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State of Oklahoma
Community Development Block Grant
(DRAFT) 2021 Annual Action Plan
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INTRODUCTION

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. The small cities portion of the program appropriates monies to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for allocation to the states. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce / Community Development (ODOC/CD), formerly the Department of Economic and Community Affairs, was assigned the administrative responsibility for the program in Oklahoma in 1982.

The primary National Objective of the State’s CDBG program is:

“THE DEVELOPMENT OF VIABLE URBAN COMMUNITIES, BY PROVIDING DECENT HOUSING AND A SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT, AND EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES, PRINCIPALLY FOR PERSONS OF LOW INCOME.”

The use of the “benefit to low and moderate income-persons” CDBG National Objective is considered a funding PRIORITY under the State’s CDBG Program and is treated as such under the State’s individual CDBG set-asides. All project proposals submitted for funding through the State’s CDBG Program must document the achievement of the low and moderate-income National Objective as delineated in 24 CFR §570.483 (Criteria for National Objectives).

✓ Provide benefit to low and moderate-income persons.

It is estimated that, at a minimum, 95% of funds will be utilized on projects that meet the primary national objective of benefit to low and moderate income persons. Each state administering the CDBG program is allowed the flexibility of determining its priorities from the range of eligible activities under Section 105(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act. To formulate the State’s CDBG program, views on priorities are requested and received from the general public, municipalities, and counties through written surveys, public hearings and written comments on proposed plans.

Distribution and management of the Community Development Block Grant funds allocated to Oklahoma will rely on a process that permits local communities to request assistance through the submittal of a formal application. Applicants are required to complete and submit their respective application and applicable attachments online at the following OKGrants web address: https://grants.ok.gov. No paper applications will be accepted. ODOC/CD shall conduct an evaluation of applications to ensure compliance with the National Objectives, all thresholds and program requirements. Application guidelines with specific application requirements can be found at the ODOC/CD website: https://www.okcommerce.gov/community-development/. Prospective applicants should review the application guidance BEFORE attempting to complete the online application. Failure to meet application guidelines or properly submit required application documentation may result in a FAILED or DENIED application rating.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANT

Eligible applicants are units of local government (incorporated towns, cities, and counties) that are not participants in the CDBG Entitlement Program. Oklahoma’s entitlement cities are Edmond, Enid, Lawton, Midwest City, Moore, Norman, Oklahoma City, Shawnee, and Tulsa as well as the units of local government participating in the CDBG Urban County Designation for Tulsa County which consists of the following:
City of Bixby
City of Broken Arrow
City of Collinsville
City of Glenpool

City of Jenks
City of Owasso
City of Sand Springs
City of Sapulpa

Town of Skiatook
Town of Sperry
Unincorporated Tulsa County
## GRANT ALLOCATION

Funding for the Fiscal Year 2021 CDBG Program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HUD Allocation</td>
<td>$14,773,942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less State administrative allowance</td>
<td>$469,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less State technical assistance</td>
<td>$73,869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total available for distribution</td>
<td>$14,230,725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CDBG Set-Aside Funding Distribution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Facility and Improvements</td>
<td>$11,790,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water and Wastewater Engineering</td>
<td>$3,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water and Wastewater Construction</td>
<td>$5,220,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Revitalization</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDBG-REAP</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Cities</td>
<td>$1,370,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Improvement Planning (CIP)</td>
<td>$440,000</td>
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</table>

### Economic Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF)</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program Income from the State’s Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund shall be used to fund Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF) activities as described in this Plan. The estimated amount of program income made available during the program year will be $500,000. This amount will be used in addition to the $1,000,000 of regular CDBG funding allocated to this year’s CDBG EDIF set-aside.

The Oklahoma Department of Commerce reserves the right to adjust set-aside and category allocations to ensure maximum utilization of funds. This includes the use of any CDBG funds recovered from cancelled or de-obligated CDBG projects. Such adjustments shall be the minimum amount necessary to fund projects efficiently and best facilitate the State’s CDBG Program obligation and expenditure requirements established by HUD.
GUIDELINES FOR SET-ASIDES

Audit Requirements
To be eligible to apply for funds in any category, units of general local government must demonstrate the ability to manage federal funds utilizing generally accepted principles of accounting. **TOWNS AND CITIES (COUNTIES ARE EXEMPT) MUST SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR AUDIT OR THE AGREED UPON PROCEDURES BY THE APPLICATION DEADLINE. ALL TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A JUNE 30, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2020 AUDIT AND TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A DECEMBER 31, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED, AS A MINIMUM, TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2019 AUDIT. NO APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW OR FUNDING THAT DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS STATED ABOVE.**

If the city or town receives less than $25,000 in annual revenues from its normal business and does not have an audit or agreed upon procedure, the city or town cannot apply directly to ODOC/CD. The city or town can only apply by having the local County apply on their behalf, if the County chooses to do so. Nothing contained herein mandates a county to act as an accommodating party.

Application Submission Requirements
1. **City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) Applicants:** City/Towns and Counties receiving a direct jurisdictional benefit may submit only one (1) grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering, Water/Wastewater Construction, Community Revitalization, or Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). A City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) cannot submit a CDBG application if it currently has an open CDBG grant. **Exclusions:** Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Typical County direct jurisdiction CDBG application projects are roads, bridges, County hospital, etc. In the case of fire truck funding requests, the County would have to own and operate the fire trucks in order to qualify under direct jurisdictional benefit.

2. **County Sponsored Applicants:** Counties acting in a “sponsorship” capacity may submit a maximum of one sponsored CDBG grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from Water/Wastewater Engineering, Water/Wastewater Construction, Community Revitalization, or Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). **Limitation:** Counties may ONLY have one (1) open sponsored CDBG grant and still make another sponsored CDBG application. Counties cannot exceed a maximum number of two open sponsored CDBG grants open at any given time. **Exclusions:** Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Counties may sponsor applications where they do not have direct jurisdiction over certain public functions. Generally, these are communities with less than $25,000 in revenue, Rural Water Districts, and Rural Fire Districts. Counties CANNOT submit a single application containing multiple Units of General Local Governments or jurisdictions such as Rural Fire Districts under a single county sponsored application.

Leverage
The State’s CDBG Program requires that all leveraged CDBG project funding be in place at the time of the application submission. There are several reasons for this. First, the HUD based CDBG Program imposes program specific obligation and expenditure requirements. Most importantly,
an applicant may simply not receive the leveraged funding as intended. This wastes valuable CDBG program time and requires additional ODOC/CD staff time to de-obligate the contract and reallocate the contract funding to another eligible CDBG project. Second, applicants without secured leverage funding at the time of the application submission would require additional time for securing the funds adding time to the overall project completion timeline. Third, there is no foreseeable way to impose an additional timeframe for the allowance to secure leveraged funding that would be fair to all applicants given the varied types of outside funding available.

CDBG Project Eligibility Policy

Prospective CDBG Program applicants are strongly encouraged to review (24 CFR 570 Subparts A, C, I, K, and O) of the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (https://ecfr.io/Title-24/) for additional regulatory CDBG Program guidance as related to State CDBG Programs. The Housing and Community Development Act Section 105(a) and 24 CFR 570.482 defines eligible activities under the State CDBG Program. While some regulatory language is direct, there are instances where more clarity is needed.

It is the policy of ODOC/CD that should a prospective CDBG Program applicant request a CDBG project/activity that does NOT appear directly eligible and cannot be immediately determined as ineligible as interpreted from CDBG regulatory guidance and ODOC/CD staff that the applicant can formally request ODOC/CD to seek a final determination from HUD officials.

a. The prospective applicant will be required to submit a project/activity narrative regarding the requested activity. This will be required by HUD to conduct their review and make a determination. It is the responsibility of the prospective applicant to provide the narrative. The submission of the narrative to ODOC/CD will be seen by as the formal request to seek a final determination from HUD.

b. Once a detailed project narrative is received by ODOC/CD, it will be submitted to the Oklahoma City HUD office for a final eligibility determination.

Prospective applicants are advised to seek project/activity guidance as soon as possible from ODOC/CD if they have eligibility concerns. Prospective applicants should be aware that final CDBG regulatory and program guidance can take several months to receive from HUD. ODOC/CD understands that prospective applicants are subject to CDBG application deadlines; however, in absence of a final project/activity determination from HUD, ODOC/CD cannot allow an award for any requested CDBG project/activity that cannot be determined to be directly CDBG eligible. If the project/activity eligibility determination hasn’t been received from HUD by the CDBG application deadline, the application will receive a FAIL threshold rating. Applicants are advised to consider that a determination may not be received by the CDBG application submission date.
WATER & WASTEWATER ENGINEERING

The purpose of this Application Guide is to provide guidance in preparing a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Water/Wastewater Engineering application for the Oklahoma Department of Commerce / Community Development (ODOC/CD). The primary goals of the CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering Program are to (1) ensure the most proper technical solutions to the applicant’s water and wastewater problems within the budget that is available; and (2) improve coordination among other state agencies (both permitting and financing). It is important to note that given the design and intent of the State’s CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering Program, an eligible application must contain an engineering component regardless of whether CDBG or leveraged funds are paying for this cost.

NOTE: STARTING WITH THE FY 2019 CDBG APPLICATIONS, the former CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering Phase I and CDBG Water/Wastewater Phase II Programs have been merged into one single program. This new program is now known as “CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering” and will use a single application to allow for both engineering and construction.

Applicants submitting under the CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering Program may elect to either have (1) CDBG funds pay for the engineering, construction, administration, permitting, and other costs associated with water/wastewater project; or (2) provide a combination of CDBG funds and other funds to pay for these costs.

Applicants who successfully compete under the CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering Program and receive an award will be subject to the following project timeline. Prospective applicants should note that this timeline will be strictly enforced by ODOC/CD in order to ensure the timeliness of CDBG expenditures as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). CDBG Water/Wastewatwer awardees will receive a three (3) year contract structured as follows:

1. Year One – The sub-recipient will be required to successfully complete project engineering and achieve Release of Funds within one (1) year. ODOC/CD will carefully monitor project activity and subsequent progress. Allowable engineering costs will be based on the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA-RD) sliding scale. Once the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) permit and Oklahoma Department of Commerce/Community Development (ODOC/CD) Release of Funds requirements are complete (regardless of the source of funds), the sub-recipient will be able to proceed with project construction.

   (a) If the above deliverables are not met, the contract will be subject to de-obligation by ODOC/CD.

   (b) As part of ODOC/CD’s monitoring and evaluation of the project’s engineering progress, the sub-recipient must submit all required documentation to the ODOC/CD monitor in a timely manner. Failure to submit any or all required documentation will result in contract de-obligation.

   (c) Should the contract be de-obligated, any expended CDBG funds will be required to be reimbursed by the sub-recipient. The contract will remain open until repayment is made during which time the sub-recipient will not be eligible to apply for additional CDBG funding.
(d) An ODOC/CD review committee will determine de-obligation of the CDBG funding if the project’s engineering has NOT been satisfactorily completed and Release of Funds has NOT been obtained. This review committee will be composed of ODOC/CD staff to include: CDBG Planners, the Director of Programs (Planning & Monitoring), Deputy Division Director, and Division Director.

(e) If a sub-recipient is de-obligated “in good standing” without any CDBG funds expended, or has made the proper CDBG repayment as deemed necessary, the sub-recipient could close the contract and reapply during the next year’s application cycle.

2. Years’ Two & Three – Project construction will be allowed for a period of two (2) years plus any time left available should the engineering and Release of Funds be accomplished before the one (1) year engineering limit is reached.

The grant maximum for the CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering application is $450,000. The maximum amount of CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering funds that may be used for project administration is eight percent (8%) of the total CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering funds awarded for total construction and professional/non-construction funds provided. All CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering applications must be received no later than May 3, 2021. Applications received after this date will NOT be considered for funding.

Any funds not applied for in the CDBG Water & Wastewater set-aside will be transferred to another set-aside as determined by ODOC/CD.

Applicants are required to complete and submit their respective application and applicable attachments online at the following OKGrants web address: https://grants.ok.gov. NO PAPER APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Application guidelines and specific program requirements can be found at the OKGrants web address: https://okcommerce.gov/community/cdbg/. Prospective applicants should review the application guidance BEFORE attempting to complete the online application. Failure to meet application guidelines or properly submit required application documentation may result in a FAILED or DENIED application rating.

THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS FOR CDBG WATER & WASTEWATER ENGINEERING

1. CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering requests for funds must meet the principle CDBG National Objective of providing a direct benefit (fifty-one percent [51%] or more) to persons of low and moderate-income.

2. Cities, Towns and Counties with previous CDBG funding must have close-out documents submitted by January 29, 2021.

(a) City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) Applicants: City/Towns and Counties receiving a direct jurisdictional benefit may submit only one (1) grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering, CDBG Water/Wastewater Construction, CDBG Community Revitalization, or CDBG Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). A City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) cannot submit a CDBG application if it currently has an open CDBG grant. Exclusions: Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Typical County direct jurisdiction CDBG application projects are roads, bridges, County hospital, etc.
(b) County Sponsored Applicants: Counties acting in a “sponsorship” capacity may submit a maximum of one sponsored CDBG grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from Water/Wastewater Engineering, Water/Wastewater Construction, Community Revitalization, or Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). **Limitation:** Counties may ONLY have one (1) open sponsored CDBG grant and still make another sponsored CDBG application. Counties cannot exceed a maximum number of two open sponsored CDBG grants open at any given time. **Exclusions:** Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Counties may sponsor applications where they do not have direct jurisdiction over certain public functions. Generally, these are communities with less than $25,000 in revenue, Rural Water Districts, and Rural Fire Districts.

