 9 before signing. Sign and date the form once you have filled in these lines. Completing these steps helps to protect your privacy. Once the IRS discloses your tax transcript to the third party listed on line 5, the IRS has no control over what the third party does with the information. If you would like to limit the third party's authority to disclose your transcript information, you can specify this limitation in your written agreement with the third party.*

6 **Transcript requested.** Enter the tax form number here (1040, 1065, 1120, etc.) and check the appropriate box below. Enter only one tax form number per request. ▶ **1040**

a **Return Transcript,** which includes most of the line items of a tax return as filed with the IRS. A tax return transcript does not reflect changes made to the account after the return is processed. Transcripts are only available for the following returns: Form 1040 series, Form 1065, Form 1120, Form 1120A, Form 1120H, Form 1120L, and Form 1120S. Return transcripts are available for the current year and returns processed during the prior 3 processing years. Most requests will be processed within 10 business days . . . . . ☐

b **Account Transcript,** which contains information on the financial status of the account, such as payments made on the account, penalty assessments, and adjustments made by you or the IRS after the return was filed. Return information is limited to items such as tax liability and estimated tax payments. Account transcripts are available for most returns. Most requests will be processed within 10 business days . ☐

c **Record of Account,** which provides the most detailed information as it is a combination of the Return Transcript and the Account Transcript. Available for current year and 3 prior tax years. Most requests will be processed within 10 business days . . . . . ☐

7 **Verification of Nonfiling,** which is proof from the IRS that you **did not** file a return for the year. Current year requests are only available after June 15th. There are no availability restrictions on prior year requests. Most requests will be processed within 10 business days . . ☐

8 **Form W-2, Form 1099 series, Form 1098 series, or Form 5498 series transcript.** The IRS can provide a transcript that includes data from these information returns. State or local information is not included with the Form W-2 information. The IRS may be able to provide this transcript information for up to 10 years. Information for the current year is generally not available until the year after it is filed with the IRS. For example, W-2 information for 2011, filed in 2012, will likely not be available from the IRS until 2013. If you need W-2 information for retirement purposes, you should contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213. Most requests will be processed within 10 business days . ☐

Caution. *If you need a copy of Form W-2 or Form 1099, you should first contact the payer. To get a copy of the Form W-2 or Form 1099 filed with your return, you must use Form 4506 and request a copy of your return, which includes all attachments.*

9 **Year or period requested.** Enter the ending date of the year or period, using the mm/dd/yyyy format. If you are requesting more than four years or periods, you must attach another Form 4506-T. For requests relating to quarterly tax returns, such as Form 941, you must enter each quarter or tax period separately. **2013** **2014**

Check this box if you have notified the IRS or the IRS has notified you that one of the years for which you are requesting a transcript involved **identity theft** on your federal tax return . . . . . ☐

Caution. Do not sign this form unless all applicable lines have been completed.

Signature of taxpayer(s). I declare that I am either the taxpayer whose name is shown on line 1a or 2a, or a person authorized to obtain the tax information requested. If the request applies to a joint return, at least one spouse must sign. If signed by a corporate officer, partner, guardian, tax matters partner, executor, receiver, administrator, trustee, or party other than the taxpayer, I certify that I have the authority to execute Form 4506-T on behalf of the taxpayer. **Note.** *For transcripts being sent to a third party, this form must be received within 120 days of the signature date.*

Phone number of taxpayer on line 1a or 2a

Sign Here

▶ **Signature** (see instructions) Date

▶ **Title** (if line 1a above is a corporation, partnership, estate, or trust)

▶ **Spouse's signature** Date

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future Developments

For the latest information about Form 4506-T and its instructions, go to *www.irs.gov/form4506t.* Information about any recent developments affecting Form 4506-T (such as legislation enacted after we released it) will be posted on that page.

General Instructions

CAUTION. *Do not sign this form unless all applicable lines have been completed.*

Purpose of form. Use Form 4506-T to request tax return information. You can also designate (on line 5) a third party to receive the information. Taxpayers using a tax year beginning in one calendar year and ending in the following year (fiscal tax year) must file Form 4506-T to request a return transcript.

Note. If you are unsure of which type of transcript you need, request the Record of Account, as it provides the most detailed information.

Tip. Use Form 4506, Request for Copy of Tax Return, to request copies of tax returns.

Automated transcript request. You can quickly request transcripts by using our automated self-help service tools. Please visit us at IRS.gov and click on "Order a Return or Account Transcript" or call 1-800-908-9946.

Where to file. Mail or fax Form 4506-T to the address below for the state you lived in, or the state your business was in, when that return was filed. There are two address charts: one for individual transcripts (Form 1040 series and Form W-2) and one for all other transcripts.

