

CITY OF JOHNSTOWN
Department of Community & Economic
Development

PROGRAM GUIDELINES FOR:

**SEWER LATERAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**



CITY OF JOHNSTOWN
CITY HALL
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
2ND FLOOR
814-533-2047



**EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY**

**City of Johnstown
Program Guidelines
Sewer Lateral Assistance Program**

Program Background

The City of Johnstown has identified the need for a Sewage Lateral Assistance Program, (hereinafter referred to as the *Program*), eligibility is limited to income-qualifying homeowners located within the City's corporate limits (21 City Wards). The City has developed this program designed to assist owner-occupied homeowners who are required to make sewer lateral repairs and/or replacement lines for their existing homes within the City's corporate limits.

The City of Johnstown has received financial assistance from the *US. Department of Housing and Urban Development* to operate the Sewage Lateral Assistance Program which primarily benefits low and very-low income persons and families owning residential properties within the City's corporate limits who have sanitary sewage flows exceeding the U.S. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) specified design criteria following the City of Johnstown Phase completion of the sewer construction.

Objectives of the Program

The *Program* is intended to provide financial assistance to qualifying low and very-low income persons and families who are mandated, under Ordinance No. 5152 enacted by City Council on August 13, 2014, to televise and/or pressure test their sewer lines and remediation of all private side lateral lines failing to pass said tests. Program funds shall only be used to make sewer lateral repairs and/or replacements at applicant's principal residence.

Eligible Program Costs

The assistance permissible under the Sewer Lateral Assistance Program shall be limited to those sewer lateral costs, repairs, and/or replacements mandated by Ordinance No. 5152 and as described and illustrated with the City of Johnstown Sewage Compliance Form. Said costs, repairs, and/or replacements shall include, within the minimum allowances, the repair and/or replacement of the sewer service lateral from the property line (viewport) through and including all underground (no basement service) piping subject to pressure testing.

Eligible *Program* costs for properties that require the repair and/or replacement of underground and under slab (basement service) sewage lateral piping shall be limited to those contractor costs directly associated with the installation of piping, bedding, fill, and/or concrete whereas it's subject to mandated pressure testing. For said property, the owner(s) have the option to eliminate existing basement service points within *Program* costs. The relocation and/or addition of basement service points, the replacement, reconstruction, or repair of homeowner improvements above the basement slab are not eligible *Program* costs.

Ineligible Program Costs

The *Program* funds **will not** pay for televising, initial or prior testing for lateral installation. Instead, this funding is specifically for the remedial construction and final pressure test to certify the private side lateral has passed the pressure testing specifications.

The property owner(s) shall be responsible for all application, inspection, and closing cost fees designated within the Sewage Compliance Form.

Funding is limited. Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. **This funding is not available to complete the televising or initial pressure testing.** Program guidelines are subject to change without prior notice.

Revised 2/11/2020

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the Sewer Lateral Assistance Program the applicant must:

1. Be the person(s) or family **owning a residential dwelling and occupying** said property as their primary residence.
2. Applicant must have household income that does not exceed 80% of the area median income as per current HUD guidelines. HUD has established Income limits for our area based on household size. The income limits are subject to change without notice. Proof of income must accompany application.

Household Income Limits Summary for FY 2020

Household Members:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maximum Income	\$35,750	\$40,850	\$45,950	\$51,050	\$55,150	\$59,250	\$63,350	\$67,400

If your household income exceeds the maximum allowance indicated on the chart, you are not qualified to receive assistance under this program.

To determine whether households are eligible for participation in this program, the City of Johnstown selected to use HUD's definition of income "Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 1040 Adjusted Gross Income." Household income counted must be 6-months current or anticipated to be received during the 12-month period of actual application review. Therefore, additional information will be required to verify, support and document income reported on your application and reported on your IRS 1040 tax return.

An example of income inclusions are: Wages, salaries, tips, taxable interest income, dividends, taxable refunds, alimony, business income or loss, taxable IRA amounts, taxable pension and annuity, taxable social security benefits, prizes and awards such as gambling, lottery raffle winnings, rental real estate, unemployment compensation payments, and capital gains, etc. Your application will not be approved if sufficient supporting documentation is not provided in a timely manner. **Examples of exclusions are:** Child support, money or property that was inherited, willed or given as a gift, life insurance proceeds received as a result of someone's death.

