

Voluntary Housing Buyout Program



Frequently Asked Questions

How do I know if my property is eligible for the program?

Eligible properties must have been purchased before the 2018 Kīlauea eruption and be currently owned by applicant. Additional eligibility factors can be found in our FAQ section on our website: recovery.hawaiicounty.gov/connect/faqs

Do I need to apply if I'm already registered?

Yes. You still need to fill out an application form.

Can I apply if I didn't register?

Registration is not required to apply. You will still need to fill out an application for Phase 3.

Can I still apply for a buyout of my Primary or Secondary Residence?

Yes. We are still accepting applications for Primary and Secondary residences during the Phase 3 application period.

Can I apply during Phase 3 if I've already applied in Phase 1 or Phase 2?

We are only accepting one application per eligible property owner for the entire program.

Do I have to take the buyout?

The buyout program is completely voluntary. Applications can be withdrawn at any time.

How do I know if I'm LMI?

Eligible property owners are considered Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) if the household income is 80% or less than the area median income. County staff will assess your household income during program intake.

How are applications ranked?

Applications are ranked for acceptance by property type, household income, damage level, and the availability of public road access. Applications will be serviced based on their ranking order from highest to lowest.

Am I guaranteed to be offered a buyout if I apply?

At this time, it's likely we won't be able to serve every single applicant that applies. We still recommend submitting an application and the VHBP will do our best to serve as many applicants, especially those who are LMI, as possible.

What happens after I submit an application?

VHBP staff will review your application to determine eligibility. You will be sent a letter regarding your eligibility status. Staff will contact you should any further information be needed or to schedule an intake. Please do not submit documents until requested to do so.