3. Per the design and intent of the State’s CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering Program, the following application specific limitations or restrictions are in place.

   (a) Applicants can apply for up to a $450,000 grant maximum.

   (b) Applicants may not apply for more than one (1) project activity per application under this CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering set-aside.

   (c) A CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering application must contain an engineering component regardless of whether CDBG or leveraged funds are being committed as payment. This is documented through the submission of the required Preliminary Engineering Report at the time of application submission.

   (d) The CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering application pursuant with 24 CFR §570.207 will not fund equipment only requests. The purchase of equipment under CDBG is generally ineligible except under very limited conditions as outlined in 24 CFR §570.207. Requests such as water meters must be encompassed by a broader type of water/wastewater project. Applicants are encouraged to review the entire regulation and should immediately consult ODOC should there questions as to the eligibility of their prospective project funding request.

4. A proper sponsor for CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering projects is defined as a Unit of Local government with direct jurisdiction over the majority (60%) of the proposed project beneficiaries.

5. Proof that citizen participation requirements have been met, as evidenced by an application phase public hearing and written Citizen Participation Plan.

6. All cost estimates shall be obtained from professional sources, and submitted with the application. These estimates must be certified and from professional engineers, architects, construction companies, vendors, or appropriate personnel with experience to make such estimates.

7. The CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering grant request cannot exceed $2,000 per beneficiary.

8. TOWNS AND CITIES (COUNTIES ARE EXEMPT) MUST SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR AUDIT OR THE AGREED UPON PROCEDURES BY THE APPLICATION DEADLINE. ALL TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A JUNE 30, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED
TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2020 AUDIT AND TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A DECEMBER 31, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED, AS A MINIMUM, TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2019 AUDIT. NO APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW OR FUNDING THAT DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS STATED ABOVE.

If a city or town receives less than $25,000 in annual revenues from its normal business and does not have an audit or agreed upon procedures, the city or town cannot apply directly to ODOC/CD. The city or town can apply only by having the local County apply on their behalf, if the County chooses to do so. Nothing contained herein mandates a County to act as an accommodating party.

9. Applicants are responsible for accomplishing online application corrections/revisions along with any applicable application upload corrections/revisions as directed by ODOC/CD staff within the pre-determined deadline. In fairness to other applicants and in order to maintain HUD required ODOC/CD’s CDBG funding expenditure rates; ODOC/CD can NOT indefinitely hold applications until the respective application corrections/revisions are accomplished. Applications will be considered INCOMPLETE if the prescribed corrections/revisions are not made to the application within the pre-determined deadline established by ODOC/CD. This will result in a FAILED threshold application rating.

10. The Application Guidelines associated with this CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering set-aside contains an APPLICATION FORMS CHECKLIST outlining all application related documentation required to be uploaded into the online OKGrants application. It is the applicant’s responsibility to follow this checklist and seek additional guidance from ODOC/CD staff as required. Applicants will be responsible for following and providing each item listed on the checklist. Failure to provide any of the required application documentation listed on the checklist will result in a FAILED application rating. Additionally, applicants must provide a response to all application questions and satisfy all documentation requirements delineated in the CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering Application Guidelines and online OKGrants Application System including, but not limited to: Resolution, income survey results, resolution requesting assistance, survey maps, certifications, HUD Form 2880 Applicant Recipient Disclosure Update Report, project budget, etc.

11. The application must sufficiently demonstrate an applicant’s need for the requested CDBG activity. For any requested CDBG project, there is an underlying “need” for such a project. It is the responsibility of the applicant to communicate to ODOC/CD why the particular CDBG activity is being requested in the application. Failure to adequately demonstrate a project need will result in a FAILED threshold application rating. The project need is communicated in the “Project Description” section of the “CDBG Application Summary” page of the online OKGrants application. Additional narratives and supporting documentation can be uploaded in the “Uploads” page of the OKGrants application if required.

**RATING CRITERIA FOR WATER & WASTEWATER ENGINEERING**

Water and Wastewater applications, which meet threshold criteria, will be ranked for funding utilizing the following criteria:

1. **Project Benefit to Low and Moderate Income Persons (2 - 15 points).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LMI %</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th># LMI Persons</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- **LMI %**
- **Points**
- **# LMI Persons**
- **Points**
2. **Severity of Need Water and Wastewater Projects (0 - 10 points).**

Projects will be rated on water and wastewater associated documented health, safety, and welfare hazards. Water and wastewater health, safety, and welfare deficiencies may be documented in one of two ways: (1) through the presence of a legal enforceable order issued by Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or (2) by written confirmation of a “hazard” from ODEQ that specifically states the cause and extent of the water or wastewater, health, safety, and welfare deficiency. ODOC/CD will only accept “documented hazard” Water and Wastewater related health, safety, and welfare hazard documentation from ODEQ and EPA sources. Claims using “Legal Enforceable Orders” and “Documented Hazards” will be verified by ODOC/CD through the applicant’s submitted supporting documentation.

Water and Wastewater projects that document health, safety, and welfare hazards involving legal enforceable orders will be rated on a separate scale of severity than written documentation of hazards. The two separate severity of need categories are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legal Enforceable Orders</th>
<th>10.0 Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Documented Hazards</td>
<td>5.0 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Documentation</td>
<td>0.0 Points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Severity of Need (0 - 5 points) Water and Wastewater Projects for New Housing Construction:** Projects for Water and Wastewater system expansions serving new housing developments shall be rated on their verification of the extent of the local jurisdictions housing shortage as documented by an official housing market analysis that clearly concludes a projected 3-5 year demand for a specific number of single family ownership units and/or rental units. Points will be determined by the level of impact based on the following criteria:

- ✓ Vacancy rates
- ✓ Population growth
- ✓ Projected job growth
- ✓ Number of units + Total units

3. **Residential Water Rate Structure (-3 to +3 points)**
Project proposals will earn points based on the first 5,000 gallons of their most current associated water rate structure. Water rate structures that favor both strong fiscal management and conservation awareness will be analyzed and awarded points by using portions of the Oklahoma “Water Resources Board’s Grant Priority Point Evaluation Policy”. Points will be awarded based on the following table:

**Flat Water Rate**: Unmetered charges on unmetered systems that charge a fee without regard to the amount of water used, unless the proposed project involves metering of all taps on the system. -3 points

**Decreasing Block Water Rate**: Price per unit of water becomes lower as the quantity of water use increases. -3 points

**Fixed/Uniform Water Rate**: Price per unit of water, in excess of any base or minimum charge, remains constant. 0 points

**Increasing Block Water Rate**: Price per unit of water increases as the quantity of water use increases. +3 points

4. Residential Water and Wastewater Rates (0 - 7 points)

All water and wastewater category projects will also receive points based on the revenue generating capacity of their rate structures. Water and Wastewater rates will be analyzed and awarded points by using portions of the Oklahoma “Water Resources Board's Grant Priority Point Evaluation Policy”. The appropriate table of points is determined based on the type of services provided by the system operator. If the system operator provides water service only, then Table #1 is used; if the system operator provides wastewater service only, then Table #2 is used; and if the system operator provides both water and wastewater service, then Table #3 is used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table #1 - Systems Providing Water Service Only</th>
<th>Table #2 - Systems Providing Wastewater Service Only</th>
<th>Table #3 - Systems Providing Water &amp; Wastewater Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost Per 5,000 Gallons</td>
<td>Points</td>
<td>Cost Per 5,000 Gallons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35.00 or Greater</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$28.00 or Greater</td>
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<tr>
<td>$30.00 - $34.99</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than $18.00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Less than $16.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Ability to Finance Project (0 - 10 pts)

Applicants ranked by giving a standardized account of the amount of the existing water/sewer rates would have to be raised in order for the applicant to finance the project through a loan. The formula is as follows:
FP=AR(0.0710)  
(12) (c)
FP = Estimate of amount of rates to be raised to finance project through a loan
AR = Amount Requested
0.0710 = Annual rate factor for a 25-year loan at 5%
12 = Number of months per year
c = Number of Customers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ability to Finance Project Through Loan</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10.00 - $11.99</td>
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<td>$2.00 - $2.99</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than $2.00</td>
<td>0</td>
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</table>

6. Grant Request Amount (0 - 3 points)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Request Amount</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$199,999 or Less</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>$200,000 to $299,999</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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</table>

7. Corrective Action Point Reduction (As Applicable) (Minus 2 points)

Applications requiring minor corrections will receive a maximum one (1) point scoring reduction. These applications require ODOC/CD to formally initiate the application to a “changes required” status in OKGrants and the applicant is then required to formally “submit” the application once again through the OKGrants system. The point reduction is applicable if the application needs a correction that does NOT immediately warrant a FAILED threshold rating but has an identifiable minor requirement or procedure that was not followed and can be easily corrected. Example: required documentation is submitted unsigned; incorrect budget numbers; incorrect LMI numbers, etc. The corrective action timeframe is four (4) work days. Corrections that remain incomplete will result in a FAILED threshold rating. NOTE: Applicants will NOT be penalized for ODOC/CD requests for clarifying information or documentation required beyond that specified in the CDBG Application Guidelines or CDBG Application Guidelines errors/omissions which result in needed corrections.

Under extenuating circumstances, ODOC/CD will carefully consider correction related extensions provided legitimate reasons can be given for such time extensions. ODOC/CD will make the final determination if an extension is warranted. Corrective action time extensions will NOT be automatic and requests for time extensions will be carefully considered by
ODOC/CD. It will be the responsibility of the prospective applicant to make ODOC/CD aware of any issues that may affect the ability to meet the four (4) working day corrective action deadline.
WATER & WASTEWATER CONSTRUCTION

The purpose of this program is to fund projects that are ready to begin construction. Eligible entities that provide documentation of final plans and specifications or a construction permit secured through the ODEQ may apply under this category. This information will be verified with the ODEQ. The documentation must show that the final plans and specifications have been submitted to ODEQ or the construction permit has been issued prior to the CDBG application deadline. Absolutely no engineering costs will be allowed or reimbursed using CDBG funds in this category.

CDBG funds may only be utilized for construction, inspection, and administration. The grant maximum for single applicants is $450,000. All projects shall be single purpose, either water or wastewater that will focus on some of the most serious problems in the state. The deadline for application submission is May 3, 2021.

Any funds not applied for in the CDBG Water & Wastewater Construction set-aside will be transferred to another set-aside as determined by ODOC/CD.

For a basic water and wastewater project the maximum amount of CDBG funds that may be used for project administration is 8% of the total CDBG Water/Wastewater Construction funds awarded for the total Construction and Professional / Non-Construction funds.

THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS FOR WATER & WASTEWATER CONSTRUCTION

1. CDBG Water & Wastewater Construction requests for funds must meet the principle CDBG National Objective of providing a direct benefit (fifty-one percent [51%] or more) to persons of low and moderate-income.

2. Cities, Towns and Counties with previous CDBG funding must have close-out documents submitted by January 29, 2021.

(a) City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) Applicants: City/Towns and Counties receiving a direct jurisdictional benefit may submit only one (1) grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering, CDBG Water/Wastewater Construction, CDBG Community Revitalization, or CDBG Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). A City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) cannot submit a CDBG application if it currently has an open CDBG grant. Exclusions: Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Typical County direct jurisdiction CDBG application projects are roads, bridges, County hospital, etc.

(b) County Sponsored Applicants: Counties acting in a “sponsorship” capacity may submit a maximum of one sponsored CDBG grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from Water/Wastewater Engineering, Water/Wastewater Construction, Community Revitalization, or Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). Limitation: Counties may ONLY have one (1) open sponsored CDBG grant and still make another sponsored CDBG application. Counties cannot exceed a maximum number of two open sponsored CDBG grants open at any given time. Exclusions: Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Counties may sponsor applications where they do not have
direct jurisdiction over certain public functions. Generally, these are communities with less than $25,000 in revenue, Rural Water Districts, and Rural Fire Districts.

3. Applicants can apply for up to a $450,000 grant maximum. Applicants may not apply for more than one (1) project activity per application under CDBG Water/Wastewater Construction set-aside.

4. A proper sponsor of CDBG water and wastewater projects is defined as a unit of local government with direct jurisdiction over the majority (60%) of the proposed project beneficiaries.

5. Proof that citizen participation requirements have been met, as evidenced by an application phase public hearing and written Citizen Participation Plan. Each unit of local government benefiting from a consolidation project must meet Citizen Participation Requirements.

6. All cost estimates must be derived from professional sources and submitted with the application. CDBG Water or wastewater projects must have a certified cost estimate from a professional engineer licensed to do business in the State of Oklahoma.

7. Grant request cannot exceed $2,000 per beneficiary for all projects, except in the case of new housing development.

8. Applicant must provide a response to all application questions and satisfy all documentation requirements delineated in the CDBG Water and Wastewater Construction Guidelines and application package including but not limited to: Resolution, Income Survey Results, Survey Maps, Certifications, HUD Form 2880 Applicant Recipient Disclosure Update Report, Project Budget, etc.

