Notice of Funding for Homeless Services: Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Grant Program

Overview

The State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) released a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program on May 16, 2016, including funding for fiscal years 2015 and 2016. HCD receives funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to fund this program. The ESG Program is designed to provide funding for nonprofit providers and local governments to quickly rehouse individuals and families experiencing homelessness while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness.

The full NOFA and funding application can be found on the HCD website¹.

→ HPAC agencies are eligible to receive \$254,396 in non-competitive rapid re-housing funds, and may submit two applications (each in the amount of \$75,000-200,000) to a regional competition

Redesign of HCD's ESG Program

Over the past two years, HCD has completed a significant redesign its ESG Program. The redesign is intended to invest funds in the most beneficial activities as measured by key performance goals and outcomes.

In the redesigned program, HCD will distribute ESG funding based on Continuum of Care (CoC) Service Areas through two different allocations: (1) Some services areas are approved ESG Administrative Entities that will receive and administer State ESG funds directly, and (2) some service areas will receive funds through the Balance of State (BoS) allocation (described in more detail below).

→ There are no administrative entities within the HPAC service area, meaning that HPAC will receive funds through the BoS allocation.

Balance of State (BoS)Allocation

Funds from the BoS allocation will be made available to each service areas in two ways:

- 1. **Non-Competitive Rapid Re-Housing Funds:** Each service area will be able to recommend up to two providers for a noncompetitive rapid re-housing grant.
- 2. **Competitive Regional Competition:** Each service area will be able to recommend up to two projects to compete in a regional competition.

Role of HPAC

In the redesigned ESG Program, the local Continuum of Care plays an integral role in recommending provider applications in their service area to compete for funds in the regional competition. Applications shall only be considered by HCD if recommended by the CoC. Each service area must conduct a local competition to select applications. The process must:

• Be fair and open

For further information please contact:

¹ Link to ESG NOFA and Application: http://www.hcd.ca.gov/financial-assistance/emergency-solutions-grant-program/#nofa

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- Avoid conflicts of interest in project selection
- Consider selection criteria consistent with the criteria used by the State
- Select only eligible activities that are offered consistent with Core Practices, including:
 - Use of coordinated entry
 - Use of Housing First practices
 - Progressive engagement
- Incorporate performance standards set by the State
- Consider any other practices promoted or required by HUS
- → HPAC will be responsible for designing a local competition that meets the requirements above when determining funding recommendations for the non-competitive rapid re-housing funds and the competitive regional competition.

Differences between Funding Options

	Non-Competitive Rapid Re- Housing Funds	Competitive Regional Competition
Eligibility Requirements	Private non-profit organization or a unit of general purpose government within the HPAC service area	
Eligible Activities	→ Rapid Re-Housing	 → Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) → Emergency Shelter (ES) → Day Shelters (DS) → Street Outreach (SO), may be standalone project, or in conjunction with RRH or ES project- limited to 10% of total grant → HMIS, may not be a stand-alone project, but may be provided in conjunction with RRH, ES, SO and HP projects- limited to 10% of total grant → Homeless Prevention (HP), may not be a stand-alone project, but may be provided in conjunction with RRH or ES project- limited to 10% of total grant → Indirect Costs of Provider Agencies, at a rate of 10%
Term of Grant	Contracts are expected to begin in September or October 2016, and will expire no earlier than June 30, 2018	
Grant Awards	• \$254,396 for the Yolo service area	May submit two applicationsMinimum of \$75,000 and maximum of

For further information please contact:

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	May be distributed to 1 or 2 agencies	\$200,000 per application
Vendors	Agencies may choose to sub-contract with a vendor to procure services related to carrying out the funded program.	
Submittal Requirements	CoC must notify HCD of which providers are selection by July 15, 2016. Providers are not required to submit a completed application to HCD. Instead, the CoC may determine its own application and selection process	One hardcopy application with wet signatures and one compact disc or USB flash drive copy (with signatures) must be received by express mail carrier via overnight delivery by the application deadline of Friday, July 1, 2016 at 5pm
HCD Rating Criteria	None- Determined entirely through local competition	 Applicant Experience- 20 Program Design- 20 Need for Funds- 10 Impact and Effectiveness- 30 Cost Efficiency- 10
Match	Applicants must provide matching contributions in amount that equals the amount of ESG funds.	

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Local ESG Competition Timeline		
May 31, 2016	Notice of Funding Availability released to public	
June 3, 2016	Local Competition Timeline and Selection Process adopted by HPAC (via email vote)	
June 6, 2016	Notice of Intent to Apply due from applicants	
June 10, 2016	Letter of Application for Non-Competitive Rapid Re-Housing (NC-RR) due from applicants	
June 15, 2016	Application for Competitive Regional Funds (CR) Due for Applicants	
June 16-20, 2016	Members of the Selection Subcommittee review and rank all applications (for both CR and NC-RR funding pools) independently	
June 21, 2016	Selection Subcommittee meets to develop funding recommendation	
June 22, 2016	Selection Subcommittee presents funding recommendations to HPAC at meeting of the full body; HPAC votes to determine projects that will be submitted to the State for funding	
July 1, 2016	Applicants (who were selected by HPAC) submit finalized applications to State	
July 15, 2016	Homeless Coordinator submits required supplemental documents to State	

For further information please contact: