

Summary of Federal Funding Sources for COVID-19 Homelessness Response

Updated April 15, 2020

This table assembles available information on federal funding sources that are being made available to local entities to address the COVID-19 pandemic among people who are experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness. New information is being released almost daily, so this table will be updated on a regular basis.

FEDERAL SOURCES					
PROGRAM	FUNDING ENTITY	TOTAL FUNDING	ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS	PROCESS & TIMELINE	USES OF FUNDS & OTHER NOTES
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	\$4 billion	Cities, counties, states	Block grant; minimal planning process required. First allocations (\$1 billion) announced April 1, 2020; subsequent timelines TBD.	Shelter, short-term and medium-term rent subsidies, support services. Maximum flexibility. No match. Limited environmental review. <i>Additional detail in CARES Act: ESG Chart, p.2.</i>
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	HUD	\$5 billion	States and entitlement jurisdictions	Block grant; minimal planning process required. First allocations (\$2 billion) announced April 1, 2020; subsequent timelines TBD.	Almost anything with public benefit; including services, operating costs, rent, capital. There will be no services cap. <i>Additional detail in CARES Act: CDBG Chart, p.3.</i>
Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA)	HUD	\$65 million	States, localities, or non-profits* (*with projects of national significance)	Full amount of formula grant allocations and competitive awards announced April 1, 2020.	To maintain operations of HOPWA grantees and for rental assistance, supportive services, and other necessary actions. <i>Additional detail in CARES Act: HOPWA Chart, p.4.</i>
Coronavirus Relief Fund	U.S. Treasury Department	\$150 billion	States and local governments	TBD.	Flexible funds for states and local governments for expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 emergency.
FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Funding	FEMA	unknown	States, tribes, or territories that administer PA	Contact FEMA regional point of contact; apply through FEMA's Grant Portal: https://grantee.fema.gov/	Reimbursement of 75% of eligible costs related to COVID-19 response; includes non-congregate shelter under FEMA-designated circumstances. <i>Additional information may be found at:</i> https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-policy-and-guidance

FEDERAL SOURCES: CARES ACT - EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG)

CARES Act: <https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hr748/BILLS-116hr748enr.pdf>

USES OF FUNDS

- Intent: “To prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts created by coronavirus”
- Eligible Service Uses:
 - Temporary emergency shelter (through leasing of existing property, temporary structures, etc.); not subject to minimum periods of use requirements
 - Limited environmental review (need State or local health official approval, Federal habitability and environmental review standards and requirements don’t apply)
 - Training on infectious disease prevention and mitigation
 - Hazard pay for staff working directly to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Funded services may not require treatment or requirement of prerequisite services as a condition to receive shelter, housing, or other services
- Up to 10% for administrative purposes
- Up to 1% for technical assistance providers with experiencing in provided health care services to people experiencing homelessness
- Recipient award decisions not subject to consultation, citizen participation, or match requirements: however, do need to publicly publish how recipient has/will use allocation

FEDERAL SOURCES: CARES ACT - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

CARES Act: <https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hr748/BILLS-116hr748enr.pdf>

USES OF FUNDS

- Intent: To support infectious disease response; can be used for broad range of activities, including those that support people experiencing homelessness
- Examples of Eligible Service Uses:
 - Acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation of buildings for testing, treatment, or temporary isolation for recovery from Covid-19
 - Assistance to businesses, including special economic development assistance, to create jobs/manufacture supplies necessary to respond to Covid-19 or to support microenterprises that support home health and quarantine
 - Public services, including rental assistance, operating costs of shelters, etc.
 - Planning, capacity building, technical assistance
- No public services cap (unlike regular CDBG)

Additional information may be found at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/news/hud-publishes-a-cdbg-quick-guide-to-support-infectious-disease-response/>

FEDERAL SOURCES: CARES ACT - HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH AIDS (HOPWA)

CARES Act: <https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hr748/BILLS-116hr748enr.pdf>

USES OF FUNDS

- Intent: To supplement HOPWA grantee expenses to prevent, prepare for, or respond to COVID-19; to be used to maintain operations and for rental assistance, supportive services, and other necessary actions related to COVID-19
- Examples of Allowable Uses for HOPWA Eligible Households:
 - Assistance in accessing essential services and supplies
 - Education on infectious disease prevention and methods of reducing spread of infection
 - Transportation to access medical care, supplies, food, or commute to employment
 - Nutrition services in form of food banks, groceries, meal deliveries
 - Lodging in hotels, motels, etc. for purpose of quarantine
 - Homelessness prevention in form of short-term rent, mortgage, or utility payment assistance

Additional information may be found at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/news/cares-act-supplemental-award-information-for-hopwa-grantees/>