If you are requesting more than one transcript or other product and the chart below shows two different addresses, send your request to the address based on the address of your most recent return.

Chart for individual transcripts (Form 1040 series and Form W-2 and Form 1099)

If you filed an individual return and lived in:	Mail or fax to:
Alabama, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas, a foreign country, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or A.P.O. or F.P.O. address	Internal Revenue Service RAIVS Team Stop 6716 AUSC Austin, TX 73301 512-460-2272
Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming	Internal Revenue Service RAIVS Team Stop 37106 Fresno, CA 93888 559-456-5876
Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia	Internal Revenue Service RAIVS Team Stop 6705 P-6 Kansas City, MO 64999 816-292-6102

Chart for all other transcripts

If you lived in or your business was in:	Mail or fax to:
Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, a foreign country, or A.P.O. or F.P.O. address	Internal Revenue Service RAIVS Team P.O. Box 9941 Mail Stop 6734 Ogden, UT 84409 801-620-6922
Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin	Internal Revenue Service RAIVS Team P.O. Box 145500 Stop 2800 F Cincinnati, OH 45250 859-669-3592

Line 1b. Enter your employer identification number (EIN) if your request relates to a business return. Otherwise, enter the first social security number (SSN) or your individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN) shown on the return. For example, if you are requesting Form 1040 that includes Schedule C (Form 1040), enter your SSN.

Line 3. Enter your current address. If you use a P. O. box, include it on this line.

Line 4. Enter the address shown on the last return filed if different from the address entered on line 3.

Note. If the address on lines 3 and 4 are different and you have not changed your address with the IRS, file Form 8822, Change of Address. For a business address, file Form 8822-B, Change of Address or Responsible Party—Business.

Line 6. Enter only one tax form number per request.

Signature and date. Form 4506-T must be signed and dated by the taxpayer listed on line 1a or 2a. If you completed line 5 requesting the information be sent to a third party, the IRS must receive Form 4506-T within 120 days of the date signed by the taxpayer or it will be rejected. Ensure that all applicable lines are completed before signing.

Individuals. Transcripts of jointly filed tax returns may be furnished to either spouse. Only one signature is required. Sign Form 4506-T exactly as your name appeared on the original return. If you changed your name, also sign your current name.

Corporations. Generally, Form 4506-T can be signed by: (1) an officer having legal authority to bind the corporation, (2) any person designated by the board of directors or other governing body, or (3) any officer or employee on written request by any principal officer and attested to by the secretary or other officer.

Partnerships. Generally, Form 4506-T can be signed by any person who was a member of the partnership during any part of the tax period requested on line 9.

All others. See section 6103(e) if the taxpayer has died, is insolvent, is a dissolved corporation, or if a trustee, guardian, executor, receiver, or administrator is acting for the taxpayer.

Documentation. For entities other than individuals, you must attach the authorization document. For example, this could be the letter from the principal officer authorizing an employee of the corporation or the letters testamentary authorizing an individual to act for an estate.

Signature by a representative. A representative can sign Form 4506-T for a taxpayer only if the taxpayer has specifically delegated this authority to the representative on Form 2848, line 5. The representative must attach Form 2848 showing the delegation to Form 4506-T.

Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice. We ask for the information on this form to establish your right to gain access to the requested tax information under the Internal Revenue Code. We need this information to properly identify the tax information and respond to your request. You are not required to request any transcript; if you do request a transcript, sections 6103 and 6109 and their regulations require you to provide this information, including your SSN or EIN. If you do not provide this information, we may not be able to process your request. Providing false or fraudulent information may subject you to penalties.

Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation, and cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. commonwealths and possessions for use in administering their tax laws. We may also disclose this information to other countries under a tax treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce federal nontax criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by section 6103.

The time needed to complete and file Form 4506-T will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is: **Learning about the law or the form,** 10 min.; **Preparing the form,** 12 min.; and **Copying, assembling, and sending the form to the IRS,** 20 min.

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making Form 4506-T simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to:

Internal Revenue Service
Tax Forms and Publications Division
1111 Constitution Ave. NW, IR-6526
Washington, DC 20224

Do not send the form to this address. Instead, see *Where to file* on this page.

Consumer Authorization and Release

I hereby authorize CoreLogic Credco, LLC ("CREDCO") to obtain my consumer report/credit information, credit risk scores and other enhancements to my consumer report (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Report") from one or more of the three national credit repositories (Equifax, Experian, Trans Union) and provide a copy of the Report to my housing counseling agency, HomeStart (hereinafter referred to as "Counselor") for my Counselor to provide housing counseling services. This authorization is intended to comply with a consumer report request as set forth in 15 U.S.C. 1681b(a)(2).

I acknowledge that the Report is provided "AS IS" AND THAT CREDCO MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND IMPLIED WARRANTIES ARISING FROM A COURSE OF DEALING OR A COURSE OF PERFORMANCE WITH RESPECT TO THE ACCURACY, VALIDITY, OR COMPLETENESS OF THE REPORT OR THAT IT WILL MEET MY NEEDS AND CREDCO EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL SUCH REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

I recognize that the accuracy, validity or completeness of the Report provided by CREDCO is not guaranteed by CREDCO and I hereby release CREDCO and CREDCO's parent, sister, affiliated companies, successors and assigns and its and their directors, officers, agents, employees and independent contractors (collectively, "CREDCO's Affiliates") from any liability for any negligence in connection with the preparation of the Report and from any loss, damages, expenses, costs or obligations of any kind and nature whatsoever suffered by me resulting directly or indirectly from the inaccuracy, invalidity or incompleteness of the Report.

I covenant not to sue or maintain any claim, cause of action, demand, cross action, counterclaim, third party action or other form of pleading against CREDCO or CREDCO's Affiliates for damages based upon the inaccuracy, invalidity or incompleteness of any Report provided by CREDCO hereunder. If one or more of the provisions, or a portion of a provision of this document are held for any reason to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, such invalidity or illegality or unenforceability will not affect any other provisions of this document, and this document will be construed as if such invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision had not been contained therein.

Signature	Signature
Printed Name	Printed Name
Social Security Number	Social Security Number
Date	Date

Federal Program Eligibility Release Form

City of Rockford Community & Economic Development Department Neighborhood Development Division 425 East State Street Rockford, IL 61104	NW HomeStart 205 North Church Street Rockford, IL 61101	Illinois Housing Development Authority 401 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 700 Chicago, IL 60611

Purpose: Your signature on this Federal Program Eligibility Release Form, and the signatures of each member of your household who is 18 years of age or older, authorizes the above-named organizations to obtain information from a third party relative to your eligibility and continued participation in state and/or federally funded program.

Privacy Act Notice Statement: The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is requiring the collection of the information derived from this form to determine an applicant's eligibility in a federal program and the amount of assistance necessary using federal funds. This information will be used to establish level of benefit on the federal program; to protect the Government's financial interest; and to verify the accuracy of the information furnished. It may be released to appropriate Federal, state, and local agencies when relevant to civil, criminal, or regulatory investigators, and to prosecutors. Failure to provide any information may result in a delay or rejection of your eligibility approval. The Department is authorized to ask for this information by the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990.

Financial Privacy Notice: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Neighborhood Development Division have a right of access to financial records held by a financial institution in connection with the consideration or administration of assistance for which you have applied. Financial records involving your transaction will be available to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development without further notice or authorization but will not be disclosed or released to another government agency or department without your consent except as required or permitted by law. This notice is a requirement of the Right to Financial Privacy Act of 1978.

Instructions: Each adult member of the household must sign a Federal Program Eligibility Release Form prior to the receipt of benefit.

Authorization: I authorize the above-named organizations to obtain information about me and my household that is pertinent to eligibility for participation in the Federal Program.

I/we acknowledge that:
(1) A photocopy of this form is as valid as the original.
(2) All adult household members will sign this form and cooperate with the applicant(s) in this process.

Head of Household:

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Household Member:

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Continued on reverse

Federal Program Eligibility Release Form

Household Member:

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Household Member:

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Household Member:

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Household Member:

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Household Member:

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Household Member:

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Household Member:

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Todd Cagnoni
Director
Community and Economic
Development Department

Authorization to Share Information

Several organizations are working together to assist you through the IHDA Homebuyer/Rehabilitation Program. This document allows for easier communication between the authorized parties listed below. It is your choice, as the applicant, to complete, sign, and submit this document as part of the application packet.

I/We, the undersigned, do here by acknowledge that I/We am/are giving a representative(s) of the City of Rockford the right to provide copies of my/our application and any documentation obtained to determine eligibility for their housing programs to the persons indicated below. I also give them the right to discuss, in detail, my/our application.