9. TOWNS AND CITIES (COUNTRIES ARE EXEMPT) MUST SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR AUDIT OR THE AGREED UPON PROCEDURES BY THE APPLICATION DEADLINE. ALL TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A JUNE 30, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2020 AUDIT AND TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A DECEMBER 31, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED, AS A MINIMUM, TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2019 AUDIT. NO APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW OR FUNDING THAT DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS STATED ABOVE.

If a city or town receives less than $25,000 in annual revenues from its normal business and does not have an audit or agreed upon procedures, the city or town cannot apply directly to ODOC/CD. The city or town can apply only by having the local County apply on their behalf, if the County chooses to do so. Nothing contained herein mandates a County to act as an accommodating party.

10. Applicants must provide documentation that Final Plans and Specifications have been provided to Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) or a Construction Permit has been issued by ODEQ, prior to the Application deadline. If an ODEQ Permit is not required, Applicants must provide documentation from ODEQ stating an ODEQ Permit is Not Required. If applicant has been issued a Construction Permit and that Construction Permit is greater than one year old, a Construction Permit Extension from ODEQ is required and must be Uploaded to OKGrants with the application submittal before the permit will be accepted.
11. Applicants are responsible for accomplishing online application correction/revisions along with any applicable application upload corrections/revisions as directed by ODOC staff within the pre-determined deadline. In fairness to other applicants and in order to maintain HUD required CDBG funding expenditure rates; ODOC can NOT indefinitely hold applications until the respective application corrections/revisions are accomplished. Applications will be considered INCOMPLETE if the prescribed corrections/revisions are not made to the application within the pre-determined deadline established by ODOC. This will result in a FAILED threshold application rating.

12. The Application Guidelines associated with the CDBG W-WW Construction set-aside contains an APPLICATION FORMS CHECKLIST outlining all application related documentation required to be uploaded into the online OKGrants application. It is the Applicant’s responsibility to follow this checklist and seek additional guidance from ODOC staff as required. Applicants will be responsible for following and providing each item listed on the checklist. Failure to provide any of the required application documentation listed on the checklist will result in a FAILED application rating. Additionally, Applicants must provide a response to all application questions and satisfy all documentation requirements delineated in the Application Guidelines and online OKGrants Application System including, but not limited to: Resolution, Income Survey Results; Survey Maps; Certifications; HUD Form 2880 Applicant Recipient Disclosure Update Report; Project Budget; etc.

**RATING CRITERIA FOR WATER & WASTEWATER CONSTRUCTION**

Water and Wastewater applications, which meet threshold criteria, will be ranked for funding utilizing the following criteria:

1. **Project Benefit to Low to Moderate Income Persons (2 - 10 points).**

   Projects awarded under these criteria will be awarded 1-5 points for percentage of LMI, and 1-5 points for total number of LMI.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LMI %</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51 - 60</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 - 70</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>71 - 80</td>
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<tr>
<td>81 - 90</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91 - 100</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># LMI Persons</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 - 250</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>251 - 500</td>
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<tr>
<td>501 - 750</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>751 - 1,000</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 1,000</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **Severity of Need Water and Wastewater Projects (0 - 10 points).**

   Projects will be rated on water and wastewater associated documented health, safety, and welfare hazards. Water and wastewater health, safety, and welfare deficiencies may be documented in one of two ways: (1) through the presence of a legal enforceable order issued by Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or (2) by written confirmation of a “hazard” from ODEQ that specifically states the cause and extent of the water or wastewater, health, safety, and welfare deficiency. ODOC/CD will only accept “documented hazard” Water and Wastewater related health, safety, and welfare hazard documentation from ODEQ and EPA sources. Claims using
“Legal Enforceable Orders” and “Documented Hazards” will be verified by ODOC/CD through the applicant’s submitted supporting documentation.

Water and Wastewater projects that document health, safety, and welfare hazards involving legal enforceable orders will be rated on a separate scale of severity than written documentation of hazards. The two separate severity of need categories are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal Enforceable Orders</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documented Hazards</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Documentation</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Severity of Need (0-5 points) Water and Wastewater Projects for New Housing Construction

Projects for Water and Wastewater system expansions serving new housing developments shall be rated on their verification of the extent of the local jurisdictions housing shortage as documented by an official housing market analysis that clearly concludes a projected 3-5 year demand for a specific number of single family ownership units and/or rental units. Points will be determined by the level of impact based on the following criteria:

- Vacancy rates
- Population growth
- Projected job growth
- Number of Units + Total units

Residential Water and Wastewater Rates and Water Rate Structures (-3 to +3 points)

Water project proposals will earn points based on the first 5,000 gallons of the most current water rate structure and the subsequent revenue generating capacities where wastewater service is provided in conjunction with water service. Water rate structures that favor both strong fiscal management and conservation awareness will be analyzed and awarded points by using portions of the Oklahoma “Water Resources Boards’ Emergency Grant Priority Point System.” Only proposals for water related system improvements will receive points for the residential water rate structure based on the following table:

- **Flat Water Rate**: Unmetered charges on unmetered systems that charge a fee without regard to the amount of water used, unless the proposed project involves metering of all taps on the system. **-3 points**

- **Decreasing Block Water Rates**: Price per unit of water becomes lower as the quantity of water use increases. **-3 points**

- **Fixed/Uniform Water Rates**: Price per unit of water, in excess of any base or minimum charge, remains constant. **0 points**

- **Increasing Block Water Rates**: Price per unit of water increases as the quantity of water use increases. **+3 points**

Residential Water and Wastewater Rates (0 – 7 points)
All Water and Wastewater category projects will also receive points based on the revenue generating capacity of their rate structures. The appropriate table of points is determined based on the type of services provided by the system operator. If the system operator provides water service only, then Table #1 is used; if the system operator provides water and wastewater service, then Table #2 is used; and if the system operator provides wastewater service only, then Table #3 is used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table #1 - Systems Providing Water Service Only</th>
<th>Table #2 - Systems Providing Wastewater Service Only</th>
<th>Table #3 - Systems Providing Water &amp; Wastewater Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost Per 5,000 Gallons</strong></td>
<td><strong>Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cost Per 5,000 Gallons</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35.00 or Greater</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$28.00 or Greater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30.00 - $34.99</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>$18.00 - $19.99</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>$16.00 - $17.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than $18.00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Less than $16.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. **Ability to Finance Project (0 - 10 points)**

Applicants ranked by giving a standardized account of the amount of the existing water/sewer rates would have to be raised in order for the applicant to finance the project through a loan. The formula is as follows:

\[
FP = AR(0.0710) \\
(12) \ (c)
\]

FP = Estimate of amount of rates to be raised to finance project through a loan
AR = Amount Requested
0.0710 = Annual rate factor for a 25-year loan at 5%
12 = Number of months per year
\( c = \) Number of Customers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ability to Finance Project Through Loan</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$12.00 or Greater</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. **Leverage (0 - 10 points)**

Projects will be rated on their ability to integrate the use of funds other than CDBG to carry out the proposed CDBG project. *Leverage will be valued using full value for cash leverage and no point value will be given for in-kind leverage.* The leverage score will be calculated as follows:

**Formula:**

\[
\text{Leverage Points} = \frac{\text{Cash Leverage}}{\text{CDBG Request Amount}} \times 10
\]

**EXAMPLE:**

Cash Leverage: $50,000

\[
\frac{50,000}{100,000} \times 10 = 5 \text{ Leverage Points}
\]

8. **Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) Permitting (0 - 10 Points)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permitting Status</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• ODEQ Permit not required</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Final Plans and Specifications submitted to ODEQ for approval</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Permit to Construct Issued by ODEQ</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
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</table>

9. **Corrective Action Point Reduction (As Applicable) (Minus 2 points)**

Applications requiring minor corrections will receive a maximum one (1) point scoring reduction. These applications require ODOC/CD to formally initiate the application to a “changes required” status in OKGrants and the applicant is then required to formally “submit” the application once again through the OKGrants system. The point reduction is applicable if
the application needs a correction that does NOT immediately warrant a FAILED threshold rating but has an identifiable minor requirement or procedure that was not followed and can be easily corrected. Example: required documentation is submitted unsigned; incorrect budget numbers; incorrect LMI numbers, etc. The corrective action timeframe is four (4) work days. Corrections that remain incomplete will result in a FAILED threshold rating. NOTE: Applicants will NOT be penalized for ODOC/CD requests for clarifying information or documentation required beyond that specified in the CDBG Application Guidelines or CDBG Application Guidelines errors/omissions which result in needed corrections.

Under extenuating circumstances, ODOC/CD will carefully consider correction related extensions provided legitimate reasons can be given for such time extensions. ODOC/CD will make the final determination if an extension is warranted. Corrective action time extensions will NOT be automatic and requests for time extensions will be carefully considered by ODOC/CD. It will be the responsibility of the prospective applicant to make ODOC/CD aware of any issues that may affect the ability to meet the four (4) working day corrective action deadline.
COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

Under this broad category, an Applicant may submit a project proposal for any eligible activity listed under Section 105(a) of the Federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, other than water or wastewater projects. Such projects could include fire protection, storm water drainage, solid waste, street improvements, community centers, and housing demolition.

Applications received under this set-aside will be scored competitively against one another regardless of project type.

The grant maximum for the CDBG Community Revitalization application is $150,000. The deadline for application submission is March 31, 2021. The maximum amount of CDBG Community Revitalization funds that may be used for project administration is six percent (6%) of the total CDBG Revitalization funds awarded. Applications received after this date will NOT be considered for funding. Additionally, CDBG Community Revitalization projects not meeting all of the threshold requirements will NOT be considered for funding.

Any funds not applied for in the CDBG Community Revitalization set-aside will be transferred to another set-aside as determined by ODOC/CD.

THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

1. CDBG Community Revitalization requests for funds must meet the principle CDBG National Objective of providing a direct benefit (fifty-one percent [51%] or more) to persons of low and moderate-income.

2. A proper sponsor for CDBG Community Revitalization projects is defined as a Unit of Local government with direct jurisdiction over the majority (60%) of the proposed project beneficiaries.

3. Applicants can apply for up to $150,000 grant maximum. Applicants may not apply for more than one (1) project activity per application under this CDBG Community Revitalization set-aside.

4. Proof that citizen participation requirements have been met, as evidenced by an application phase public hearing and written Citizen Participation Plan.

5. All cost estimates shall be obtained from professional sources, as applicable, and submitted with the application. These estimates must be certified from professional engineers, architects, construction companies, vendors or appropriate personnel with experience to make such estimates.

6. Cities, Towns and Counties with previous CDBG funding must have close-out documents submitted by January 29, 2021.

(a) City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) Applicants: City/Towns and Counties receiving a direct jurisdictional benefit may submit only one (1) grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering, CDBG Water/Wastewater...
Construction, CDBG Community Revitalization, or CDBG Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). A City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) cannot submit a CDBG application if it currently has an open CDBG grant. Exclusions: Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Typical County direct jurisdiction CDBG application projects are roads, bridges, County hospital, etc.

(b) County Sponsored Applicants: Counties acting in a “sponsorship” capacity may submit a maximum of one sponsored CDBG grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from Water/Wastewater Engineering, Water/Wastewater Construction, Community Revitalization, or Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). Limitation: Counties may ONLY have one (1) open sponsored CDBG grant and still make another sponsored CDBG application. Counties cannot exceed a maximum number of two open sponsored CDBG grants open at any given time. Exclusions: Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Counties may sponsor applications where they do not have direct jurisdiction over certain public functions. Generally, these are communities with less than $25,000 in revenue, Rural Water Districts, and Rural Fire Districts. Counties CANNOT submit a single application containing multiple Units of General Local Governments or jurisdictions such as Rural Fire Districts under a single county sponsored application.

7. The CDBG Community Revitalization grant request cannot exceed $2,000 per beneficiary.

8. TOWNS AND CITIES (COUNTIES ARE EXEMPT) MUST SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR AUDIT OR THE AGREED UPON PROCEDURES BY THE APPLICATION DEADLINE. ALL TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A JUNE 30, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2019 AUDIT AND TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A DECEMBER 31, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED, AS A MINIMUM, TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2018 AUDIT. NO APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW OR FUNDING THAT DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS STATED ABOVE.

If the city or town receives less than $25,000 in annual revenues from its normal business and does not have an audit or agreed upon procedure, the city or town cannot apply directly to ODOC. The city or town can apply only by having the local County apply on their behalf, if the County chooses to do so. Nothing contained herein mandates a County to act as an accommodating party.

9. Applicants must certify that if the proposed project is funded by CDBG Community Revitalization dollars it will be properly insured for the life of the asset (as applicable). Proper insurance for buildings include property and liability insurance coverage. When the project includes vehicles proper insurance will include liability, comprehensive and collision coverage.

10. Applicants are responsible for accomplishing online application corrections/revisions along with any applicable application upload corrections/revisions as directed by ODOC/CD staff within the pre-determined deadline. In fairness to other applicants and in order to maintain HUD required CDBG funding expenditure rates; ODOC/CD can NOT indefinitely hold applications until the respective application corrections/revisions are accomplished. Applications will be considered INCOMPLETE if the prescribed corrections/revisions are not made to the application within the pre-determined deadline established by ODOC/CD. This will result in a FAILED threshold application rating.

