
EFSP Phase 42 – Frequently Asked Questions

Posted 1/27/25

1. What are the dates for the program?

At this time, the EFSP National Board has indicated the release of Phase 42. Additional information will be issued as it becomes available.

2. When is the spending period?

The EFSP National Board has not released the information about the spending period. Additional information will be issued as it becomes available.

3. Is there any possibility of understanding how we were scored on previous submissions?

The EFSP Local Board does not provide feedback on applications.

4. How much was the award reduced Nationally?

The EFSP National Board has announced a national allocation of \$117 million for EFSP Phase 42 (compared to \$130 million for Phase 41) (pg. 3 of the Phase 42 Competition Overview).

5. How much less is the jurisdiction receiving?

For Phase 41, the Houston/Fort Bend, Harris Counties (782800) jurisdiction received \$2,730,091 and the total award amount for Phase 42 is \$2,277,224.

6. Where can I find the RFP?

The RFP is available on the ACAM's website: <https://acamweb.org/funding-vendor-opportunities/>.

7. Shelter services will most likely be moving to a new location during the program year. Are both locations required to submit the City's certificate of occupancy?

Each occupancy information would need to be included with the application.



8. Would the application need the main key leadership contact information or information for all staff for the organizational chart? What contact information would be helpful, name, email address, number?

The organizational chart requested is the program level and contact information (pgs. 5-6, Phase 42 Competition Overview).

9. Can we insert a hyperlink in the application?

The application is a stand-alone application. Reviewers will only consider the information presented directly within the application. Any links included will not be checked or assessed.

10. Is there any maximum threshold for request among of funds or per category?

The EFSP Local Board Handbook under subsection *Application and Award Threshold Amounts* (page 5) describes the thresholds: “Applicants must apply for no less than a total of \$20,000 and that the total award after scoring shall not be less than \$10,000. (Note: Organizations are encouraged to apply for more than \$20,000, as the allocation methodology may cause applications for \$10,000 to fall below the threshold and be disqualified.)”

11. Can we include plastic storage bags and boxes under other food budgets, or should we put them under supplies?

For budgeting purposes, include under the Other Food category as it is an eligible expense under the EFSP Phase 35 Manual (page 66).

12. Is there a target percentage from the budget vs non-EFSP funds when applying for EFSP?

The goal of EFSP is to supplement an existing program and not to create a new program or supplant existing funding for a program.

13. Is the coversheet PDF fillable?

The cover sheet is a regular PDF form.

14. Will organizations get receipt confirmation after proposal submission?

No.

15. Do you want each document separate or combined in one PDF?

The examples for proposals submittal can be found on page 6 of the Phase 42 Competition Overview.

16. For the date of last audit, should it be the date of actual audit letter, or the date of the end of fiscal year?

The RFP requests the most recent completed audit.

17. Does our request need to align with how the Local Board has allocated funds? Only up to 50% can be requested for rent/utilities, 30% food out of total award of \$2,277,224?

Scored applications are scaled to the available funding. More information can be found in the subsection called Application Scoring and Fund Allocation of the Local Board Handbook on page 5.

18. For the financials, would the latest Tax returns work?

According to the competition overview, Agency's Most Current Audit or Financial Statement (PDF) is requested (pg. 5).

19. Was the optional conference recorded?

No.

20. Is the spending period a 12-month period? Will it be defined prior to the grant being due?

EFSP National Board has not released the spending period for Phase 42 at this time.

21. How can I resolve issues with the character count on the application?

Try to redownload the document. It could be due to a few reasons: hidden characters like spaces, tabs, or special characters not being counted correctly.

22. When will the FAQ be posted?

The FAQ will be posted by January 28th end of day.

23. Will the Served Meals per diem remain \$3.00 per meal?

Yes, the per diem for Served Meals is \$3.00.

EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER PROGRAM

of Houston/Fort Bend and Harris Counties
and Waller County



24. Will we be able to continue to help clients with rent/mortgages for three months?

The current guidance from the EFSP National Board is that clients can be assisted for up to three months for the program phase.