



**Preliminary Notification of Funding Awards**  
**Phase 39 (FY 2021) and Phase ARPA-R (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Section 4007)**

In FY 2021, FEMA awarded to the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) National Board the \$400 million made available under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law No. 117-2, Section 4007, and the \$130 million made available under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Public Law No. 116-260. Note that the FY 2021 \$130 million in annual funding is Phase 39 of the program and the \$400 million under Section 4007 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) is Phase ARPA-R (the “R” representing the regular EFSP and not the supplemental humanitarian relief funding authorized under ARPA, Section 4008).

Previously, notification was sent advising that awards would be made to qualifying jurisdictions (counties and cities) and State Set-Aside (SSA) Committees across the country the week of December 6, 2021. However, the required Federal Government and National Board processes are still underway for completion prior to the actual announcement of awards. Once those processes are completed and the National Board staff has finished updating materials, including the EFSP Responsibilities and Requirements Manual (EFSP Manual), to account for any new program policies and procedures, official award announcements will be made.

It is important that all documents are updated to reflect the many changes that will be implemented in the program beginning with Phases 39 and ARPA-R. Changes and new guidance are identified in the table below. In addition, this notification and a pre-recorded presentation with further detail regarding the changes and new guidance, planned for December 17, 2021, will be provided on the EFSP website, [www.efsp.unitedway.org](http://www.efsp.unitedway.org), under **FY2021/ARPA-R Funding** on the homepage. SSA Committees, Local Boards and Local Recipient Organizations (LROs) may view the recording at any time. Additionally, staff will schedule several Question & Answer sessions beginning January 11, 2022 to provide further opportunities for obtaining information. Registration information for the sessions will be shared via email and posted on the EFSP website by January 5, 2022.

The National Board understands that agencies require time to thoughtfully identify services and spend funds in their local communities. Consequently, Phases 39 and ARPA-R will run concurrently, and Local Boards will be given the option to extend their jurisdiction’s spending end dates. The spending begin date for all funded jurisdictions will be November 1, 2021, and the last spending end date option that Local Boards may select will be April 23, 2023. The spending end date options will be provided in the award materials when Local Board Plans are made available. The National Board allows LROs to charge eligible, properly documented expenditures back to the spending begin date (November 1, 2021).

A schedule for implementing Phases 39 and ARPA-R is available on the EFSP website under **FY2021/ARPA-R Funding**, but it is also noted below for your convenience.

<b>12.15.2021</b>	<b>Notify Local Boards and LROs of Changes to Program and Advise of Q&amp;A Sessions</b>
<b>12.17.2021</b>	<b>Post Webinar (FY2021 Funding Info, Program Changes, etc.) on EFSP Website</b>
<b>1.5.2022</b>	<b>Release Award Amounts, Local Board Plans and Materials to Local Boards</b>
<b>1.5.2022</b>	<b>Post Message Advising of Local Board Plans Availability on EFSP Website</b>
<b>1.11.2022</b>	<b>Host Q&amp;A Session for Local Boards and LROs to Respond to Questions</b>
<b>1.26.2022</b>	<b>Host Q&amp;A Session for Local Boards and LROs to Respond to Questions</b>
<b>2.15.2022</b>	<b>Remind Local Boards of Local Board Plans Due Date (3.11.2022)</b>
<b>2.16.2022</b>	<b>Host Q&amp;A Session for Local Boards and LROs to Respond to Questions</b>
<b>3.1.2022</b>	<b>Host Q&amp;A Session for Local Boards and LROs to Respond to Questions</b>
<b>3.11.2022</b>	<b>Local Board Plans Due to National Board</b>

## **ACTIONS REQUIRED**

1. To prepare for the receipt of Phases 39 and ARPA-R award notifications, Local Board and SSA Committee chairs or points of contact should sign into the website as soon as possible using their user ID and password to update members information. After signing into the website, select **Manage LB Members** to make any necessary changes. *Please ensure that email addresses for both the Local Board chair and contact are accurate so that official award announcements are received without delay.*
2. After reviewing the changes and new guidance found in the table below, consider if you would like to participate in one of the scheduled Question & Answer sessions. If so, please register for the session you choose once the registration links are provided (January 5, 2022).

As processes are completed and materials are finalized, the National Board will share updates via the EFSP website. Please continue to check *Latest News* on the EFSP website homepage for the most recent program information.



**EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER PROGRAM  
CHANGES / NEW GUIDANCE  
Implementation Beginning with Phases 39 and ARPA-R Awards**

<b>ELIGIBILITY ITEMS</b>	<b>CHANGES / NEW GUIDANCE</b>
<b>Per Meal Allowance</b>	The per meal allowance will increase to \$3 per meal for agencies using the per meal rate when providing congregate meals.
<b>Per Diem Allowance</b>	Only the \$12.50 per night rate will be allowed for agencies using the per diem rate when providing mass shelter services.
<b>Utilities</b>	Local Recipient Organizations (LROs) may pay more than one-month utility assistance. LROs may now pay up to 90 days (3 months) for clients per phase if it is necessary to prevent disconnection of services. The Local Board may approve the payments, but no additional approval is required by the National Board.
<b>Rent/Mortgage</b>	LROs may pay more than one-month rental or mortgage assistance. LROs may now pay up to 90 days (3 months) for clients per phase if it is necessary to maintain housing. The Local Board may approve the payments, but no additional approval is required by the National Board.
<b>Other Shelter (Hotel/Motel)</b>	LROs may pay more than one-month hotel/motel assistance. LROs may now provide up to 90 days of assistance for clients per phase if it is necessary to prevent homelessness. The Local Board may approve the payments, but no additional approval is required by the National Board.

<b>PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>CHANGES / NEW GUIDANCE</b>
<b>Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Enrollment</b>	The National Board will accept Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) enrollment information from LROs via email and fax. If preferred, LROs may still send the enrollment information to the National Board via U.S. Mail.
<b>Payments</b>	All payments will be made to LROs via EFT. Newly funded agencies should submit bank information as quickly as possible to the National Board for processing to prevent delays in the release of funding. <i>Variations may be considered for agencies to participate in the program that are unable to provide bank information.</i>