11. The Application Guidelines associated with the CDBG Community Revitalization set-aside contains an APPLICATION FORMS CHECKLIST outlining all application related
documentation required to be uploaded into the online OKGrants application. It is the Applicant’s responsibility to follow this checklist and seek additional guidance from ODOC/CD staff as required. Applicants will be responsible for following and providing each item listed on the checklist. Failure to provide any of the required application documentation listed on the checklist will result in a FAILED application rating. Additionally, Applicants must provide a response to all application questions and satisfy all documentation requirements delineated in the CDBG Community Revitalization Application Guidelines and online OKGrants Application System including, but not limited to: Resolution, income survey results, resolution requesting assistance, survey maps, certifications, HUD Form 2880 Applicant Recipient Disclosure Update Report, project budget, etc.

12. The application must sufficiently demonstrate an applicant’s need for the requested CDBG activity. For any requested CDBG project, there is an underlying “need” for such a project. It is the responsibility of the applicant to communicate to ODOC/CD why the particular CDBG activity is being requested in the application. Failure to adequately demonstrate a project need will result in a FAILED threshold application rating. The project need is communicated in the “Project Description” section of the “CDBG Application Summary” page of the online OKGrants application. Additional narratives and supporting documentation can be uploaded in the "Uploads" page of the OKGrants application if required.

**RATING CRITERIA FOR COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION**

Applications which meet threshold requirements will be ranked for funding utilizing the following criterion:

1. **Project Benefit to Low and Moderate Income Percentage (2 - 15 points)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LMI %</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51 - 55</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56 - 60</td>
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<td>61 - 65</td>
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<td>66 - 70</td>
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<td>71 - 75</td>
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<td>76 - 80</td>
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<td>81 - 85</td>
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<td>91 - 95</td>
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<tr>
<td>96 - 100</td>
<td>10</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># LMI Persons</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 - 250</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>251 - 500</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>501 - 750</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>751 - 1,000</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 1,000</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **Grant Request Amount (0 – 10 points)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Request Amount</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$14,999 or Less</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,000 - $29,999</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30,000 - $44,999</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$45,000 - $59,999</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$60,000 - $74,999</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. **Leverage (0 – 15 points)**

Projects will be rated on their ability to integrate the use of funds other than CDBG Community Revitalization to carry out the proposed CDBG Community Revitalization project. Leverage will be valued using full value for cash leverage and **no point value will be given for in-kind leverage**. A maximum of 15 points is available for leverage.

In an attempt to level the playing field faced by smaller communities, a variable will be applied to the previously used ratio (total leverage to grant request amount ratio); based on the population figures found in the Appendix ‘D’ of this guide. These figures are compiled by the U.S Census Bureau and provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are reported in conjunction with HUD’s LMI qualification related documentation. Moreover, if the applicant is a county submitting on behalf of an unincorporated area, the maximum variable allowed (1.5) will automatically be applied.

**Applicants with a population of 1,500 or less will receive a variable of one and a half (1.5).** Those with a population of 1,501 to 3,500 will receive a variable of one and a quarter (1.25). Finally, applicants with a population of 3,501 and greater will receive a variable of one (1).

The leverage score will be calculated as follows:

**Formula:**

\[
\text{Leverage Points} = \frac{\text{Cash Leverage}}{\text{CDBG Request Amount}} \times 15
\]

**EXAMPLE A:**

Cash Leverage: $50,000

CDBG Request Amount: $150,000

\[
\frac{50,000}{150,000} \times 15 = 5 \text{ Leverage Points}
\]

Example B: Based on the point award in Example ‘A’ above, The applicant has a population of 2,750 people. 5 x 1.25 = 6.25 points awarded.

Example C: Based on the point award in Example ‘A’ above, The applicant has a population of 1,200 people. 5 x 1.5 = 7.5 points awarded.
4. **Previous Grant (0 - 10 points)**

An applicant will be awarded points based on the CALENDAR YEAR & MONTH of closeout of the last (CDBG REAP, CDBG Community Revitalization, CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering, CDBG Water/Wastewater Construction) award and the current CDBG Community Revitalization application submission deadline. **Exclusions:** Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF) and Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). The applicant will receive points based on the following scale:

A. Less than one year after grant closeout – 0 Points
B. Greater than one year less than two years after grant closeout – 1 Point
C. Greater than two years less than three years after grant closeout – 2 Points
D. Greater than three years less than four years after grant closeout – 4 Points
E. Greater than four years less than five years after grant closeout – 6 Points
F. Greater than five years less than six years after grant closeout – 8 Points
G. More than six years after grant closeout – 10 Points

**EXAMPLE A:** If an applicant successfully closed out a CDBG application in January of 2017. If the applicant applies for a CDBG Community Revitalization application in March of 2021, the applicant would receive four points on a 2021 CDBG Community Revitalization application.

**EXAMPLE B:** If an applicant successfully closed out a CDBG application in April of 2017. If the applicant applies for a CDBG Community Revitalization application in March of 2021, the applicant would receive two points on a 2021 CDBG Community Revitalization application.

5. **Corrective Action Point Reduction (As Applicable) (Minus 2 points)**

Applications requiring minor corrections will receive a maximum one (1) point scoring reduction. These applications require ODOC/CD to formally initiate the application to a “changes required” status in OKGrants and the applicant is then required to formally “submit” the application once again through the OKGrants system. The point reduction is applicable if the application needs a correction that does NOT immediately warrant a FAILED threshold rating but has an identifiable minor requirement or procedure that was not followed and can be easily corrected. Example: required documentation is submitted unsigned; incorrect budget numbers; incorrect LMI numbers, etc. The corrective action timeframe is four (4) work days. Corrections that remain incomplete will result in a FAILED threshold rating. **NOTE:** Applicants will NOT be penalized for ODOC/CD requests for clarifying information or documentation required beyond that specified in the CDBG Application Guidelines or CDBG Application Guidelines errors/omissions which result in needed corrections.

Under extenuating circumstances, ODOC/CD will carefully consider correction related extensions provided legitimate reasons can be given for such time extensions. ODOC/CD will make the final determination if an extension is warranted. Corrective action time extensions will NOT be automatic and request for time extensions will be carefully considered by ODOC/CD. It will be the responsibility of the prospective applicant to make ODOC/CD aware of any issues that may affect the ability to meet the four (4) working day corrective action deadline.
CDBG/RURAL ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN (REAP)

The total funding amount for the CDBG REAP set-aside is $1,500,000. The allocation formula for each Substate Planning District Area (SSPD) is based on low to moderate-income population. ODOC/CD reserves the right to adjust set-aside and category allocations to ensure maximum utilization of funds. Such adjustments shall be the minimum amount necessary to fund projects efficiently. An applicant may submit a project proposal for any eligible activity listed under Section 105 (a) of the Federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. Any funds not applied for in the Substate Planning District Area will be transferred to another set-aside as determined by ODOC/CD. ODOC/CD allows applicants to compete in the CDBG REAP and any other CDBG program in accordance with each set-aside restrictions.

The maximum amount of funds that may be used for CDBG REAP project administration is six percent (6%) of the total award. The deadline for application submission is February 26, 2021.

The SSPD Allocations are listed below:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>ACOG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>ASCOG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>COEDD</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>EODD</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>GGEDA</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>INCOG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>KEDDO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>NODA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>OEDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>SODA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>SWODA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THRESHOLD CRITERA FOR CDBG REAP

1. Eligible applicants for the CDBG REAP Program are units of general local governments (counties and incorporated towns and cities) that are State appropriated REAP funding eligible as identified by the Sub-state Planning District and in accordance with 62 O.S. § 2001 et al as amended.

2. CDBG REAP funds must be matched dollar for dollar by State appropriated REAP funds. For example, if a project is $80,000 it must be $40,000 CDBG REAP and $40,000 State appropriated REAP funds. Applicants may not apply for more than one (1) project activity per application under this set-aside.

3. CDBG REAP requests for funds must meet the principle CDBG National Objective of providing a direct benefit (fifty-one percent [51%] or more) to persons of low and moderate-income.

(a) City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) Applicants: City/Towns and Counties receiving a direct jurisdictional benefit may submit only one (1) grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering, CDBG Water/Wastewater Construction, CDBG Community Revitalization, or CDBG Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). A City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) cannot submit a CDBG application if it currently has an open CDBG grant. Exclusions: Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Typical County direct jurisdiction CDBG application projects are roads, bridges, County hospital, etc.

(b) County Sponsored Applicants: Counties acting in a “sponsorship” capacity may submit a maximum of one sponsored CDBG grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from Water/Wastewater Engineering, Water/Wastewater Construction, Community Revitalization, or Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). Limitation: Counties may ONLY have one (1) open sponsored CDBG grant and still make another sponsored CDBG application. Counties cannot exceed a maximum number of two open sponsored CDBG grants open at any given time. Exclusions: Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Counties may sponsor applications where they do not have direct jurisdiction over certain public functions. Generally, these are communities with less than $25,000 in revenue, Rural Water Districts, and Rural Fire Districts. Counties CANNOT submit a single application containing multiple Units of General Local Governments or jurisdictions such as Rural Fire Districts under a single county sponsored application.

5. A proper sponsor for CDBG REAP projects is defined as a Unit of Local government with direct jurisdiction over the majority (60%) of the proposed project beneficiaries.

6. Proof that citizen participation requirements have been met, as evidenced by an application phase public hearing and written Citizen Participation Plan.

7. All cost estimates shall be obtained from professional sources, as applicable, and submitted with the application. These estimates must be certified and from professional engineers, architects, construction companies, vendors, or appropriate personnel with experience to make such estimates.

8. The CDBG REAP grant request cannot exceed $2,000 per beneficiary.

9. TOWNS AND CITIES (COUNTIES ARE EXEMPT) MUST SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR AUDIT OR THE AGREED UPON PROCEDURES BY THE APPLICATION DEADLINE. ALL TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A JUNE 30, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2020 AUDIT AND TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A DECEMBER 31, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED, AS A MINIMUM, TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2019 AUDIT. NO APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW OR FUNDING THAT DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS STATED ABOVE.

If the city or town receives less than $25,000 in annual revenues from its normal business and does not have an audit or agreed upon procedure, the city or town cannot apply directly to ODOC. The city or town can apply only by having the local County apply on their behalf, if the County chooses to do so. Nothing contained herein mandates a County to act as an accommodating party.

10. Applicants must certify that if the proposed project is funded by CDBG REAP dollars it will be properly insured for the life of the asset. Proper insurance for buildings include property and
liability insurance coverage. When the project includes vehicles proper insurance will include liability, comprehensive and collision coverage.

11. Applicants are responsible for accomplishing online application corrections/revisions along with any applicable application upload corrections/revisions as directed by ODOC/CD staff within the pre-determined deadline. In fairness to other applicants and in order to maintain HUD required ODOC/CD’s CDBG funding expenditure rates; ODOC/CD can NOT indefinitely hold applications until the respective application corrections/revisions are accomplished. Applications will be considered INCOMPLETE if the prescribed corrections/revisions are not made to the application within the pre-determined deadline established by ODOC/CD. This will result in a FAILED threshold application rating.

12. The Application Guidelines associated with this CDBG REAP set-aside contain an APPLICATION FORMS CHECKLIST outlining all application related documentation required to be uploaded into the online OKGrants application. It is the Applicant’s responsibility to follow this checklist and seek additional guidance from ODOC/CD staff as required. Applicants will be responsible for following and providing each item listed on the checklist. Failure to provide any of the required application documentation listed on the checklist will result in a FAILED application rating. Additionally, Applicants must provide a response to all application questions and satisfy all documentation requirements delineated in the CDBG REAP Application Guidelines and online OKGrants Application System including, but not limited to: Resolution, income survey results, resolution requesting assistance, survey maps, certifications, HUD Form 2880 Applicant Recipient Disclosure Update Report, project budget, etc.

13. The application must sufficiently demonstrate an applicant’s need for the requested CDBG activity. For any requested CDBG project, there is an underlying “need” for such a project. It is the responsibility of the applicant to communicate to ODOC/CD why the particular CDBG activity is being requested in the application. Failure to adequately demonstrate a project need will result in a FAILED threshold application rating. The project need is communicated in the “Project Description” section of the “CDBG Application Summary” page of the online OKGrants application. Additional narratives and supporting documentation can be uploaded in the “Uploads” page of the OKGrants application if required.
SMALL CITIES

Communities with a 2010 U.S. Census Bureau population estimate of 15,000 to 50,000 that are currently not HUD designated entitlement communities are eligible to participate in the Small Cities category. Oklahoma’s entitlement cities are Edmond, Enid, Lawton, Midwest City, Moore, Norman, Oklahoma City, Shawnee, and Tulsa as well as the units of local government participating in the CDBG Urban County Designation for Tulsa County which consists of the following:

- City of Bixby
- City of Broken Arrow
- City of Collinsville
- City of Glenpool
- City of Jenks
- City of Owasso
- City of Sapulpa
- Town of Skiatook
- Town of Sperry
- City of Sand Springs
- Unincorporated Tulsa County

Application Submission Requirements

Based on population criteria previously stated, there are currently eighteen (18) units of local governments eligible for the CDBG Small Cities program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CDBG-Small Cities Communities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claremore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muskogee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The eighteen (18) eligible units of local governments will be divided into two groups of nine (9) for purposes of funding. The first group eligible for the 2020 CDBG Small Cities Program funding were the communities that had no open contracts or had the most expended dollars (both CDBG and leverage combined) from all open contracts. Those communities that elected to participate in the 2020 Small Cities program through a Letter of Interest and their application status from the 2020 Small Cities Program Review is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2020 Small Cities</th>
<th>Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Ada</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Altus</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Ardmore</td>
<td>Declined Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Bethany</td>
<td>Incomplete Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Chickasha</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Durant</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Mustang</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Ponca City</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Tahlequah</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The second group of nine (9) for the 2021 CDBG Small Cities Program will be determined based on the same criteria. The total amount of funding available for the 2021 Small Cities program is $1,370,000. The funds will be allocated evenly between the proposed nine (9) eligible communities listed in the table below.
Participation in the 2021 Small Cities Program is determined by submission of a Letter of Intent due by 5:00 p.m. on or before December 11, 2020.

