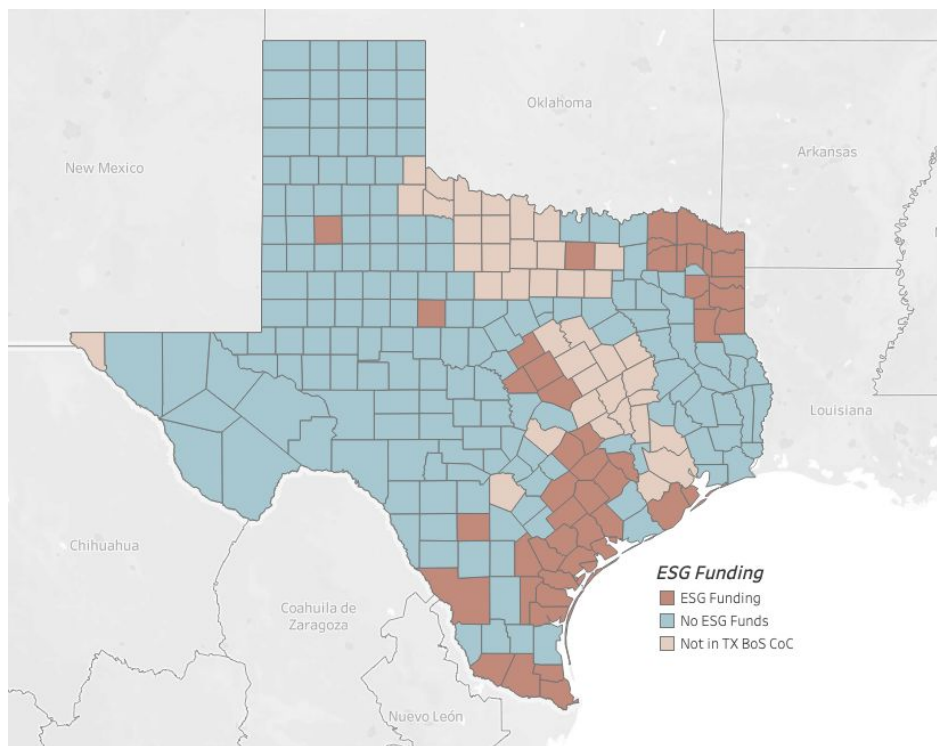


About

Texas Homeless Network (THN), as the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (TX BoS CoC) Lead Agency, is applying to be the local coordinator for all 215 counties in the TX BoS CoC. THN is the only eligible applicant for the TX BoS CoC. This local competition is for Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) Funding. THN will update this document with the allocation amount when TDHCA updates our allocation amount in the coming weeks.

These funds assist people experiencing homeless or at risk of homelessness to regain stability in permanent housing quickly after experiencing a housing crisis and or homelessness. The ESG Grant provides funds for the following program components: street outreach (SO), emergency shelter (ES), rapid re-housing (RRH) homelessness prevention (HP), Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and Administration. Rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention may be used for housing relocation and stabilization services and short-term and medium-term rental assistance.

A current Map of ESG in the TX BoS CoC



Expectations

THN has implemented the following expectations in regards to ESG CARES Act funding please consider these expectations when you think about whether you will administer any of the ESG Program Components:

1. Preventing and diverting people from imminent homelessness
2. Promoting the health and safety of people who are unsheltered, while quickly transitioning them to temporary or permanent housing
3. Expanding and improving shelter options to come into compliance with CDC guidance for separation, isolation, and quarantine.
4. Stabilizing households in homeless system-funded programs like Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)*

*Permanent Supportive Housing is only provided by the Continuum of Care Program and is not available in all communities.

5. Rapidly exiting people from the homelessness system into housing

Suggested Next Steps for New Project Applicants

1. Based on the above expectations we recommend the following documents to be read based on the component types which you plan to apply for:
 - Emergency Shelter:
 - [Effective Emergency Shelter: An Introduction](#)
 - Rapid Re-Housing:
 - [Rapid Re-Housing: An Introduction](#)
 - Street Outreach
 - [Core Elements of Effective Street Outreach](#)
 - Homelessness Prevention
 - [Prevention, Diversion and Rapid Exit](#)
 - All Component Types
 - [Housing First Fact Sheet](#)
2. Once you have considered which program components you plan to apply for read the [ESG Interim Rule](#). The ESG Program Interim Rule governs the ESG Program. Questions about the ESG Interim Rule will be included in the competition for ESG CARES Act Funds. Differences between the ESG Annual Allocation versus the ESG Cares ACT can be found below.
 - Next, consider the following pieces of the CFR: [24 CFR Part 576](#)
 - Specifically the following parts:
 - [24 CFR Subpart B - Program Components and Eligible Activities](#)
 - [24 CFR Subpart E - Program Requirements](#)
 - [24 CFR Subpart F - Grant Administration](#)
3. Read through the following differences between the ESG Cares Act and ESG Annual Allocation (found below):

| ESG CARES Act | ESG Annual Allocation |
|---|---|
| Income limit of 50% Area Median Income to receive or continue to receive homelessness prevention, or to continue receiving rapid re-housing assistance. | Income limit of 30% Area Median Income to receive or continue to receive homelessness prevention, or to continue receiving rapid re-housing assistance. |
| No cap on the use of ESG CARES funds for emergency shelter and street outreach. | Cap of 60% for emergency shelter and street outreach with ESG funding. |
| No match requirement. | 100% match requirement. |
| Pre-contracting costs will be allowed from the first COVID-19 response, which in Texas is March 13, 2020, with the state-declared disaster, though certain costs earlier than March 13 th may be eligible if staff approved. | Pre-contracting costs are only allowed to the date for which HUD signed the ESG grant agreement with the Department. |
| Environmental and habitability reviews for temporary shelters are not required. | Environmental clearance and habitability reviews need to be conducted before any funds are expended on temporary shelters |
| Administrative percentage is 10%, distributed between the recipient (the Department) and ESG Subrecipients. | Administrative percentage is 7.5%, distributed between the recipient (the Department) and ESG Subrecipients |

4. Please note applicants are eligible to apply for one or all project component types. Please consult with your other service providers and people currently experiencing homelessness in your community regarding which components are most needed in your community.

5. Once your agency has declared a project component, your agency needs to ensure they have written standards to submit with your application. Written Standards guidance can be found [here](#). Note: you're able to use your current Agency Written Standards as long as you ensure they meet all ESG Written Standards Requirements. This is a requirement for the ESG Application.
6. After you read the ESG Interim Rule and consult with your community, reach out to Mollie Lund at mollie@thn.org if you have questions about Project Design.