Loan Officer Name: _____

Bank Name: _____

Realtor Name: _____

Realtor Agency: _____

HomeStart Representative: Shelia Trevino

City of Rockford Representatives: Andrea Hinrichs, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist II
Lucia Soria-McFarlane, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist I
Glenn Lamb, Construction Specialist

_____ _____
Borrower Signature Date

_____ _____
Co-Borrower Signature Date

425 East State Street Rockford, Illinois 61104-1068 USA
(779) 348-7162 (815) 967-6933 fax **www.rockfordil.gov**

Todd Cagnoni
Director
Community and Economic
Development Department

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Authorization for Investigation of Criminal History and Background

The undersigned hereby authorizes designated employees of the City of Rockford Department of Community Development to investigate his/her criminal history and background. The undersigned waives any claim against the City of Rockford, The City of Rockford Police Department, and all employees and agents for the City of Rockford and City of Rockford Police Department for any claim which may arise from said investigation or transmission of any and all information discovered in said investigation. The undersigned further understands that any and all information discovered during said investigation will be used in determining the undersigned's eligibility to receive funds, aid, or resources from the City of Rockford.

I/We have read the above listed paragraph and fully understand the content thereof.

_____ _____
Signature Date

_____ _____
Signature Date

_____ _____
Witness Date

425 East State Street Rockford, Illinois 61104-1068 USA
(779) 348-7162 (815) 967-6933 fax **www.rockfordil.gov**

THE CITY OF ROCKFORD ILLINOIS, USA

Todd Cagnoni, Director
Community and Economic
Development Department

PRIVACY NOTICE

The City of Rockford ("Sponsor") would like to advise you of its privacy policies. Sponsor has collected non-public personal information from your application and consumer reporting agencies. This non-public personal information includes your address and other contact information, demographic background, loan status, family income, social security number, employment information, collection and repayment history, and credit history.

We disclose non-public personal information to third parties; only as necessary to process and service your loan; only as necessary to effect, administer or enforce your loan; with your consent; or as permitted or provided by applicable laws, including the Illinois Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") and the Privacy Act of 1974. Applicable laws permit disclosure to third parties for certain purposes. Examples of such disclosures include (i) disclosure in connection with enforcement purposes or litigation, audits or other investigations; (ii) to comply with proper requests under FOIA or other federal, state, or other local laws and regulations; and (iii) to federal and state agencies to the extent specifically permitted or required by law. We do not sell or otherwise make available any information about you to any third parties for marketing purposes.

We protect the security and confidentiality of non-public personal information by limiting and monitoring all physical access to sites where non-public personal information is kept. A complete copy of our written privacy policy is available upon request.

If we decide to change our privacy policy, we will provide you with a revised privacy policy containing such changes.

If you have any questions, please contact Vicki Manson, phone number 779-348-7442.

SPONSOR:

CITY OF ROCKFORD COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

By: _____
Printed Name: Todd Cagnoni
Title: Director of the Community and
Economic Development Department

Privacy Policy and Disclosure Statement

Privacy Policy

HomeStart is committed to protecting your privacy. We realize that the concerns you bring to us are highly personal in nature and assure you that all of the information you share with HomeStart will be managed in accordance with all legal and ethical guidelines. We may use your anonymous aggregated case file information to evaluate the effectiveness of our services, to gather valuable research information and to design future programs. However, your "non-public personal information" (e.g. total debt, income, living expenses, etc.) will be provided to creditors, program monitors and others only if you sign the Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Disclosure Statement and Agreement.

Information that we gather about you includes: (1) information provided by you, such as your name, address, social security number, and income; (2) information provided by your creditors and others, such as your loan balance; and (3) information from a credit-reporting agency, such as your credit report.

You may refuse to allow HomeStart to disclose your non-public personal information to third parties and HomeStart will still assist you to the best of its ability. However, if you refuse, HomeStart will not be able to answer any questions from third parties. If you wish to change your disclosure status, please call us at 815-962-2011.

So long as you have not refused disclosure, we may disclose some or all of the information that we collect to your creditors or third parties when we determine that the disclosure would be helpful to you, would aid us with your counseling, or is required by the grants that make it possible for HomeStart to provide services to you.

We may compile and aggregate data that you give to us with the information of other clients, but we may not disclose this information in a manner that would personally identify you. We may also disclose any nonpublic personal information about you to anyone if required to do so by law. Finally, we restrict access to your nonpublic personal information to employees who need to know that information to provide services to you. We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards that comply with federal privacy regulations

Disclosure Statement

HomeStart, in addition to counseling, provides the following services: homebuyer education, reverse mortgage counseling, credit counseling, employer-assisted housing and financial education.

HomeStart has financial relationships with several industry partners, including Alpine Bank, Associated Bank, Blackhawk Bank, Fifth Third Bank, Members Alliance Credit Union, Midwest Community Bank, Northwest Bank, PNC Bank, Riverside Community Bank, Rockford Area Association of Realtors, Rockford Bank of Trust, and Stillman Bank. These industry partners are HomeStart members who pay membership dues on a sliding scale that is based on company size. HomeStart also has financial relationships with Bank of America, JP Morgan Chase, Fifth Third Bank, and the City of Rockford, who provide funding to HomeStart.

