

**Emergency Solutions Grants Program
Workshop: Grantees & Applicants-
Duplication of Benefits & State
Emergency Rental Assistance
Program**





How to ask a question

- Webinar questions:
- Click “Ask a Question” to submit a question to the team
- You may ask questions anonymously, but if you want your name, organization, or region associated with your question, you will need to type it in the “Your Name” box
- The team will read questions out loud throughout the presentation and will provide answers if possible
- All questions will be saved and recorded as part of the public record



Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Background of the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)
- Impact to ESG Homelessness Prevention Rental Assistance
- Next Steps for ESG Awards/Applications
- Questions & Answers



HCD Team Today

- Janice Waddell, Federal Branch Chief
- Marisa Fogal, CDBG & ESG Section Chief
- Megan Miller, ESG Program Manager
- Felicity Gasser, Federal Programs Specialist
- Mike Phillips, CDBG & ESG Specialist
- Amanda Lockwood, ESG Specialist



About the CA Emergency Rental Assistance Program (1 of 4)

- Federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 passed 12/27/2020
 - Established Federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program (\$25 billion nationwide)
 - \$2.6 Billion to CA
 - \$1.5 billion direction to CA
 - \$1.1 billion to counties and cities with over 200,000 people





About the CA Emergency Rental Assistance Program (2 of 4)

- SB 91 passed 1/28/2021 extend CA tenant protections to 6/30/2021 and Appropriates \$1.5 billion to a State Rental Assistance Program
- Program will launch no later than March 15, 2021





About the CA Emergency Rental Assistance Program (3 of 4)

- Available for households with incomes at or below 80 percent of Area Median Income, with a priority for households at or below 50 % AMI
- Prioritizes the payment of rental arrearages.
- Landlords can choose to accept 80 percent of any unpaid rent owed from April 1, 2020, through March 31, 2021. If a landlord accepts this funding, the landlord agrees to forgive the remaining unpaid rent for that covered period.
- If a landlord chooses not to participate, the tenant can still apply for relief valued at 25 percent of unpaid back rent they owe for the covered period.





About the CA Emergency Rental Assistance Program (4 of 4)

- Qualified tenants will also be able to access funds to cover 25 percent of prospective rent for the months of April, May, and June of 2021, subject to funding availability.
- Utility arrearages will also be eligible to be paid, subject to funding availability.
- The State will directly administer \$1.5 billion through either the State Rental Assistance program or through block grants to qualifying local jurisdictions (those with populations over 200,000)
- Emphasis on multilingual, local outreach, fraud prevention, and customer service.
- More information at housingiskey.com
- Draft Rental Assistance Reservation Table: [BCSH Assistance Reservation Table Link](#)





What you should know as CoCs...

- Let us know who your local partners are who could help ensure equitable access and “boots on the ground”. ERAP program staff will engage them. Send partner names and contact information to ERAP@hcd.ca.gov
- The State ERAP program is designed to make sure rural communities are served equitably, with each jurisdiction having a designated “reservation pool” or pot of funds allocated to its specific area.
- For the CoCs...households might reside in a jurisdiction that is administering its own, separate ERAP program. Be prepared to work with the jurisdiction administering ERAP funds to prevent duplication of benefits, whether that is the State or your local city(ies) or county(ies).





What does this mean for the ESG Program? (1 of 3)

- HCD is disallowing Homelessness Prevention Rental Assistance to :
 - Avoid Duplication of Benefits
 - To make sure that beneficiaries can access the ERAP that provides up to 12 months of assistance



What does this mean for the ESG Program? (2 of 3)

If you have **already launched** your program and have started making payments on behalf of beneficiaries, you will need to:

1. Discontinue use of Homelessness Prevention Rental Assistance by **February 19th**.
2. Submit, by **February 26th**, in a format to be provided by HCD, a list of beneficiaries assisted.
 - **NOTE:** Do **NOT** submit any list in advance of receiving instructions and a template from HCD. The information will contain Personal Identifying Information (PII) and must be securely transmitted.
 - This will let the system cross-check beneficiaries and make sure they aren't given assistance twice for the same incurred cost. Doing this also allows the ERAP program to give additional assistance to the households already assisted with ESG.



What does this mean for the ESG Program? (3 of 3)

For **all ESG grantees**, whether or not you have launched your program:

1. Let us know how you will be using these funds by sending an email to ESG@hcd.ca.gov. Your options:
 - a. Re-write your program guidelines or written standards to eliminate rental assistance as an eligible use. Allowed uses are:
 - Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance
 - Relocation and Stabilization Services - Services
 - Hazard Pay
 - Landlord Incentives
 - Volunteer Incentives
 - Training
 - b. Revise your budget to move funds from one activity to another. Please contact the ESG inbox to begin the budget revision process by submitting a budget revision worksheet that will be provided shortly.



What do we tell our community members?

- If households come to you to request assistance after you have discontinued your program, collect their names and contact information and alert them about the upcoming launch of the state program by March 15th at the latest.
- Tenants who would have been eligible for Homelessness Prevention Rental Assistance are protected from losing their housing due to unpaid rent under the extended Statewide Eviction Moratorium.