3. The applicant must provide a full copy of the recorded property deed.
4. Applicant must show proof that their property taxes are paid for the previous two-years. The property tax includes City, County and School taxes. Those homeowners who are delinquent on their taxes cannot participate in the program.
5. Applicant must provide (3) bids for (sewer lateral installation) from certified contractors with the application for assistance. All participating contractors must be registered with the Pennsylvania Attorney General and carry general liability insurance. Contractor must provide EIN # to the City of Johnstown. **If applicant is participating with the Johnstown Redevelopment Authority's Sewer Compliance program, no bids should accompany this application. JRA will supply bids to the City of Johnstown on behalf of the owner.**

Funding Limits

1. Eligible households are qualified for 50% match of the total project cost, with a maximum grant amount of \$1,000.

Program Procedures

1. Applications for the Sewer Lateral Assistance Program may be obtained from the **Department of Community and Economic Development; City Hall; 2nd Floor, 401 Main Street; Johnstown, PA 15901**; or by scheduling an appointment to apply for the program at (814) 533-2047.
2. Applications must be supported by all applicable required documentation and will not be considered for funding until all documentation has been received. The application must be completed in its entirety, legible, using ink pen, and signed by the applicant(s).
3. Upon approval for *Program* funding the applicant(s) will then schedule a closing date with the City of Johnstown. Applicant will be required to bring their matching funds via check made payable to City of Johnstown.
4. The homeowner is responsible to monitor all work performed by their contractor each day and to work with their contractor while sewer lateral work is underway. The homeowner shall immediately report concerns or construction questions to the Sewer Compliance Officer with the EADS Group. The Sewer Compliance Officer will monitor the work as required and stated in the Sewage Compliance Form Instructions.
5. The City of Johnstown Department of Community and Economic Development will issue the approved contractor a check for 50% of the total project costs (if requested) once the *Program* application documentation has been completed and approved. Upon homeowner approval of project completion, signature of closeout documentation, and receipt of Certificate of Sewage Compliance, the City will issue the final 50% check to the contractor. Contractor must notify City that the work has been completed to request payment. The Director of the Community and Economic Development Department will have final approval to release payment to the contractor for all acceptable work completed.

**CHECKLIST FOR SEWAGE LATERAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

_____ APPLICATION

_____ (3) BIDS FOR LATERAL INSTALLATION {IF USING THE JOHNSTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY'S SEWER LATERAL COMPLIANCE PROGRAM PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT ANY BIDS. JRA WILL SUPPLY BIDS TO THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN ON BEHALF OF OWNER}.

_____ IRS Form 1040 Adjusted Gross Income (or)

_____ Social Security Award Letter/Pension Statement

_____ Full Copy of Recorded Property Deed

_____ TWO years of PAID tax receipts for CITY, COUNTY & SCHOOL

- APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED WITHOUT THE ABOVE DOCUMENTATION WILL NOT BE **PROCESSED.**

Household Income Limits for FY 2020

Household Members:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low (80%) Income	\$35,750	\$40,850	\$45,950	\$51,050	\$55,150	\$59,250	\$63,350	\$67,400

If your household adjusted gross income exceeds the maximum allowance indicated on the chart, you are not qualified to receive assistance under this program.

Please call Jennifer Burkhart @ The City of Johnstown with any questions:

814-533-2047

Participating Lenders
Sewage Lateral Loans

Terry Hubbard
SOMERSET TRUST COMPANY
116 Market Street
Johnstown, PA 15901
(814) 262-4846

Rebecca Nihart
NORTHWEST SAVING BANK
225 Franklin Street
Johnstown, PA 15901
(814) 533-7600

Scott Maliska
Slovenian Savings & Loan
1512 Jefferson Avenue
Windber, PA 15963
(814) 467-8837

Ken Szuczur
1st Summit Bank
600 Main Street
Johnstown, PA 15901
(814) 535-3551



SEWER LATERAL CONTRACTORS

Updated 10/22/2018

The City is making available the following list of Contractors in order to assist residents with sewer lateral testing and/or work they may need to perform in conjunction with the City's sewer project and related ordinances. The City is not endorsing any specific contractor or making any specific representation or warranty regarding its/their qualifications, products, or workmanship. The City disclaims any liability that may be alleged to arise from the work of any contractor on any City resident's property.