Note: For those communities that choose not to participate in the Small Cities Program, Oklahoma Department of Commerce/Community Development (ODOC/CD) will recalculate and distribute the allocation based on participants only.

Additionally, each eligible CDBG Small Cities unit of local governments has the option to not participate in the 2021 CDBG Small Cities Program and choose to compete in the appropriate CDBG set asides.

THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL CITIES

Due to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) desire for all states to dramatically increase their expenditure rates, the following new expenditure criteria has been established.

1. The CDBG Small Cities project must include leverage at 1:1. Proposed leverage must be directly related to the proposed CDBG Small Cities project. For example, local funds being utilized in one section of town would not be considered as leveraging the CDBG Small Cities funds if the CDBG Small Cities funds were being utilized in a different section of town. In-kind is not an eligible source of leverage.

2. As referenced in (24 CFR 570.201-204) and (CPD Notice 13-07), costs incurred as a direct result of implementing and executing eligible CDBG activities are known as “Activity Delivery Costs”. These costs are directly attributable to an eligible CDBG project activity. Project activity delivery costs are not eligible from CDBG Small Cities funds; however, leverage can include reasonable project activity delivery costs.

3. If an eligible community is applying in the CDBG Small Cities set-aside that community cannot apply for any other CDBG set-aside during the FY 2021 program year.

4. The project must achieve a National Objective. CDBG Small Cities applicants must qualify their project activities under the low and moderate income National Objective. This is accomplished by conducting a random sample income survey in the project target area. However, the use of any Census Data to document the percentage of low and moderate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2021 Eligible Small Cities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Bartlesville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Claremore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Del City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Duncan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. El Reno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. McAlester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Muskogee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Stillwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Yukon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
income beneficiaries for any CDBG funded activity should receive prior ODOC review and approval.

5. Each community must have an updated Citizen Participation Plan, and conduct one public hearing before the application is submitted. Acceptable documentation of the public hearing consists of the Affidavit of Publication.

6. Communities participating in the CDBG Small Cities set-aside must have a Letter of Intent submitted to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce/Community Development (ODOC/CD) by 5:00 p.m., December 13, 2019.

7. Specific projects identified in the application must have cost estimates derived from professional sources. Water and wastewater projects must have certified cost estimates from a professional engineer licensed to work in Oklahoma. For other types of projects professional cost estimates may be derived from architects, engineers, vendors, construction companies, or appropriate personnel to make such estimates.

8. Applications must include a Resolution passed by the current governing body requesting the particular assistance.

9. Grant request cannot exceed $2,000 per beneficiary for all projects.

10. Cities must submit a copy of their Audit by the application deadline. All Cities that have a June 30, Fiscal Year End date are required to submit a copy of their FY 2020 Audit. Cities that have a December 31, Fiscal Year End date are required, as a minimum, to submit a copy of their FY 2019 Audit. **NO APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW OR FUNDING THAT DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS STATED ABOVE.**

11. The application must sufficiently demonstrate an applicant’s need for the requested CDBG activity. For any requested CDBG project, there is an underlying “need” for such a project. It is the responsibility of the applicant to communicate to ODOC/CD why the particular CDBG activity is being requested in the application. Failure to adequately demonstrate a project need will result in a FAILED application. The project need is communicated in the “Project Description” section of the “CDBG Application Summary” page of the online OKGrants application. Additional narratives and supporting documentation can be uploaded in the “Uploads” page of the OKGrants application if required.

12. The Application Guidelines associated with this CDBG Small Cities set-aside contain an APPLICATION FORMS CHECKLIST outlining all application related documentation required to be uploaded into the online OKGrants application. It is the Applicant’s responsibility to follow this checklist and seek additional guidance from ODOC/CD staff as required. Applicants will be responsible for following and providing each item listed on the checklist. Failure to provide any of the required application documentation listed on the checklist will result in a FAILED application rating. Additionally, Applicants must provide a response to all application questions and satisfy all documentation requirements delineated in the CDBG Small Cities Application Guidelines and online OKGrants Application System including, but not limited to: Resolution, income survey results, resolution requesting assistance, survey maps, certifications, HUD Form 2880 Applicant Recipient Disclosure Update Report, project budget, etc.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The objective of the Economic Development (ED) set-aside is the development of communities and counties by expanding economic opportunities, primarily for low and moderate-income persons. The State’s activities shall achieve the national objective by funding projects that stimulate the creation of jobs primarily for low and moderate-income persons.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANT

Eligible applicants are units of local government (incorporated towns, cities, and counties) that are not participants in the CDBG Entitlement Program. Oklahoma’s entitlement cities are Edmond, Enid, Lawton, Midwest City, Moore, Norman, Oklahoma City, Shawnee, and Tulsa as well as the units of local government participating in the CDBG Urban County Designation for Tulsa County which consists of the following:

- City of Bixby
- City of Broken Arrow
- City of Collinsville
- City of Glenpool
- City of Jenks
- City of Owasso
- City of Sand Springs
- City of Sapulpa
- Town of Skiatook
- Town of Sperry
- Unincorporated Tulsa County

Applicants seeking funding under other FY 2021 CDBG set-asides may concurrently apply for funding under the Economic Development set-aside.

Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF) Program

The EDIF program shall be utilized for public infrastructure and other improvements necessary for a business to create new jobs primarily for low and moderate-income persons in Oklahoma. Public improvements eligible to be financed by this program are publicly owned or public easement improvements that will provide basic infrastructure services to a new or expanding business. Such improvements may include, but are not limited to, water, wastewater, transportation improvements, and rehabilitation and new construction of publicly owned industrial buildings.

The State shall review for funding purposes only, individual economic development projects between an eligible applicant and a specific employment generating business.

In order to provide prospective applicants with clear objectives of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce/Community Development (ODOC/CD) EDIF program the following general guidance is provided.

1. New Jobs for low and moderate income persons are the primary purpose of this program;
2. Funding is for publicly owned infrastructure;
3. The infrastructure improvement activity must be directly related to the industry being assisted and have a clear link to the creation of jobs;
4. Funding is not for the benefit of retail, private prisons, educational institutions or the retention of jobs.
5. ODOC/CD will examine the business(es) involved and its reasonable potential to create the projected jobs;
6. Start-up businesses will not be considered unless the company has cash capitalization of at least 25% of the company’s project costs;
7. EDIF funds may not be used for speculation; a specific business creating new jobs is required;
8. Reasonable cost of administration up to a maximum of $15,000;
9. The charge for professional engineering services will be based upon the USDA-Rural Development fee guidelines.
10. The application packet shall contain all information necessary to apply for funding, and it must be complete to be considered for funding;
11. A company can be the beneficiary of only one CDBG-EDIF project at a time. All projected jobs must be created and the project must be closed out before a company can benefit from another CDBG-EDIF project.

FINANCING OPTION:

Business Expansions or Targeted Industries

- Targeted towards assisting Oklahoma existing companies’ expansion efforts and new companies or industries to the state.

- Targeted industry group (i.e. alternative energy, agribusiness, aerospace, defense or other advanced manufacturing), with the new jobs being Quality Job eligible in terms of health insurance (as long as the company has a plan to meet the National Objective of benefit to low and moderate income persons).

- Maximum grant amount is $1,000,000 based upon jobs and leverage.

PROJECT SELECTION PROCEDURES – EDIF PROJECTS

CDBG-EDIF PROGRAM – THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS

1. At least 51% of the projected jobs to be created shall be held by, or made available to, persons who qualified as low to moderate-income persons.

2. At least one permanent job shall be created for every $35,000 of CDBG-EDIF funds.

3. All projects shall require one new dollar committed as financial leverage to the project for each CDBG-EDIF dollar requested.

4. Proof that citizen participation requirements have been met, as evidenced by an application phase public hearing and written Citizen Participation Plan.

5. If the city or town receives less than $25,000 in annual revenues from its normal business the city or town cannot apply directly to ODOC. The city or town can apply only by having the local County apply on their behalf, if the County chooses to do so. Nothing contained herein mandates a County to act as an accommodating party. Any applications by a County to act as an accommodation for a city or town that does not have $25,000 in annual revenues from its normal business, will not count against the County’s open contract maximum.

6. 110% of the average county wage for all new jobs. If the project does not meet the 110% ACW, the following three criteria may be considered:
   - Established Company – in business for at least 10 years.
- County unemployment is higher than the state average.
- Wages are no lower than the ACW.

7. The proposed use of the CDBG-EDIF funds is “allowable, reasonable, and appropriate.”

EVALUATION CRITERION FOR EDIF PROGRAM

General: There are no specific application deadlines. ODOC/CD reserves the right to suspend the taking of applications based upon availability of funding. Projects will be evaluated and a funding decision reached as expeditiously as possible. However, project evaluation will depend on the applicant satisfactorily completing the application and all information requested by ODOC/CD. Applications from one program year will not be kept for Review past three (3) months into another program year. If the application has not been completed three (3) months into the next program year, the application will need to be resubmitted using the current year application guidelines.

Economic development projects may be approved where a community development project is in existence. Funds cannot be used to relocate economic activity from one Oklahoma community to another when CDBG funds are the primary motivation factor. Applicant will be asked to justify request when relocation is an issue. Eligible entities are strongly encouraged to apply only for the minimum financing necessary to make the project a reality. Projects must have other new leverage dollars in place or currently applied for.

Applications meeting the aforementioned requirements shall be evaluated based upon the following criterion. The state will review and underwrite applications to determine if, and to what extent, the criterion is met. Each application will stand on its own, and the strengths or weaknesses of the applicant’s claim will be evaluated. A determination will be made by ODOC/CD as to the likelihood or reasonableness of the claims made by the applicant becoming reality. The criteria are prioritized according to relative importance to the State.

In the event that funding levels reach 75 percent (75%) of all CDBG-EDIF funds awarded, the Evaluation Criteria point system will be utilized to determine the CDBG-EDIF request. All projects (currently under review and any new applications received) at this point which meet Eligibility, Threshold, and Completeness review will be funded based on the highest points achieved on the Evaluation Criteria point system until the CDBG-EDIF funds are exhausted. Once funds are exhausted, all applications not funded will be returned to the applicant.

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR CDBG-ED – BUSINESS EXPANSION

Business Expansions (60 Points Maximum)

Leverage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ratio</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each whole number increase is worth one point to a maximum of 10 points. Leverage does not include in-kind contributions, and ratios are rounded down.

New job benefits:

Does the company provide Quality Job minimum level of health insurance for all full time positions?
Average wages of the new jobs compared to average county wage (ACW):
County name: ________________________
Average County Wage ____________________

Average wages 110% of ACW 0 points
Average wages ______% of ACW 5 points
Average wages ______% of ACW 10 points
Each 5% increase is worth one point to a maximum of 10 points. Percentages are rounded down.

Job threshold:
- Small community population <5,000 people; greater than 5 jobs 5 points
- Community of 5,000 – 10,000 people; greater than 10 jobs 5 points
- Medium community population 10,000 – 40,000 people: greater than 25 jobs 5 points
- Large community >40,000 people: greater than 50 jobs 5 points

Company information:
Is the company a manufacturing company?
Yes 5 points
No 0 points

How long has the company been in existence in Oklahoma?
2 – 0 years 0 points
5 – 3 years 1 point
8 – 6 years 2 points
12 – 9 years 3 points
15 – 13 years 4 points
18 – 16 years 5 points
Greater than 18 years 10 points

Project location:
Is the project located in an enterprise zone?
Yes 5 points
No 0 points

Regional project:
How many units of local government involvement does the project include?
One unit 0 points
Two units 5 points
Three units 10 points

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR CDBG-ED – TARGETED INDUSTRIES
Targeted Industries (55) Points Maximum

Leverage
Each whole number increase is worth one point to a maximum of 10 points. Leverage does not include in-kind contributions, and ratios are rounded down.

**New job benefits:**

Does the company provide Quality Job minimum level of health insurance for all full time positions?

Yes 5 points

No 0 points

**Average wages of the new jobs compared to average county wage (ACW):**

County name: ______________________

Average wages 110% of ACW 0 points

Average wages ________ of ACW 5 points

Average wages ________ of ACW 10 points

Each 5% increase is worth one point to a maximum of 10 points. Percentages are rounded down.

