



Direct Grant Frequently Asked Questions

OVERVIEW

Direct Grant is an option for moderate rehab applicants that affords maximum flexibility and independence in completing your repair work. With Direct Grant, you chose your own contractor, manage the construction, and pay upfront. Build it Back then reimburses you for the cost of the program-provided scope of work once construction and final inspection are successfully completed.

What is the Direct Grant Program?

- Direct Grant is an option for moderate rehab applicants that allows you to complete a Scope of Work (SOW) that is given to you by Build it Back on your own with minimal Program oversight.

Who is eligible for Direct Grant?

- All moderate rehab applicants that have signed their Option Selection Agreement (OSA) are eligible for review by the Direct Grant team.
- An eligibility review will be conducted only once you have signed your OSA.

Where does my SOW come from?

- If you have not had a Design Consultation (DC) yet, you can have your Damage Assessment (DA) converted into a SOW.
- You can elect to have a current assessment of unrepaired Sandy related storm damage performed on your home, which the Direct Grant Team will perform.

How is the value of my SOW determined?

- The pricing for your SOW is prepared using the Program's standardized pricing, which is based upon the pricing approved for the City's contractors. According to federal rules, the Program must use this pricing for your SOW because it may not pay you more than it would pay its contractors to perform the same work.

I have already had a DC but my work has not started. Am I still eligible for Direct Grant?

- Yes. The Direct Grant Program will use that scope as your Direct Grant Scope.

I have already had a DC and my work has not started. Can I still have my DA converted into a SOW?

- No. Once you have completed a DC, the SOW at that meeting will be used from there on out.

I have Transfer Amount. What does that mean for me and the Direct Grant option?

- Build it Back will not collect your transfer amount.
- The Program will identify which construction scope items are required and which items are optional.



- You must complete all required items in order to receive payment, but if your scope of work contains optional items that would be funded with your transfer amount, you may choose not to complete those items.
- You may also be able to work with a not for profit or other contractor that is willing to work with you to address your transfer amount through the use of an alternate payment structure such as a construction loan.

I had a Permanent Repair Expense Review (PRER) that resulted in a reduced Transfer Amount. Can I still have my DA converted into a SOW?

- No. It means that the Program must perform a new assessment of current unrepaired Sandy related storm damage.
- A SOW based on the original DA is no longer available to the applicant.

Who pays for the repairs in the SOW?

- You are responsible for the funding of the repairs up front.
- The Program will reimburse you the value of the SOW upon successful completion of a Program Final Inspection.

I have completed all repairs for my construction project, how do I request a program final inspection?

- Close all DOB Permits and resolve all DOB open violations.
- Complete and submit all Environmental Clearance Documents.
- Request Direct Grant Final Inspection through Customer service or Direct Grant email.

Once I pass final inspection, how long does it take to be reimbursed by the Program?

- 4-6 weeks is standard for reimbursement processing.