As a client, you are not obligated to accept any of the services offered by HomeStart or its industry partners.

HomeStart hereby certifies that the staff and volunteers who provide foreclosure intervention counseling have no conflict(s) of interest due to any other relationships with servicers, real estate agencies, mortgage lenders and/or other entities or industry partners, whether identified above or not, that may stand to benefit from particular counseling outcomes.

Deb Elzinga
Executive Director of HomeStart

IMPORTANT!

Lead From Paint, Dust, and Soil in and Around Your Home Can Be Dangerous if Not Managed Properly

- Children under 6 years old are most at risk for lead poisoning in your home.
- Lead exposure can harm young children and babies even before they are born.
- Homes, schools, and child care facilities built before 1978 are likely to contain lead-based paint.
- Even children who seem healthy may have dangerous levels of lead in their bodies.
- Disturbing surfaces with lead-based paint or removing lead-based paint improperly can increase the danger to your family.
- People can get lead into their bodies by breathing or swallowing lead dust, or by eating soil or paint chips containing lead.
- People have many options for reducing lead hazards. Generally, lead-based paint that is in good condition is not a hazard (see page 10).

Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

United States Consumer Product Safety Commission

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

September 2013

Are You Planning to Buy or Rent a Home Built Before 1978?

Did you know that many homes built before 1978 have **lead-based paint**? Lead from paint, chips, and dust can pose serious health hazards.

Read this entire brochure to learn:

- How lead gets into the body
- About health effects of lead
- What you can do to protect your family
- Where to go for more information

Before renting or buying a pre-1978 home or apartment, federal law requires:

- Sellers must disclose known information on lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards before selling a house.
- Real estate sales contracts must include a specific warning statement about lead-based paint. Buyers have up to 10 days to check for lead.
- Landlords must disclose known information on lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazards before leases take effect. Leases must include a specific warning statement about lead-based paint.

If undertaking renovations, repairs, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or apartment:

- Read EPA's pamphlet, *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right,* to learn about the lead-safe work practices that contractors are required to follow when working in your home (see page 12).

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

The CPSC protects the public against unreasonable risk of injury from consumer products through education, safety standards activities, and enforcement. Contact CPSC for further information regarding consumer product safety and regulations.

CPSC
4330 East West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814-4421
1-800-638-2772
cpsc.gov or saferproducts.gov

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. Contact HUD's Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control for further information regarding the Lead Safe Housing Rule, which protects families in pre-1978 assisted housing, and for the lead hazard control and research grant programs.

HUD
451 Seventh Street, SW, Room 8236
Washington, DC 20410-3000
(202) 402-7698
hud.gov/offices/lead/

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U. S. EPA Washington DC 20460
U. S. CPSC Bethesda MD 20814
U. S. HUD Washington DC 20410

EPA-747-K-12-001
September 2013

Simple Steps to Protect Your Family from Lead Hazards

If you think your home has lead-based paint:

- Don't try to remove lead-based paint yourself.
- Always keep painted surfaces in good condition to minimize deterioration.
- Get your home checked for lead hazards. Find a certified inspector or risk assessor at epa.gov/lead.
- Talk to your landlord about fixing surfaces with peeling or chipping paint.
- Regularly clean floors, window sills, and other surfaces.
- Take precautions to avoid exposure to lead dust when remodeling.
- When renovating, repairing, or painting, hire only EPA- or state-approved Lead-Safe certified renovation firms.
- Before buying, renting, or renovating your home, have it checked for lead-based paint.
- Consult your health care provider about testing your children for lead. Your pediatrician can check for lead with a simple blood test.
- Wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers, and toys often.
- Make sure children avoid fatty (or high fat) foods and eat nutritious meals high in iron and calcium.
- Remove shoes or wipe soil off shoes before entering your house.

Lead Gets into the Body in Many Ways

Adults and children can get lead into their bodies if they:

- Breathe in lead dust (especially during activities such as renovations, repairs, or painting that disturb painted surfaces).
- Swallow lead dust that has settled on food, food preparation surfaces, and other places.
- Eat paint chips or soil that contains lead.

Lead is especially dangerous to children under the age of 6.

- At this age, children's brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead.
- Children's growing bodies absorb more lead.
- Babies and young children often put their hands and other objects in their mouths. These objects can have lead dust on them.

Women of childbearing age should know that lead is dangerous to a developing fetus.

- Women with a high lead level in their system before or during pregnancy risk exposing the fetus to lead through the placenta during fetal development.

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Offices

The mission of EPA is to protect human health and the environment. Your Regional EPA Office can provide further information regarding regulations and lead protection programs.