**Job threshold:**

- Small community population <5,000 people; greater than 5 jobs 5 points
- Community of 5,000 – 10,000 people; greater than 10 jobs 5 points
- Medium community population 10,000 – 40,000 people greater than 25 jobs: 5 points
- Large community >40,000 people: greater than 50 jobs 5 points

**Company information:**

Is the company a manufacturing company?

Yes 5 points

No 0 points

Is the company within an industry targeted by ODOC?

Yes 5 points

No 0 points

**Project location:**

Is the project located in an enterprise zone?

Yes 5 points

No 0 points

**Regional project:**

How many units of local government involvement does the project include?

One unit 0 points

Two units 5 points

Three units 10 points
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING (CIP)

Beginning in 1993, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce/Community Development (ODOC/CD) has funded grants to local governments to assist in developing Capital Improvement Plans (CIP).

To guide participating entities through this process, ODOC/CD created GeoCIP®, a standardized method for creating a Geographic Information System (GIS) based, comprehensive mapping and inventory of local government assets. This information is used in annually evaluating asset conditions, identifying infrastructure needs, setting improvement priorities and updating the local government’s capital budget. The process also includes the development of a Total Capital Needs Summary/5-year strategic plan that prioritizes needs and identifies potential funding sources.

The local Substate Planning District/Council of Government (SSPD/COG) will review and recommend CDBG CIP projects in their area. All CIP applications should be coordinated with the local SSPD/COG. The applicant should contact their local COG to verify the application deadline. After each SSPD/COG reviews the potential CDBG CIP projects in their area, they will submit the applications that they recommend to be awarded to ODOC/CD for contract consideration.

The total allocation for the CIP Program will be $440,000. The deadline for application submission is **July 9, 2021**. The amount of CDBG funds that may be used for a CIP project varies depending on the project. Grant amounts will be based on the criteria set forth in the CDBG application packet. Each SSPD/COG should determine their priority list of projects. Each local government must update compliance with meeting the National Objective of benefiting at least 51% of persons who are low to moderate income.

CDBG CIP SSPD/COG Allocations:

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After the July 9, 2021 application deadline has passed, if any CDBG CIP funds remain in the set-aside that have not been applied for, additional time will be provided for COGs to submit an additional CDBG CIP applications for those funds. To be eligible to submit an additional CDBG CIP application, a COG must have submitted a successful CDBG CIP application during the original application period. Eligible COGs will be notified by email of the opportunity to submit an
additional CDBG CIP application. The deadline for the additional CDBG CIP applications is September 10, 2021. After the second deadline has passed, any funds not applied for in the CDBG CIP set-aside will be transferred to another set-aside as determined by ODOC/CD.

**THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS FOR CIP**

1. COGs will evaluate CDBG CIP needs in their regions and recommend potential projects for eligible applicants to Commerce.

2. Eligible applicants for the CDBG CIP Program are units of general local governments (counties and incorporated towns and cities) that are CDBG eligible as identified by the Sub-state Planning District and in accordance with 62 O.S. § 2001 et al as amended.

3. Eligible applicants are required to work with their local COG to discuss doing a project.

4. Requests for funds must address at least one or more of the Primary National Objectives of the CDBG program:
   
   (a) Provide a direct benefit (fifty-one percent [51%] or more) principally for persons of low income;

   (b) Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; and

   (c) Address a particular urgent need posing a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of a community.

5. Cities, Towns and Counties with previous CDBG funding must have close-out documents submitted by January 29, 2021.

   (a) City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) Applicants: City/Towns and Counties receiving a direct jurisdictional benefit may submit only one (1) grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from CDBG Water/Wastewater Engineering, CDBG Water/Wastewater Construction, CDBG Community Revitalization, or CDBG Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). A City/Town and County (Direct Jurisdiction) cannot submit a CDBG application if it currently has an open CDBG grant. **Exclusions:** Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Typical County direct jurisdiction CDBG application projects are roads, bridges, County hospital, etc.

   (b) County Sponsored Applicants: Counties acting in a “sponsorship” capacity may submit a maximum of one sponsored CDBG grant application per CDBG Program Year selecting from Water/Wastewater Engineering, Water/Wastewater Construction, Community Revitalization, or Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP). **Limitation:** Counties may ONLY have one (1) open sponsored CDBG grant and still make another sponsored CDBG application. Counties cannot exceed a maximum number of two open sponsored CDBG grants open at any given time. **Exclusions:** Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF), Capital Improvement Planning (CIP). Counties may sponsor applications where they do not have direct jurisdiction over certain public functions. Generally, these are communities with less than $25,000 in revenue, Rural Water Districts, and Rural Fire Districts. Counties CANNOT submit a single application containing multiple Units of General Local Governments or jurisdictions such as Rural Fire Districts under a single county sponsored application.
6. A proper sponsor for CDBG CIP projects is defined as a Unit of Local government with direct jurisdiction over the majority (60%) of the proposed project beneficiaries.

7. Proof that citizen participation requirements have been met, as evidenced by an application phase public hearing and written Citizen Participation Plan.

8. The Project Assessment is a detailed explanation of the scope of the project. It should include all work to be done and the tasks to be accomplished. Details on methodology and workflow used in the field as well as in the office should be provided. It should also include a description of the deliverables that are expected to be submitted at the end of the project.

9. The CDBG CIP grant request cannot exceed $2,000 per beneficiary.

10. Applicants must provide a response to all application questions and satisfy all documentation requirements delineated in the Guideline and Application package including, but not limited to: Resolution, income survey results, survey maps, certifications, HUD Form 2880 Applicant Recipient Disclosure Update Report, project budget; etc.

11. TOWNS AND CITIES (COUNTIES ARE EXEMPT) MUST SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR AUDIT OR THE AGREED UPON PROCEDURES BY THE APPLICATION DEADLINE. ALL TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A JUNE 30, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2020 AUDIT AND TOWNS AND CITIES THAT HAVE A DECEMBER 31, FISCAL YEAR END DATE ARE REQUIRED, AS A MINIMUM, TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THEIR FY 2019 AUDIT. NO APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR REVIEW OR FUNDING THAT DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS STATED ABOVE.

If the city or town receives less than $25,000 in annual revenues from its normal business and does not have an audit or agreed upon procedure, the city or town cannot apply directly to ODOC. The city or town can apply only by having the local County apply on their behalf, if the County chooses to do so. Nothing contained herein mandates a County to act as an accommodating party.

12. Applicants are responsible for accomplishing online application corrections/revisions along with any applicable application upload corrections/revisions as directed by ODOC staff within the pre-determined deadline. In fairness to other applicants and in order to maintain HUD required CDBG funding expenditure rates, ODOC can NOT indefinitely hold applications until the respective application corrections/revisions are accomplished. Applications will be considered INCOMPLETE if the prescribed corrections/revisions are not made to the application within the pre-determined deadline established by ODOC. This will result in a FAILED threshold application rating.

13. The Application Guidelines associated with this CDBG CIP Set-Aside contains an APPLICATION FORMS CHECKLIST outlining all application related documentation required to be uploaded into the online OKGrants application. It is the Applicant’s responsibility to follow this checklist and seek additional guidance from ODOC staff as required. Applicants will be responsible for following and providing each item listed on the checklist. Failure to provide any of the required application documentation listed on the checklist will result in a FAILED application rating. Additionally, Applicants must provide a response to all application questions and satisfy all documentation requirements delineated in the Application Guidelines and online OKGrants Application System including, but not limited to: Resolution,
income survey results, resolution requesting assistance, survey maps, certifications, HUD Form 2880 Applicant Recipient Disclosure Update Report, project budget, etc.
STATE CDBG PROGRAM PRIMARY NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

As addressed earlier, the primary National Objective of the State's CDBG program is:

“THE DEVELOPMENT OF VIABLE URBAN COMMUNITIES, BY PROVIDING DECENT HOUSING AND A SUITABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT, AND EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES, PRINCIPALLY FOR PERSONS OF LOW INCOME.”

By regulation, all community activities funded by CDBG must meet one of the broad, federally mandated national objectives. These are:

1. Benefit to low and moderate income persons;
2. Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; or
3. Community Development needs having a particular urgency, posing a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of a community.

It is estimated that, at a minimum, 95% of funds will be utilized on projects that meet the primary national objective of benefit to low and moderate income persons.

The use of the “benefit to low and moderate income persons” CDBG National Objective is considered as a funding PRIORITY under the State’s CDBG Program and is treated as such under the State’s individual CDBG set-asides. All project proposals submitted for funding through the CDBG Program must document the achievement of at least one of the National Objectives delineated under 24 CFR §570.483 (Criteria for National Objectives).

Under CDBG regulations, the State must demonstrate that at least 70% of expenditures benefiting low and moderate-income person. The State has an effective limit of 30% of the grant (adjusted for administration and program income) for slum and blight (and urgent need) activities. Because of this, potential applicants are REQUIRED to contact ODOC/CD before the submission of any CDBG application if intending to use a National Objective OTHER than “Providing benefit to low and moderate income persons”.

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE: ELIMINATION OF SLUM AND BLIGHT

HUD guidance clarifies that states can be more restrictive than the statutory and regulatory national objective requirements, so long as the state requirements do not contradict federal requirements. For example, although three separate national objectives are eligible (Low and Moderate Income, Elimination of Slum and Blight, Urgent Need) under CDBG, a state may choose to fund only low and moderate income (LMI) benefit activities. The State of Oklahoma CDBG program prioritizes funding for CDBG activities qualifying under the low and moderate income national objective. The State’s CDBG program is built on serving the low and moderate income national objective. Given this, the State’s CDBG program funding is formally allocated for such low and moderate income qualifying activities as demonstrated in the annual CDBG Action Plan.

For an activity to be qualified under the national objective of Elimination of Slum and Blight there would have to be sufficient CDBG program re-use funds available and the activity would have to meet the specific guidelines addressed below. In order for consideration under this national objective, the respective Unit of General Local Government (UGLG) must first submit a formal
letter of request to the ODOC Community Development Director thirty (30) days prior to the respective CDBG application deadline.

The focus of activities under this national objective is a change in the physical environment of a deteriorating area. This contrasts with the LMI benefit national objective where the goal is to ensure that funded activities benefit LMI persons.

In developing the criteria for qualifying under this national objective, HUD has taken considerable care to ensure that activities that qualify under the objective are either clearly eliminating objectively determinable signs of slums or blight in a defined slum or blighted area or are strictly limited to eliminating specific instances of blight outside such an area (“spot blight”). Accordingly, the subcategories under this national objective are:

- Addressing slums/blight on an area basis (24 CFR 570.483(c)(1)); and
- Addressing slums/blight on a spot basis (24 CFR 570.483(c)(2)).

**Addressing Slums or Blight on an Area Basis**

To qualify under the national objective of slums/blight on an area basis, an activity must meet all of the following criteria:

1. The area must be officially designated by the grant recipient and must meet a definition of a slum, blighted, deteriorated, or deteriorating area under State or local law. (For these purposes, it is not necessary to formally designate/declare the area to be blighted, but the area must meet the definitions for designation.)

2. The area must exhibit signs of economic disinvestment as indicated by at least one of the following physical signs of blight or decay:

   A. There must be a substantial number of deteriorated or deteriorating buildings throughout the area. As a “safe harbor,” HUD will consider this test to have been met if *either*:

      (1) The proportion of buildings in the area that are in such condition is at least equal to that specified in the applicable State law for this purpose; or
      (2) In the case where the applicable State law does not specify the percentage of deteriorated or deteriorating buildings required to qualify the area, then at least one quarter of all the buildings in the area must meet the grant recipient’s definition of:

         a) deteriorated or deteriorating;
         b) abandoned;
         c) experiencing chronic high occupancy turnover rates or chronic vacancy rates in commercial or industrial buildings;
         d) experiencing significant declines in property values or abnormally low property values relative to other areas in the community; or
         e) known or suspected of environmental contamination

   B. The public improvements throughout the area must be in a general state of deterioration. (For this purpose, it would be insufficient for only one type of public
improvement, such as a sewer system, to be in a state of deterioration; rather, the public improvements taken as a whole must clearly exhibit signs of deterioration.)

3. Documentation must be maintained by the grant recipient on the boundaries of the area and the conditions that qualified the area at the time of its designation. The recipient must establish definitions of the conditions (listed above) and maintain records to substantiate how the area met the slums or blighted criteria.

Note: The area must be re-designated every 10 years for continued qualification and documentation must be retained.

4. Activities to be assisted with CDBG funds must be limited to those that address one or more of the conditions that contributed to the deterioration of the area. (Note that this does not limit the activities to those that address the blight or decay itself, but it allows an activity to qualify if it can be shown to address a condition that is deemed to have contributed to the decline of the area.)

Where the assisted activity is rehabilitation of residential structures, two additional criteria must be met:

A. Each such building must be considered substandard under local definition. (States are to ensure that state grant recipients have developed minimum building quality standards for this purpose. Local conditions may be taken into consideration; states are also free to set standards regarding building quality.)

B. All deficiencies making the building substandard must be corrected before less critical work on the building may be undertaken.