The City of Johnstown has not performed background checks on any of these contractors.

Contractors not included in the list below may be utilized for purposes of residents' sewer lateral testing and work, as long as they meet the City's requirements set forth in Ordinance No. 5152.

SEWER LATERAL CONTRACTORS

Updated 7/18/19

The City is making available the following list of Contractors in order to assist residents with sewer lateral testing and/or work they may need to perform in conjunction with the City's sewer project and related ordinances. The City is not endorsing any specific contractor or making any specific representation or warranty regarding its/their qualifications, products, or workmanship. The City disclaims any liability that may be alleged to arise from the work of any contractor on any City resident's property.

The City of Johnstown has not performed background checks on any of these contractors.

Contractors not included in the list below may be utilized for purposes of residents' sewer lateral testing and work, as long as they meet the City's requirements set forth in Ordinance No. 5152.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
Alvin Rose Excavating	Alvin Rosa	724-422-6332
B&M Excavating	Jim Marek	619-5737
B. Hale Inc. **	Brian Hale	288-6613
B. Thomas Contracting	Bryant Thomas	533-9786
Brett Clevenger Plumbing & Sewer Line Connection		270-3458
BTS Landscaping *	Jeff Held	421-2682
C&P Handyman	Paul	536-3680
Cambria Basement Waterproofing	Bob Murphy	525-4313
Community Heating	Mark Sheehan	244-2147
Dan Blackner Excavating		255-2791
Davis Excavating	Kyle Davis	814-736-8736
Denny Bloom Waterproofing & Sewer Lines		792-0790
Derricott Construction		266-5096
E-Z Concrete	Eli	536-3141
Electric Sewer Cleaning	Ted Michaels	539-0881
Flood City Construction	Scott Bassett	248-1379
Frederick's Contracting	Fred Sabo	410-4508
Gene Miller		248-0202
Ground Control* **	Tom Cummings	713-1011
Hamacek Construction	Mike Hamacek	242-0571
Hinkle Plumbing **		535-3158
Homework Remodeling	Chuck George	244-8448
J.P. Held Construction	Jamie Held	322-7577
Jim Swick		242-3499

SEWER LATERAL CONTRACTORS (Continued)

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
Joe Finnerty Excavating		532-6781
John Rodda Plumbing & Electric		266-4729
John Slovikosky		814-312-3205
Johnny Vitalie	Johnny V.	341-5394
Johnstown Excavating*	Jim	525-4892
Keystone Land & Development LLC		412-603-0088
L&M Excavating		266-9470
Laurel Management **		533-5782
Laurel Property Maintenance	Gary Muller/Denny Shadron	724-289-3926 or 814-421-5109
Major Builders Inc.		535-7716
Mark Held Building & Excavating		525-8092
McFeaters Plumbing & Heating		242-6819
Megmar Contracting, LLC	Denny Shadron	724-289-3926
Meyers Brothers Plumbing & Heating	John & Joseph Meyers	John 341-6459 Joseph 341-9408
Nemeth Construction	Terry Nemeth	525-7146
Nezco Plumbing **	Norm	244-4339
Oppy Construction **		535-3248
Odin Handyman and Remodeling		241-7834
Patriot Construction	Rick	724-787-5467
R.L. Rodkey Construction*	Randy Rodkey	341-8875
Ralph Edmiston		243-0595
Robert Rolley Welding & Excavating		659-6838
Roto Rooter* **		266-2707
Ryba Construction	Matt	244-7687
Shore Construction*	Geno Shore	814-915-4236
Sewer Line Connection Testing	Chris Wagner	814-418-5125
Steve Meyers Plumbing & Heating * **		525-1748
Torchia Sewer & Drain	Joe Torchia	288-5678
Varner Hilltop Septic Service	Kevin Varner	244-6611
Volocko Construction **	Drew Volocko	244.1620
Weaver Plumbing	Brian Weaver	244-7754
Weber Property Services, LLC	John	814-502-7773
Z & B Excavating & Hauling	Zak Bloom-Marek	814-244-1809

*Contractors that perform open cut and trenchless method installations.

** Contractors & Plumbers licensed by The City of Johnstown to perform pressure tests on commercial properties.