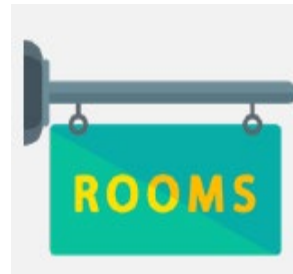
What should I fund now? (1 of 4)

During an eviction moratorium, Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Homelessness Prevention resources for COVID-19 response may be used for individuals or families:

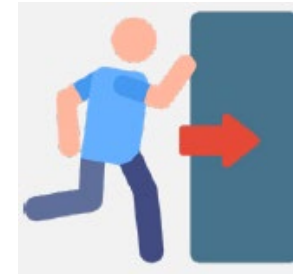
- Whose incomes do not exceed Very Low Income for the area; **AND**
- Who do not have sufficient resources or support networks to avoid emergency; **AND**
- Who meet ONE of the following criteria described below.



**Multiple Moves
Institution**



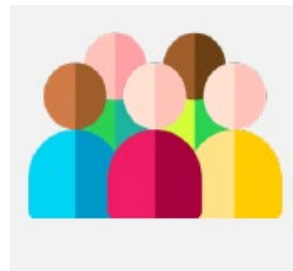
Hotel/Motel



Exiting

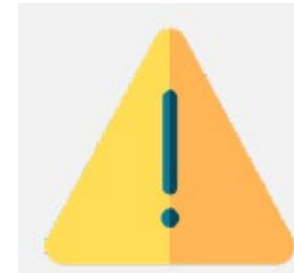


**Doubled-Up
of**



Overcrowded

Housing



Other Situations

Housing Instability



What should I fund now? (2 of 4)

- **Homelessness Prevention additional activities:**
 1. Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance
 - Moving costs
 - Application fees / security deposits
 - Utility payments / deposits
 2. Relocation and Stabilization Services – Services
 - Case management
 - Legal services
 3. Hazard Pay
 4. Landlord Incentives
 - Signing bonuses equal to up to 2 months of rent;
 - Security deposits equal to up to 3 months of rent;
 - Costs to repair damages;
 - Cleaning or maintenance of unit and/or appliances
 5. Volunteer Incentives
 6. Training



What should I fund now? (3 of 4)

- **Rapid Rehousing Activities:**
 1. Rental Assistance
 2. Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance
 3. Relocation and Stabilization Services – Services
 4. Hazard Pay
 5. Landlord Incentives
 6. Volunteer Incentives
 7. Training



What should I fund now? (4 of 4)

	Emergency Shelter	Street Outreach
Renting spaces for vaccine events	Outpatient Health Services	Emergency Health Services
Hiring vaccine ambassadors to engage/educate peers about the vaccine	Case Management	Engagement Case Management
Transporting people to/from vaccine events	Transportation	Transportation
Mobile outreach vans and staff to support vaccine distribution		Emergency Health Services
Staff training on vaccine and rollout strategies	Training	Training
PPE and supplies at vaccine events	Operations	Emergency Health Services



Additional Activities (1 of 3)

	Operations – ES and Temporary ES Examples
Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cleaning supplies such as Bleach, wipes, scrubbers, and mops• Protective equipment such as face masks, disposable gloves, and sneeze guards• Bed lines, Towels, hand sanitizer, soap, and tissue packets• Individually boxed meals
Furnishings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cots and Room Dividers
Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Washers, dryers, portable handwashing stations, portable showers, car or van purchase for transporting participants, and ventilation systems (e.g. HEPA filters)
Outpatient Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medication, emergency medical services, medication and follow-up services, and coordinating or providing medical treatment
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Train or bus tokens, taxi or rideshare for program participants travel to and from medical care, and car or van purchase for transporting participants or staff serving program participants



Additional Activities (2 of 3)

	Street Outreach Examples
Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Addressing urgent physical needs such as portable bathrooms, handwashing stations, portable showers, blankets, boxed meals, water, and PPE (e.g. hand sanitizer, soap, tissue packets, face masks, disposable gloves, sneeze guards)
Case Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Providing referrals to medical care and coordinating and arranging the delivery of service needs
Emergency Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Medication, emergency medical services, medication and follow-up services, and coordinating or providing medical treatment
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Train or bus tokens, taxi or rideshare for program participants' travel to and from medical care, and car or van purchase for transporting participants or staff serving program participants



Additional Activities (3 of 3)

- **Expanded Staffing and Training**
 - Hiring additional staff to support infectious disease preparedness.
 - Providing incentives to volunteers who have been and are currently helping to provide necessary street outreach, emergency shelter, and essential services during the coronavirus outbreak.
 - Providing training on infectious disease prevention and mitigation for staff working directly to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among emergency shelter participants and individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
 - Providing hazard pay for recipient and subrecipient staff working directly to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among emergency shelter participants and individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness.



More Information

Participate in Office Hours – each Wednesday at 10am. Search “Eventbrite HCD ESG” to access registration.

Link:

[HCD Office Hours : CDBG and ESG Programs - Registration Link](#)