The Government of Antigua and Barbuda, in collaboration with the Antigua & Barbuda Investment Authority (ABIA) has extended the successful Construct Antigua & Barbuda Initiative (CAB-I). Applicants can apply for CAB-I (2020) benefits starting now and expiring June 30th, 2021. CAB-I continues to be rooted in the principle of stimulating economic growth through increased construction and related activity.

The main objectives of the CAB-I are to:

- Make homeownership affordable by reducing construction costs by approximately 20%
- Stimulate economic activity
- Create employment in the construction sector
- Build confidence in the economy via government policy

Potential Homeowner Benefits:

- ABST zero-rated materials and aggregates procured locally from registered CAB-I suppliers
- ABST zero-rated services from participating service providers
- Store discounts on building supplies procured locally
- Reduced interest rates with participating banks
- Reduction in the negotiation/commitment fee
- Discounts on premiums with participating Insurance Companies

How does it work?

Under the Initiative, homeowners access the government approved incentive of zero Antigua & Barbuda Sales Tax (ABST) on all approved building materials procured locally. As a part of the incentive package, other stakeholders (financial institutions, insurance firms, architects etc.) extend reduced service fees and charges to CAB-I approved clients.

Who can register?

The program applies to citizens and residents of Antigua & Barbuda.

What projects are eligible?

- **New residential construction projects** with an overall construction cost of no more than $500,000.00 by first-time homeowners only.
- **Incomplete residential construction projects** with an overall construction cost of no more than $500,000.00 by first-time homeowners only. (Value of structure on site plus the cost to complete the structure combined must not exceed $500,000.00)
• **Renovation projects** by the homeowner on the residence he/she currently occupies. Cost of the renovation works must not exceed $250,000.00
• **Expansion projects** by the homeowner on the residence he/she currently occupies. Cost of the expansion must not exceed $200,000.00

**What is the process for registering for benefits under CAB-I?**

**Step 1**
After confirming your qualifying amount with your financial institution and your plans have been approved by Development Control Authority (DCA), make contact with ABIA and complete the CAB-I registration form and the estimate template. These can be collected at our office, emailed or faxed. DCA approval is required for new construction projects, structural changes, and expansion projects.

**Step 2**
Gather the following documents and make an appointment with ABIA:
- Completed registration form
- Copy of the signed contract/agreement with the contractor
- Detailed estimate; prepared using the CAB-I estimate template
- A copy of the DCA Approval
- DCA Approved Plans (*Physical and Electronic Copies*)
- Government-issued Identification (*Preferably Passport or Driver’s License*)
- Non-citizen Landholding License (*where applicable*)
- Residency Permit (*if applying as a non-citizen*)
- Completed site visit request form (*for renovation and incomplete projects*)
- Detailed scope of works (*for renovation projects*)

*All projects are subject to an assessment fee and/or site visit fee to cover quantity surveying services. The Authority will advise the amount to be paid.*

**Step 3**
ABIA conducts a review of the file and sub-contract quantity surveying services. Applicants will be provided with a copy of the assessment report.

**Step 4**
Applicants are issued the CAB-I Certificate and their official CAB-I Shopping List.

CAB-I registered homeowners or their homeowner representatives are required to present a government-issued ID along with their CAB-I Certificate and Shopping List when making purchases with CAB-I registered suppliers and service providers. Homeowners or their representatives must sign copies of the receipts at the point of purchase.

**How long does the process take?**
Applicants will be issued their CAB-I Certificate and Shopping list 10 – 15 business days after submission of a complete application package. For renovation projects, the vetting process begins after the site visit has been completed.

For more information kindly contact ABIA at 481-1000/1 or cab-i@ab.gov.ag