Region 1 (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100, OES 05-4
Boston, MA 02109-3912
(888) 372-7341

Region 2 (New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 2
2890 Woodbridge Avenue
Building 205, Mail Stop 225
Edison, NJ 08837-3679
(732) 321-6671

Region 3 (Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, DC, West Virginia)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 3
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 814-2088

Region 4 (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 4
AFC Tower, 12th Floor, Air, Pesticides & Toxics
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 562-8998

Region 5 (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 5 (DT-8J)
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3666
(312) 886-7836

Region 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and 66 Tribes)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, 12th Floor
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
(214) 665-2704

Region 7 (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 7
11201 Renner Blvd.
WWPD/TOPE
Lenexa, KS 66219
(800) 223-0425

Region 8 (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 312-6966

Region 9 (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 9 (CMD-4-2)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 947-4280

Region 10 (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 10
Solid Waste & Toxics Unit (WCM-128)
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 553-1200

For More Information

The National Lead Information Center
Learn how to protect children from lead poisoning and get other information about lead hazards on the Web at epa.gov/lead and hud.gov/lead, or call **1-800-424-LEAD (5323).**

EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline
For information about lead in drinking water, call **1-800-426-4791**, or visit epa.gov/lead for information about lead in drinking water.

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Hotline
For information on lead in toys and other consumer products, or to report an unsafe consumer product or a product-related injury, call **1-800-638-2772,** or visit CPSC's website at cpsc.gov or saferproducts.gov.

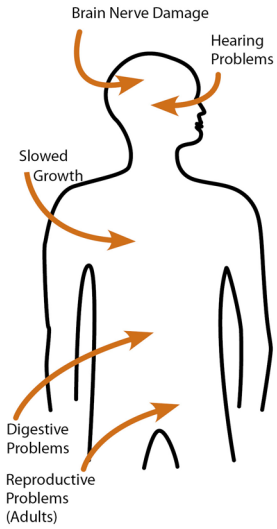
State and Local Health and Environmental Agencies
Some states, tribes, and cities have their own rules related to lead-based paint. Check with your local agency to see which laws apply to you. Most agencies can also provide information on finding a lead abatement firm in your area, and on possible sources of financial aid for reducing lead hazards. Receive up-to-date address and phone information for your state or local contacts on the Web at epa.gov/lead, or contact the National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD.**

Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access any of the phone numbers in this brochure through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at **1-800-877-8339**.

Health Effects of Lead

Lead affects the body in many ways. It is important to know that even exposure to low levels of lead can severely harm children.

In children, exposure to lead can cause:



- Nervous system and kidney damage
- Learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, and decreased intelligence
- Speech, language, and behavior problems
- Poor muscle coordination
- Decreased muscle and bone growth
- Hearing damage

While low-lead exposure is most common, exposure to high amounts of lead can have devastating effects on children, including seizures, unconsciousness, and, in some cases, death.

Although children are especially susceptible to lead exposure, lead can be dangerous for adults, too.

In adults, exposure to lead can cause:

- Harm to a developing fetus
- Increased chance of high blood pressure during pregnancy
- Fertility problems (in men and women)
- High blood pressure
- Digestive problems
- Nerve disorders
- Memory and concentration problems
- Muscle and joint pain

Check Your Family for Lead

Get your children and home tested if you think your home has lead.

Children's blood lead levels tend to increase rapidly from 6 to 12 months of age, and tend to peak at 18 to 24 months of age.

Consult your doctor for advice on testing your children. A simple blood test can detect lead. Blood lead tests are usually recommended for:

- Children at ages 1 and 2
- Children or other family members who have been exposed to high levels of lead
- Children who should be tested under your state or local health screening plan

Your doctor can explain what the test results mean and if more testing will be needed.

Other Sources of Lead

While paint, dust, and soil are the most common sources of lead, other lead sources also exist:

- **Drinking water.** Your home might have plumbing with lead or lead solder. You cannot see, smell, or taste lead, and boiling your water will not get rid of lead. If you think your plumbing might contain lead:
  - Use only cold water for drinking and cooking.
  - Run water for 15 to 30 seconds before drinking it, especially if you have not used your water for a few hours.

  Call your local health department or water supplier to find out about testing your water, or visit epa.gov/lead for EPA's lead in drinking water information.
- **Lead smelters** or other industries that release lead into the air.
- **Your job.** If you work with lead, you could bring it home on your body or clothes. Shower and change clothes before coming home. Launder your work clothes separately from the rest of your family's clothes.
- **Hobbies** that use lead, such as making pottery or stained glass, or refinishing furniture. Call your local health department for information about hobbies that may use lead.
- Old **toys** and **furniture** may have been painted with lead-containing paint. Older toys and other children's products may have parts that contain lead.[4]
- Food and liquids cooked or stored in **lead crystal** or **lead-glazed pottery or porcelain** may contain lead.
- Folk remedies, such as **"greta"** and **"azarcon,"** used to treat an upset stomach.

