

## ESG Homelessness Prevention Summary of Eligible Uses of ESG Funds

**Homelessness Prevention (for persons at-risk of homelessness) – ESG Funds may be used for the following for ESG eligible clients. The most common uses of ESG funds for Homelessness Prevention have been highlighted.**

The costs allowed for Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing are the same: housing relocation and stabilization services and short-term and medium-term rental assistance. Since the activities for both components are the same, it is the participant's eligibility conditions that distinguish them. Homelessness Prevention clients must meet the income eligibility, Fair Market Rent Requirements, Rent Reasonableness Requirements, have sufficient evidence of risk of homelessness (e.g. actionable notice to vacate) and lack of resources.

### **1) Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services (HRSS) HRSS - Financial Assistance Costs – 24 C.F.R. § 576.105(a)**

- Last month's rent
- Rental application fees charged by the housing owner to all applicants
- Security deposits that do not exceed more than 2 months' rent
- **Utility deposits required by the utility deposit for all customers**
- **Utility payments for gas, electric, water and sewage**
- Moving Costs, such as truck rental or hiring a moving company (usually for Rapid Re-Housing programs)
- Temporary storage fees for up to 3 months, provided that the fees are accrued after the date the participant begins receiving assistance under described in 24 C.F.R. § 576.105(b) and before the participant moves into permanent housing. (usually for Rapid Re-Housing programs)

### **2) HRSS: Housing Services Costs – 24 C.F.R. § 576.105(b) Housing Search and Placement costs – 24 C.F.R. § 576.105(b)(1)**

The services or activities necessary to assist program participants in locating, obtaining, and retaining

suitable permanent housing including:

- Assessment of housing barriers, needs and preferences
- Development of an action plan for locating housing
- Housing search
- **Outreach to and negotiation with owners**
- Assistance with submitting rental applications and understanding leases
- **Assessment of housing for compliance with ESG requirements for habitability, lead based paint, and rent reasonableness (for all Homelessness Prevention clients)**
- Assistance with obtaining utilities and making moving arrangements
- Tenant counseling

### **Housing Stability Case Management – 24 C.F.R. § 576.105(b)(2)**

The costs of assessing, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services

to facilitate housing stability including:

- **Using the centralized or coordinated assessment system**
- **Conduct the initial evaluation**
- Counseling
- **Developing, securing and coordinating services including Federal, state, and local benefits**
- **Monitoring and evaluating program participant progress**
- **Providing information and referrals to other providers**

## ESG Homelessness Prevention Summary of Eligible Uses of ESG Funds

- Developing an individualized housing and service plan
- Conducting re-evaluations

*Housing Stability Case Management assistance cannot exceed 30 days during the period the participant is seeking permanent housing. (NA for Homelessness Prevention)*

### **Mediation – 24 C.F.R. § 576.105(b)(3)**

The costs of mediation between the program participant and the owner or person(s) with whom the program participant is living, to prevent the program participant from losing permanent housing in which they currently reside, including:

- Time and/or services associated with mediation activities

### **Legal Services – 24 C.F.R. § 576.105(b)(4)**

The costs of legal services that are necessary to resolve a legal problem that prohibits the program participant from obtaining or maintaining permanent housing, including:

- Hourly fees for legal advice and representation
- Fees based on the actual service performed (i.e., fee for service), but only if the cost would be less than the cost of hourly fees
- Client intake, preparation of cases for trial, provision of legal advice, representation at hearings, and counseling
- Filing fees and other necessary court costs
- Subrecipient's employees' salaries and other costs necessary to perform the services, if the subrecipient is a legal services provider and performs the services itself

The costs of providing services necessary to resolve a legal problem that prevents a participant from obtaining or maintaining permanent housing including legal representation and advice for the following matters:

- Landlord/tenant matters
- Child support
- Guardianship
- Paternity
- Emancipation
- Legal separation
- Resolution of outstanding criminal warrants
- Orders of protection and other civil remedies for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking
- Appeal of veterans and public benefit claim denials

### **Credit Repair - 24 C.F.R. § 576.105(b)(5)**

The costs of services necessary to assist program participants with critical skills related to household

budgeting, managing money, accessing a free personal report problems, including:

- Credit Counseling
- Other services necessary to assist programs participants with critical skills related to household budgeting, managing money, accessing a free personal credit report, and resolving personal credit problems.

### **3) Short-term and medium-term rental assistance - 24 C.F.R. § 576.106**

- Short-term rental assistance (up to 3 months of rent)

## ESG Homelessness Prevention Summary of Eligible Uses of ESG Funds

- Medium-term rental assistance (up to 24 months of rent for ESG. 12 months including arrears for ESG CARES ESG-CV)
- Payment of rental arrears (one-time payment up to 6 months, including any late fees on those arrears)

### 4) Homeless Management Information Systems Costs

The costs of contributing data to the CoC's HMIS. Victim service providers and legal service providers may use ESG funds to pay the costs of establishing and operating a comparable database.

#### **Hardware, Equipment and Software costs - 24 C.F.R. § 576.107(a)(1)**

- Purchasing or leasing computer hardware
  - Purchasing software or software licenses
  - Purchasing or leasing equipment, including telephones, faxes and furniture
- (Note: government procurement guidelines must be followed)

#### **Staffing: Paying salaries for operating HMIS - 24 C.F.R. § 576.107(a)(1)**

- Data collection
- Completing data entry
- Monitoring and reviewing data quality
- Completing data analysis
- Reporting to the HMIS Lead
- Training staff on using the HMIS or comparable database
  - Implementing and complying with HMIS requirements.

#### **Training and Overhead costs - 24 C.F.R. § 576.107(a)(1)**

- Obtaining technical support
- Leasing office space
- Paying charges for electricity, gas, water, phone service and high-speed data transmission necessary to operate or contribute data to the HMIS
- Paying costs of staff to travel to and attend HUD sponsored and HUD-approved training on HMIS and programs authorized by Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- Paying staff travel costs to conduct intake
- Paying participation fees charged by the HMIS Lead.