Note: These two criteria do not apply to nonresidential rehabilitation (rehabilitation of commercial or industrial buildings). Reference: 24 CFR 570.483(c)(1)

When the assistance is designed to address one or more of the specific conditions that originally qualified the area, typical activities designed to address blight on an area basis include:

- Acquisition and clearance of blighted properties,
- Rehabilitation of substandard housing,
- Infrastructure improvements,
- Renovation and reuse of abandoned, historic buildings,
- Commercial revitalization through facade improvements, and
- Removal of environmental contamination on property to enable it to be redeveloped for a specific use.

5. The records to be maintained must include:

- The boundaries of the area;
- A description of the conditions that qualified the area at the time of its designation in sufficient detail to demonstrate how the area met the criteria for designation.
  - Recipients must define and document their definition of the criteria used to qualify areas.
Grant recipients must adopt local definitions related to deteriorating or deteriorated buildings/improvements, abandonment of properties, chronic high turnover rates, chronic high vacancy rates, significant declines in property values, abnormally low property values, and environmental contamination); and

Designations must be re-determined every 10 years for continued qualification.

- A description of the activity showing how it addressed a condition that led to the decline of the area. Each residential rehabilitation activity must also be supported by documentation that shows:
  - How the building qualifies under the state grant recipient’s definition of “sub-standard” and
  - As applicable, information showing that any deficiencies making the building substandard were eliminated prior to less critical work being done.

### Addressing Slums or Blight on a Spot Basis

The elimination of specific conditions of blight or deterioration on a spot basis is designed to comply with the statutory objective for CDBG funds to be used for the prevention of blight, on the premise that such action(s) serves to prevent the spread to adjacent properties or areas.

To comply with the national objective of Elimination or Prevention of Slums or Blight on a Spot Basis, i.e., outside a slum or blighted area, an activity must meet the following criteria:

- The activity must be designed to eliminate specific conditions of blight, physical decay or environmental contamination not located in a designated slum or blighted area and
- The activity must be limited to one of the following:
  - Acquisition;
  - Clearance;
  - Remediation of environmentally contaminated properties;
  - Relocation;
  - Historic Preservation; or
  - Rehabilitation of buildings, but only to the extent necessary to eliminate specific conditions detrimental to public health and safety.

Where the assisted activity is acquisition or relocation, it must be a precursor to another eligible activity (funded with CDBG or other resources) that directly eliminates the specific conditions of blight or physical decay, or environmental contamination. This requirement is not intended to discourage acquisition and relocation as pre-development activities and does not mandate that a proposed plan be in place before CDBG funds can be spent. For example, a grantee could clean up a contaminated site without acquiring the site; however, if the grantee acquired the site first, the project would be considered to meet the slum/blight national objective criteria only after clean-up occurred. Reference: 24 CFR 570.483(c)(2)

The records maintained must include:

- A description of the specific condition of blight or physical decay treated and,
- A description of the assisted activity showing that it falls under one of the activity types that are eligible to be carried out under this subcategory. Where rehabilitation of a building
is carried out under this category, information showing how the activity eliminates conditions detrimental to public health and safety must be included.

To be considered detrimental to public health and safety, a condition must pose a threat to the public in general. A specific condition of a housing unit may be treated under this subcategory only if it poses a threat to any occupant. Thus, if a housing unit is occupied by a disabled person and a specific condition of the housing unit poses a threat to the health and safety only for the disabled occupant, it would not qualify (i.e., it would have to post a threat to non-disabled occupants as well).

Public improvements cannot qualify under this standard except for rehabilitation of public buildings (other than buildings for the general conduct of government) and historic preservation of public property that is blighted.

As a general rule, national objective compliance for the acquisition of real property must be based on the use of the property after the acquisition takes place. The initial determination is based on the planned use of the property, but the final determination is to be based on the actual use. However, when property is acquired for the purpose of clearance to remove specific conditions of blight or physical decay, the clearance is considered to be the actual use of the property, but any subsequent use made of the property following clearance must be considered to be a “change of use” under 24 CFR 570.489(j).

**NATIONAL OBJECTIVE: URGENT NEED**

HUD guidance clarifies that states can be more restrictive than the statutory and regulatory national objective requirements, so long as the state requirements do not contradict federal requirements. For example, although three separate national objectives are eligible (Low and Moderate Income, Elimination of Slum and Blight, Urgent Need) under CDBG, a state may choose to fund only low and moderate income (LMI) benefit activities. The State of Oklahoma CDBG program prioritizes funding for CDBG activities qualifying under the low and moderate income national objective. The State’s CDBG program is built on serving the low and moderate income national objective. Given this, the State’s CDBG program funding is formally allocated for such low and moderate income qualifying activities as demonstrated in the annual CDBG Action Plan. For an activity to be qualified under the national objective of Urgent Need there would have to be sufficient CDBG program re-use funds available and the activity would have to meet the specific guidelines addressed below. In order for consideration under this national objective, the respective Unit of General Local Government (UGLG) must first submit a formal letter of request to the ODOC Community Development Director.

To comply with the national objective of meeting community development needs having a particular urgency, an activity must be designed to alleviate existing conditions which the local government certifies and state determines:

- The specific infrastructure or public facility related activity is located within a Presidential declared disaster boundary.
- Pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community,
- Is of recent origin or recently became urgent. A condition will be considered to be of recent origin if it is developed or became critical within two months (60 days) of the Presidential disaster declaration date.
• A specific infrastructure or public facility related activity that has a past history of similar recurrent issues unrelated to the current disaster would not qualify for Urgent Need. For example, a street that has a history of flooding annually due to a significant rainfall event would not qualify as an Urgent Need.
• The Unit of General Local Government (UGLG) is unable to finance the activity on its own.
• Other sources of funding are not available to carry out the activity, as certified by other state / federal agencies and the grant recipient. This would include Oklahoma Emergency Management and federal sources such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Small Business Administration (SBA) as applicable.
• The requested Infrastructure or public facility related activities must be publicly owned.

The records maintained must include:

• A description of the nature and degree of seriousness of the conditions requiring assistance;
• Evidence that the state grant recipient certified that the CDBG activity was designed to address the urgent need;
• Information on the timing of the development of the serious condition; and
• Evidence confirming that other financial resources to alleviate the need were not available as certified by other state / federal agencies and the grant recipient. This would include Oklahoma Emergency Management and federal sources such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Small Business Administration (SBA) as applicable.

HUD has said that states are free to establish criteria for what constitutes a “serious and immediate” threat. States are free to establish criteria or documentation requirements regarding the lack of other funding resources and local governments’ inability to finance activities on their own. Activities designated solely to prevent a serious health or welfare threat from developing in the future will not qualify under this criterion. Despite the flexibility available to states in establishing criteria related to qualifying activities under the urgent need national objective, local communities should be made aware that this is a difficult standard to meet. Generally, activities that may not have met the standard for another national objective are unlikely to qualify under Urgent Need. Planning only grants are not allowed under Urgent Needs.

SPECIAL FUNDING AND ALLOCATION CONSIDERATIONS

New Funding Allocations from HUD
If any additional CDBG funds are allocated to the State, in addition to the regular CDBG allocation, by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the funding will be allocated per the respective Federal Register Notice or regulatory guidance written expressly for the funding, after allowable State administration and technical assistance have been subtracted.

Program Income Statement

_Economic Development:_ All uses of program income must be for CDBG eligible activities, must comply with applicable State and Federal rules and regulations, and must be reported to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. Local recipients are generally required to spend program income prior to requesting additional grant funds. Program income from FY'87-08 Economic Development projects deposited in the State's revolving fund will be utilized for CDBG EDIF eligible activities.
**Community Development**: All program income will revert to the State. These funds will be utilized following the guidelines established in the re-use plan.

**Re-use Statement**
The definition of re-use is the funds available from cancellation of projects; from projects completed under budget; from funds designated but not expended; the Community Development loan repayment program income or from funds allocated by this Plan in a set-aside but not utilized. As the State cannot predict in advance the source, amount, or timing of available re-use funds, the State reserves the right to determine, based upon need, timing and amount of funds available for re-use, the most appropriate utilization of these funds. This includes but is not limited to other set-asides. All re-use funds must be used for CDBG eligible activities and must comply with applicable State and Federal rules and regulations.

The Oklahoma Department of Commerce reserves the right to adjust set-aside and category allocations to ensure maximum utilization of funds. Such adjustments shall be the minimum amount necessary to fund projects efficiently and best facilitate the State’s CDBG Program obligation and expenditure requirements established by HUD.

Based upon the above re-use statement, any funds utilized for any of the set-asides will be utilized in conformance with the guidelines established in this CDBG Action Plan for the individual set-aside.

**GENERAL DEFINITIONS**

**Blighted Area**
An area in which there are properties, buildings or improvements, whether occupied or vacant, whether residential or nonresidential, which by reason of dilapidation, deterioration, age, or obsolescence; inadequate provision for ventilation, light, air, sanitation or open spaces; population overcrowding, inadequate parcel size; arrested economic development; improper street layout; faulty lot layout in relation to size adequacy, accessibility or usefulness, unsanitary or unsafe conditions, deterioration of site or other improvements; diversity of ownership, tax or special assessment delinquency; any one or combination of such conditions which substantially impair or arrest the sound growth of municipalities or constitutes an economic or social liability which endangers life or property, or is conducive to ill health, transmission of disease, mortality, juvenile delinquency or crime, and by reason thereof is detrimental to public health, safety, morals, or welfare.

**Benefit to Low and Moderate Income persons**
To meet the National Objective of benefit to low and moderate income groups, an activity must at a minimum benefit households whose income is 80% of the median income for that county or Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) where the project is located as established by HUD. An activity undertaken in an area where 51% of the residents are low and moderate income does not necessarily benefit such persons. Each proposed activity must be analyzed on its own merits. Benefit is determined by the nature of the proposed activity and how it serves the residents of the target area.

**Financial Leverage/Project Definition/EDIF**
One (1) new dollar from other sources must be committed as financial leverage for every CDBG-EDIF dollar requested. Financial, leverage is defined as new money recently contributed to the project for the express purpose of implementing the proposed project.
Financial leverage must be committed and in place with supporting documentation at the time of application submittal.

The source of new money may be cash or other valuable consideration, e.g., land, bank loans, proceeds from the sale of stocks or bonds or loans from other public agencies.

Private and public investments that do not qualify as financial leverage are existing net worth, existing debt, future operating expenses, and inventory. Additionally, In-Kind leverage is ineligible.

**Proper Sponsors**
A proper sponsor under the Community Development set-aside is defined as the unit of government with direct jurisdiction over the majority (60%) of the proposed project's beneficiaries. In the event that no unit of local government has sixty percent (60%) of the proposed beneficiaries, then the unit of local government with the majority of the proposed beneficiaries must sponsor the application.

**Program Income**
Gross income earned by a grantee from grant supported activities includes, but is not limited to, sale of real or personal property, service fees, sale of commodities, usage or rental fees, royalties, and loan and interest repayments on economic development projects.

**CDBG Project Definition**
Under the State's CDBG program, a project is defined as ONE eligible or sponsored unit of local government (UGLG) applying for ONE CDBG activity in which there is a benefit to only ONE geographically TARGETED AREA or an entire COMMUNITY-WIDE AREA. These areas allow for a CDBG activity in which only ONE LMI survey (as applicable) is required. Per CDBG application thresholds, the following CDBG applications; CDBG REAP, CDBG Community Revitalization, CDBG W/W Engineering, and CDBG W/W Construction only allow for ONE activity/project to be submitted per application. If the project doesn’t meet the above definition it will be disqualified resulting in a FAILED application rating.

**Leverage**
Leverage may consist of the following: Cash from other Federal/State grants and loans, local funds, and capital improvement funds earmarked (as a release of funds requirement) in municipal and/or county budget. Fair market value is given to land, building, or materials portion of infrastructure improvements. In-kind contributions are eligible for the leverage requirement if properly valued and documented.

The value of in-kind contributions must be reasonable and verifiable. Additionally, the claiming of leverage must be fair and consistent among all communities who are competing for CDBG project funds. The Department reserves the right to require additional documentation of the extent and value of in-kind contributions and to reject the proposed valuation of the contributions if found to be unreasonable or lack appropriate documentation. In-kind includes value of force account labor, voluntary labor (at $10.00 per hour) and services and supplies provided by another entity. Guidelines for documentation are included in the application manual.

Proposed leverage must be directly related to the proposed CDBG project proposal. Penalties may be accessed for in-kind leverage not materializing.

**Target Area**
That portion of a town, city or county within which the governing body of such town, city, or county determines that by reason of special need or special condition the area is designated for specific analysis and project development.

**GENERAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

All applications for assistance must be submitted using the appropriate online application forms through the State’s online application system formally known as *OKGrants*. Applications must include a resolution passed by the current governing body requesting that particular assistance and must comply with all required certifications. As a part of ODOC/CD’s administrative responsibility, the Department guarantees that all applicants under the CDBG program will be protected against any form of unlawful discrimination.

The Oklahoma Department of Commerce will review only one application per entity per set-aside. The restriction of submitting only one application does not apply to economic development or CIP projects. No facsimile or paper applications will be accepted in any set-aside. All specific application procedures are included in the set-aside descriptions in this plan.

**Disallowance of Supplemental Funding:**

Once a unit of local government is awarded CDBG funds for a specific project/activity, that unit of local government will not be allowed to apply for additional/supplemental CDBG funds for that specific project/activity.