[4] In 1978, the federal government banned toys, other children's products, and furniture with lead-containing paint (16 CFR 1303). In 2008, the federal government banned lead in most children's products. The federal government currently bans lead in excess of 100 ppm by weight in most children's products (76 FR 44463).

Renovating, Remodeling, or Repairing (RRP) a Home with Lead-Based Paint

If you hire a contractor to conduct renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or childcare facility (such as pre-school and kindergarten), your contractor must:

- Be a Lead-Safe Certified firm approved by EPA or an EPA-authorized state program
- Use qualified trained individuals (Lead-Safe Certified renovators) who follow specific lead-safe work practices to prevent lead contamination
- Provide a copy of EPA's lead hazard information document, *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*

RRP contractors working in pre-1978 homes and childcare facilities must follow lead-safe work practices that:

- **Contain the work area.** The area must be contained so that dust and debris do not escape from the work area. Warning signs must be put up, and plastic or other impermeable material and tape must be used.
- **Avoid renovation methods that generate large amounts of lead-contaminated dust.** Some methods generate so much lead-contaminated dust that their use is prohibited. They are:
  - Open-flame burning or torching
  - Sanding, grinding, planing, needle gunning, or blasting with power tools and equipment not equipped with a shroud and HEPA vacuum attachment and
  - Using a heat gun at temperatures greater than 1100°F
- **Clean up thoroughly.** The work area should be cleaned up daily. When all the work is done, the area must be cleaned up using special cleaning methods.
- **Dispose of waste properly.** Collect and seal waste in a heavy duty bag or sheeting. When transported, ensure that waste is contained to prevent release of dust and debris.

To learn more about EPA's requirements for RRP projects visit epa.gov/getleadsafe, or read *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*.

Where Lead-Based Paint Is Found

In general, the older your home or childcare facility, the more likely it has lead-based paint.[1]

Many homes, including private, federally-assisted, federally-owned housing, and childcare facilities built before 1978 have lead-based paint. In 1978, the federal government banned consumer uses of lead-containing paint.[2]

Learn how to determine if paint is lead-based paint on page 7.

Lead can be found:

- In homes and childcare facilities in the city, country, or suburbs,
- In private and public single-family homes and apartments,
- On surfaces inside and outside of the house, and
- In soil around a home. (Soil can pick up lead from exterior paint or other sources, such as past use of leaded gas in cars.)

Learn more about where lead is found at epa.gov/lead.

[1] "Lead-based paint" is currently defined by the federal government as paint with lead levels greater than or equal to 1.0 milligram per square centimeter (mg/cm), or more than 0.5% by weight.

[2] "Lead-containing paint" is currently defined by the federal government as lead in new dried paint in excess of 90 parts per million (ppm) by weight.

Identifying Lead-Based Paint and Lead-Based Paint Hazards

Deteriorating lead-based paint (peeling, chipping, chalking, cracking, or damaged paint) is a hazard and needs immediate attention. **Lead-based paint** may also be a hazard when found on surfaces that children can chew or that get a lot of wear and tear, such as:

- On windows and window sills
- Doors and door frames
- Stairs, railings, banisters, and porches

Lead-based paint is usually not a hazard if it is in good condition and if it is not on an impact or friction surface like a window.

Lead dust can form when lead-based paint is scraped, sanded, or heated. Lead dust also forms when painted surfaces containing lead bump or rub together. Lead paint chips and dust can get on surfaces and objects that people touch. Settled lead dust can reenter the air when the home is vacuumed or swept, or when people walk through it. EPA currently defines the following levels of lead in dust as hazardous:

- 40 micrograms per square foot (µg/ft^2) and higher for floors, including carpeted floors
- 250 µg/ft^2 and higher for interior window sills

Lead in soil can be a hazard when children play in bare soil or when people bring soil into the house on their shoes. EPA currently defines the following levels of lead in soil as hazardous:

- 400 parts per million (ppm) and higher in play areas of bare soil
- 1,200 ppm (average) and higher in bare soil in the remainder of the yard

Remember, lead from paint chips—which you can see—and lead dust—which you may not be able to see—both can be hazards.

The only way to find out if paint, dust, or soil lead hazards exist is to test for them. The next page describes how to do this.

Reducing Lead Hazards, continued

If your home has had lead abatement work done or if the housing is receiving federal assistance, once the work is completed, dust cleanup activities must be conducted until clearance testing indicates that lead dust levels are below the following levels:

- 40 micrograms per square foot (µg/ft^2) for floors, including carpeted floors
- 250 µg/ft^2 for interior windows sills
- 400 µg/ft^2 for window troughs

For help in locating certified lead abatement professionals in your area, call your state or local agency (see pages 14 and 15), or visit epa.gov/lead, or call 1-800-424-LEAD.

Reducing Lead Hazards

Disturbing lead-based paint or removing lead improperly can increase the hazard to your family by spreading even more lead dust around the house.

- In addition to day-to-day cleaning and good nutrition, you can **temporarily** reduce lead-based paint hazards by taking actions, such as repairing damaged painted surfaces and planting grass to cover lead-contaminated soil. These actions are not permanent solutions and will need ongoing attention.
- You can minimize exposure to lead when renovating, repairing, or painting by hiring an EPA- or state-certified renovator who is trained in the use of lead-safe work practices. If you are a do-it-yourselfer, learn how to use lead–safe work practices in your home.
- To remove lead hazards permanently, you should hire a certified lead abatement contractor. Abatement (or permanent hazard elimination) methods include removing, sealing, or enclosing lead-based paint with special materials. Just painting over the hazard with regular paint is not permanent control.

Always use a certified contractor who is trained to address lead hazards safely.

- Hire a Lead-Safe Certified firm (see page 12) to perform renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) projects that disturb painted surfaces.
- To correct lead hazards permanently, hire a certified lead abatement professional. This will ensure your contractor knows how to work safely and has the proper equipment to clean up thoroughly.

Certified contractors will employ qualified workers and follow strict safety rules as set by their state or by the federal government.

Checking Your Home for Lead

You can get your home tested for lead in several different ways:

- A lead-based paint **inspection** tells you if your home has lead-based paint and where it is located. It won't tell you whether your home currently has lead hazards. A trained and certified testing professional, called a lead-based paint inspector, will conduct a paint inspection using methods, such as:
  - Portable x-ray fluorescence (XRF) machine
  - Lab tests of paint samples

- A **risk assessment** tells you if your home currently has any lead hazards from lead in paint, dust, or soil. It also tells you what actions to take to address any hazards. A trained and certified testing professional, called a risk assessor, will:
  - Sample paint that is deteriorated on doors, windows, floors, stairs, and walls
  - Sample dust near painted surfaces and sample bare soil in the yard
  - Get lab tests of paint, dust, and soil samples
- A combination inspection and risk assessment tells you if your home has any lead-based paint and if your home has any lead hazards, and where both are located.

Be sure to read the report provided to you after your inspection or risk assessment is completed, and ask questions about anything you do not understand.

Checking Your Home for Lead, continued

In preparing for renovation, repair, or painting work in a pre-1978 home, Lead-Safe Certified renovators (see page 12) may:

- Take paint chip samples to determine if lead-based paint is present in the area planned for renovation and send them to an EPA-recognized lead lab for analysis. In housing receiving federal assistance, the person collecting these samples must be a certified lead-based paint inspector or risk assessor
- Use EPA-recognized tests kits to determine if lead-based paint is absent (but not in housing receiving federal assistance)
- Presume that lead-based paint is present and use lead-safe work practices

There are state and federal programs in place to ensure that testing is done safely, reliably, and effectively. Contact your state or local agency for more information, visit epa.gov/lead, or call **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)** for a list of contacts in your area.[3]

[3] Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access this number through TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8399.

What You Can Do Now to Protect Your Family

If you suspect that your house has lead-based paint hazards, you can take some immediate steps to reduce your family's risk:

- If you rent, notify your landlord of peeling or chipping paint.
- Keep painted surfaces clean and free of dust. Clean floors, window frames, window sills, and other surfaces weekly. Use a mop or sponge with warm water and a general all-purpose cleaner. (Remember: never mix ammonia and bleach products together because they can form a dangerous gas.)
- Carefully clean up paint chips immediately without creating dust.
- Thoroughly rinse sponges and mop heads often during cleaning of dirty or dusty areas, and again afterward.
- Wash your hands and your children's hands often, especially before they eat and before nap time and bed time.
- Keep play areas clean. Wash bottles, pacifiers, toys, and stuffed animals regularly.
- Keep children from chewing window sills or other painted surfaces, or eating soil.
- When renovating, repairing, or painting, hire only EPA- or state-approved Lead-Safe Certified renovation firms (see page 12).
- Clean or remove shoes before entering your home to avoid tracking in lead from soil.
- Make sure children avoid fatty (or high fat) foods and eat nutritious meals high in iron and calcium. Children with good diets absorb less lead.