

## **ESG CV Funds Q&A Document based on 5-19-2020 Webinar**

**Can we apply for funds to do shelter rehab to bring us into ADA compliance and enhance pandemic response and capacity?**

Yes: include costs in your budget and ensure you clarify what the funding would be used for in your application.

**How do we apply for funding to participate in the HMIS?**

<https://www.thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/hmis/basics/>

**Is there a limit as to how much we can apply for?**

An agency can not apply for more than their current operational budget. The Applicant must submit documentation proving their operational budget to ensure the Applicant is not applying for over 100% of their operational budget. An example is a board approved budget for FY-2019-2020 or FY 2020-2021.

~~**Will we receive a response from THN once we submit an intent to apply?**~~

**What is the deadline for the local government approval for emergency shelter?**

The deadline is on June 5, 2020 at 11:59 pm - the same day as the application deadline.

**For Local Government Approval Form, can we use a previously completed form, like this past year?**

Yes - you are able to use a previous local government approval form as long as it was signed in the past 12 months.

**For the local government approval form, is there a certain level of government or higher that is required to sign it (i.e. municipality, county, etc)?**

\*County judge or mayor, or their official designee (such as city manager, assistant city manager, community development director or human services director). Each local government determines who has the authority to sign this document.

**Do we have to have a resolution specific for this application or can it be our general resolution issued by the board.**

The board resolution can be signed in the past 12 months. The board resolution does not need to include this funding opportunity. The board resolution must include: Authorization of the submission of the Application (this may be authorization of submission of grants that address homelessness) and **the Title** of the person authorized to represent the Applicant and designated with signature authority to execute a Contract.

### **Are there any ineligible costs or activities for this funding**

**To ensure your project meets the eligible costs ensure that they are listed in the Interim Rule.**

- ESG Emergency Shelter: <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/24/576.102>
- ESG Street Outreach: <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/24/576.101>
- ESG Homelessness Prevention: <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/24/576.103>
  - Homelessness prevention must be provided in accordance with the housing relocation and stabilization services requirements in [§ 576.105](#), the short-term and medium-term rental assistance requirements in [§ 576.106](#), and the written standards and procedures established under [§ 576.400](#).
- ESG Rapid Re-housing: <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/24/576.104>
  - The rapid re-housing assistance must be provided in accordance with the housing relocation and stabilization services requirements in [§ 576.105](#), the short- and medium-term rental assistance requirements in [§ 576.106](#), and the written standards and procedures established under [§ 576.400](#).

### **Is there still a cap on the fair market rate for rental cost?**

The fair market rent waiver has only been waived for current ESG grants. Updates will be made if HUD releases additional guidance in the future.

### **If an application is approved will reimbursements be backtracked or do they start as of the date that the application is signed?**

*Pre Contracting Costs must be included in your budget.*

Pre Contracting Costs are eligible, generally all costs are eligible except in three cases:

- A. Emergency shelter activities before the local government approval of shelter activities are received. In this case, the other program components in the Contract could be charged and emergency shelter would be eligible once the approval is received.
- B. Emergency shelter renovation, rehabilitation or conversion, which requires additional environmental clearance. In this case, no other

program components in the Contract could be charged until the environmental clearance is received.

- C. Project-based rental assistance, which requires additional environmental clearance. In this case, no other program components in the Contract could be charged until the environmental clearance is received.

**When will the funds be released?**

Funds will be released at the discretion of TDHCA.

**If a current subrecipient does not receive a specific component in current award, can they apply for funding from here to begin services under that component? for example HP?**

Yes

**If a new version of the RFP needs to be released, will an announcement be sent via email or should we keep checking the website?**

Version 2 can be found here:

<https://www.thn.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/5-21-2020-ESG-CV-RFA-Version-2.docx.pdf>

**This funding not just for Rapid Re-housing correct?**

No, Rapid Re-housing, Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach and Homelessness Prevention.

**For how many months is this grant period for?**

12 months.

**We utilize OSNIUM, how does that impact reporting since we are a DV provider?**

OSNIUM is an eligible HMIS comparable database for DV providers.

**If I am wanting to apply for street outreach and establish this as a new agency program not in our current year budget, our current year budget does not include street outreach but I am interested in establishing this as a new program. Since it is not in our current budget and the budget needs to be submitted, how would I do this?**

Agencies may only apply for up to 100% of their current operational budget.

**Can two or three agencies in the same town request for the same service. example , homelessness prevention.**

Yes, however we encourage that agencies will consult with one another on their applications.

**Can current subrecipients be awarded for ESG and ESG-CV**

Yes.

**Can you please speak to the MOU or collaborative effort question or requirement.**

To receive Bonus Points (Section XII, B) for targeting homelessness prevention to households in Rapid Re-Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, or affordable housing projects, the Applicant must submit evidence of a partnership with an affordable housing provider.

- If Applicants are partnering with another provider, they must provide an executed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated between Monday, May 18, 2020 and Friday, June 5, 2020. The MOU must also outline the relationship between the two agencies.
- If Applicants are applying for homelessness prevention dollars to support clients in their Rapid Re-Housing and/or Permanent Supportive Housing projects, they must submit a letter on Agency letterhead dated between Monday, May 18, 2020 and Friday, June 5, 2020 signed by a Member of the Agency's Board.

**Can we get a sample MOU to use with our local housing authority and health department?**

I will get an answer to this the week of May 25, 2020.

**If you are in a county that has not received ESG for many years, and you are looking to apply for both ESG and ESG-CV how would you recommend separating out the funding request as you are a new applicant for both? As we should show a difference in the ask for funding between the applications.**

I recommend when applying for ESG-CV ensure you focus on

**We're a council of governments, so our communities are our board. Would that fit the collaborative description to some extent?**

Ensure you have a MOU with your community partners.

**Would a security deposit to help someone get out of a shelter and into permanent housing fall under Rapid Re-housing-Financial or RRH - Services on the budget spreadsheet?**

Financial

**Can we include both short term and long term assistance for rapid rehousing**

Yes.

**If shelter costs are covered & RRH to help the public better shelter in place through this.... is TDHCA requiring that shelters document "covid" from each client? or is the client's crisis happening during this effective time period enough for the performance activity to qualify?**

No - agencies are required to be creative but we would never require agencies to collect specific information like test results, etc.

**Will collaborative applications get more points?**

There are 2 points more for collaborative applications. Collaboration meaning procurement.

**Is it still a requirement that our local board be represented by a formerly homeless member?**

Not for ESG CV funds.

**For new programs serving multiple counties, what is the best guess on the minimum number of staff to deliver a respectable effort**

THN recommends adequate staffing to ensure your staff are not overwhelmed with clients.