**Audit Requirement:**

All audits of prior awards from ODOC/CD must be in accordance with ODOC/CD Audit Policies and Procedures Manual. An audit is required if $25,000 or more was received from ODOC/CD. The audit should be completed and the report submitted no later than twelve (12) months after the end of the contractor’s fiscal year.

If the audit has not been submitted or the audit is not closed prior to the release of funds, the contract may be unable to draw funds unless a good cause is shown and approved by ODOC/CD.

The General Rules of Practice and Procedure established by ODOC/CD include a formal appeals process pursuant to the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act (OAPA). In addition, ODOC/CD has promulgated CDBG Rules in accordance with OAPA.

*All individuals who wish to administer a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project for a fee, regardless of the source of the fee, except for full-time employees of local units of government, will have to be certified by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce/Community Development. This requirement went into effect at the beginning of the 1998 CDBG Fiscal Year on April 1, 1998.*

**SAM.Gov Debarred / Exclusion Check Requirement:**

The System for Award Management (SAM) is an official website of the U.S. government. You must have an active registration in SAM to do business with the Federal Government. There is no cost to use SAM. The General Services Administration (GSA) is required by the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to compile and maintain a list of parties debarred, suspended, or disqualified by federal agencies in SAM.gov. Units of General Local Government (UGLG’s), contractors as well as recipients of federal financial assistance must be registered at SAM.gov.
Active registration in SAM is required to apply for an award and for HUD to make a payment. ODOC is required by HUD to check UGLG grantees’ debarment/exclusion status in the federal SAM database and place a record on file. You can use this site for FREE to:

- Register to do business with the U.S. government
- Update or renew your entity registration
- Check status of an entity registration
- Search for entity registration and exclusion records

Per the SAM User Guide, the No Active Exclusions field on the SAM Entity summary indicates whether the entity has a current debarment. SAM.gov will check the exclusions list for the DUNS number of your entity and indicate whether any exclusion records exist. If an active exclusion record exists for your entity, this question will default to “Yes,” meaning that the contractor is debarred. No Record Found means that the entity is not registered or has let its registration lapse. The entity should ensure that the email address is current in SAM.gov so that when automated reminders are sent to renew registration each year that this reminder does not go into spam due to an obsolete email address.

**PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT SYSTEM**

The proposed Outcome Performance Measurement System was published in the Federal Register on June 10, 2005 (70 FR 34044). The final outcome performance measurement system includes objectives, outcome measures, and indicators that describe outputs. For a full discussion of the objectives, outcomes and indicators see Oklahoma’s Consolidated Plan. The objectives are Creating Suitable Living Environments, Providing Decent Affordable Housing, and Creating Economic Opportunities. The Outcome categories are Accessibility/Availability, Affordability, and Sustainability. There is a standardized list of output indicators that Oklahoma will report on as appropriate for our chosen objectives and outcomes.

The State of Oklahoma’s estimated performance measures can be found in the State’s Consolidated Plan. These performance measures are listed in tables that provide performance measurement data which span the five-year lifecycle of the State’s Consolidated Plan. These measures are categorized as Public Facility and Improvements (which includes CDBG Water and Wastewater, CDBG Community Revitalization, CDBG Small Cities, and CDBG/REAP), CDBG Economic Development and Planning set-asides. Within each of these categories “common indicators”, new specific HUD designated indicators and ODOC internal indicators are set forth.

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

ODOC/CD performs monitoring of the CDBG projects. Not every project will be monitored on site. Desk monitoring may be utilized for projects that are low risk or when the Grantee has an exemplary management history.

ODOC/CD has developed a monitoring strategy that targets a sampling of projects or activities. This sampling is based on risk factors associated with various types of projects and/or Grant Recipients. While every project receives some level of monitoring, priority for in-depth evaluation and review is given to projects that are:

1. Multi-jurisdictional, i.e., involving more than one unit of local government;
2. Involve some level of risk, as evidenced by:

   a. Lack of recent history in administering a CDBG project;

   b. Evidence of numerous accounting or financial tracking errors on current or previous projects;

   c. A record of serious findings or sanctions in previous monitoring session;

   d. High turnover of administrative staff;

   e. Delays in submitting required reports;

   f. Prior violations;

   g. Failure to attend and participate in implementation workshops;

   h. Excessive tardiness in responding to prior monitoring findings.

3. By definition, economic development projects are considered high risk.

In addition, CDBG subrecipients must meet certain threshold requirements listed in the CDBG application guidance for each CDBG set-aside. These threshold requirements assist ODOC/CD to assess risk and to award funds to those potential subrecipients with the best administrative and financial capacity to manage grants.
State of Oklahoma
Emergency Solutions Grant ESG
(DRAFT) 2021 Annual Action Plan
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**Timetable**
The Oklahoma Department of Commerce will make available to Units of General Local Government and Non-Profit organizations all Emergency Solutions Grant Program funds within 60 days of the date the State receives its grant award notice from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 8th, 2021</td>
<td>Mandatory Application Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APRIL 11, 2021</td>
<td>COC Documentation of any changes that have been made regarding additional requirements to the grant amounts, additional requirements, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 6 – May 29, 2021</td>
<td>Applications entered into OK Grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APRIL 30, 2021</td>
<td>CoC Lead Agency Submits copy of PIT Count Data HDX Report to ODOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY 27, 2021</td>
<td>CoC Lead Agency Submits Reviewer Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm May 31, 2021</td>
<td>Application must be submitted into OK Grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 3, 2021</td>
<td>Application Reviewer Training Webinar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June – July, 2021</td>
<td>Continua score, rank and recommend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JULY 31, 2021</td>
<td>CoC Lead Agency Submits updated CoC Governance Charter and Policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August – September, 2021</td>
<td>ODOC verifies eligibility of potential subrecipients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Week of September, 2021</td>
<td>Approximate Date for Award Notification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER 30, 2021</td>
<td>CoC Lead Agency Submits copy of most current EXIBIT ONE (1) showing name of Lead Agency or member agency who submitted application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1, 2021</td>
<td>ESG 2021 Contract Start Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 30, 2022</td>
<td>ESG 2021 contract end date. All funds must be expended by this date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 30, 2022</td>
<td>ESG 2021 Closeout Documentation and Annual Report Due to ODOC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FY 2021 Emergency Solutions Grant Request for Application**

**Background**
The original Homeless Assistance Grants were originally established by the Homeless Housing Act of 1986, in response to the growing issue of homelessness among men, women, and children in the United States. In 1987, the Emergency Shelter Grant Program was incorporated into subtitle B of title IV of the Stewart B. McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11371-11378). In May 2009 the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act was signed establishing the newly reauthorized and updated Emergency Solutions Grant Program. This program is still the first step in a continuum of homeless assistance operated by HUD. Since its inception and incorporation into the McKinney-Vento Act, the ESG Program has helped States and localities provide facilities and services to meet the needs of homeless people.

**Purpose**
Strategies outlined by the Governor’s Interagency Council on Homelessness’(GICH) updated five-year Plan supported by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce/Community Development (ODOC/CD) continue to advance and energize the state’s efforts to identify and combat the issues that result in
homelessness. To that end ODOC/CD continues to lead the efforts for the preparation of the Consolidated Plan, devoted to the organization of federal resources to identify, strategize and implement effective ways to relieve the burden of low-income and in many cases homeless individuals and families. The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program is a component of the state’s efforts to alleviate homelessness in Oklahoma. When used in conjunction with other local resources, the ESG program provides the foundation for homeless people moving toward and maintaining independence.

Eligible Applicants
Shelter operators interested in making application, must meet one of three options:

1. Private Nonprofits who have a yearly independent audit and have received ESG funds in previous years may directly apply for an ESG grant without sponsorship.
2. Shelters may seek sponsorship from either a unit of general local government, Community Action Agency (CAA) operating in that jurisdiction, or a private nonprofit that has previous experience with following federal regulations and being an umbrella organization. For example, a local United Way or the Nonprofit arm of a Housing Authority.
   a. Emergency Shelters that are owned and/or operated by a unit of general local government or a CAA must submit their request for funding through their owner.
3. Private Nonprofits seeking ESG funding for the first time must have a Sponsor. After the first funded program year, the private nonprofit has received an audit with no major findings and a monitoring report with no major findings, the private nonprofit can request permission from ODOC to apply for ESG funding independently with no sponsor.

Sponsorship Responsibilities
The Sponsor (unit of local government or local Community Action Agency) will be the signatory on the contract and the direct recipient of the ESG funds. In turn, there will be a process in which the Sponsor receives documentation, such as invoices, to reimburse the non-profit for the services provided as approved in the written application.

The Sponsor is responsible for the oversight of the financial reporting, Proof of Match and Federal Requirements of the sponsored non-profit.

A unit of general local government or CAA may retain prevention or administrative funds to carry out certain activities. Not all funds used by the unit of general local government or CAA for prevention or administrative activities must be used by the shelter.

A Sponsor/Shelter Agreement must be signed and submitted to ODOC before funds can be released.

ODOC/CD funds only those ESG applicants located in and serving non-formula areas. Potential applicants with a shelter located in the jurisdictions of the City of Tulsa or the City of Oklahoma City must apply through their prospective entitlement communities.

Local Government Project Approval
Distribution of funding to CAA/Nonprofit is permitted only when the unit of general local government, in which the assisted project is to be located, certifies that it approves the proposed project. This certification must be submitted to ODOC with the application. If the CAA/Nonprofit intends to provide homeless assistance in multiple jurisdictions, a certification of approval must be submitted by each of the units of general local government in which the project(s) are to be located.

General Program Requirement Overview
1. These competitive program funds are to be used to provide services to clients who meet the HUD definition of homelessness, including the new expansion of the definitions at risk of homelessness and other federal regulation definitions of homelessness.
2. Grant recipients must be an active participant in their local Continuum of Care.
3. Grant recipients must use their local Continuum of Care HMIS database. The only exception is for Domestic Violence Shelters who must have a comparable client-tracking database approved by ODOC. A comparable database must include the capacity to create reports that can be uploaded into the SAGE Reporting System.
4. Grant recipients must participate in the Continuum of Care Point in Time Count Survey.
5. Grant recipients must provide 100% match of grant funds to be used for services under the ESG program.
6. Grant recipients must be signed up for the federal System for Award Management (SAM) system. The website is www.sam.gov.

Threshold Requirements for the Emergency Solutions Grant:
All Emergency Solutions Applicants must meet the listed threshold criteria. ODOC reserves the right to disqualify any applicant who does not meet one or more of the threshold criteria.
- Applicant / Shelter must have an emergency shelter component or partnership to provide emergency shelter services.
- Access to the Shelter or access to beds must be available 24 hours /7 days/365 days a year.
- Applicant/ Shelter must provide documentation of active involvement in Continuum of Care planning and coordination of service efforts.
- Applicant/ Shelter must provide documentation that the applicant is a participating member of the Continuum of Care’s Coordinated Intake/Assessment.
- Applicant/ Shelter must provide required data/reporting through their Continuum of Care HMIS or comparable (DV organizations only) database.
- All outstanding monitoring findings and audit or unresolved financial/program issues from previously awarded grants must be resolved.
- All required certifications must be received and signed by the appropriate signatory.
- One hundred percent (100%) of contract funds including match must be expended before newly awarded funds can be used.
- Must have a complete set of written policies and procedures in which to manage the Emergency Solutions Grant Program.
- Must have a process for participation of Homeless Persons in Policy-Making and Operations.
- Must have a Confidentiality Policy.
- Must have a current Audit submitted before funds can be requested from grant.
- Must follow all General Record Keeping Requirements, both for financial and client files.
- Must meet all spending timeline requirements. Fifty percent (50%) of awarded funds must be spent by the first six (6) months of the contract; seventy-five percent (75%) must be spent within nine (9) months of the contract and one-hundred percent (100%) must be spent by the end of the contract period.
- Must be activated in the System for Award Management (SAM). Applicant must be clear of any findings and show as eligible for federal contracts and assistance awards.

Selection for Award
After Reviewers from each Continuum of Care individually score each proposal, the combined scores are averaged. The averaged score reflects the Reviewer’s determination of the merit and feasibility of the project. Funds may be awarded, in whole or in part, based on the application’s relative score and funding availability determined by the guidelines set by each Continuum of Care Governing Board and policies. ODOC reserves the right to amend/refuse funding to applications for, but not limited to:
- Receive less than 50% of the total points available for the application
- Receive High Risk assessment scores that show applicant has too many unresolved compliance issues to qualify for funding.
- Have not met all threshold requirements.
- Requested ineligible expenses in their budget not found by the reviewers.
Continuum of Care
The Continuum of Care model is based on the understanding that homelessness is not caused by simply a lack of shelter, but involves a variety of underlying needs. ODOC partners with the Continuum of Care for the purpose of alleviating homelessness is through this community-based process that provides a comprehensive response to the diverse needs of homeless persons. Sponsor / Shelter must obtain verification from their Continuum of Care that they are involved in the CoC organization and service delivery process as well as participate in the HMIS data collecting, Point-In-Time Count Survey and Coordinated Intake. The fundamental components of a Continuum of Care system are:

- Outreach and assessment to identify a homeless person’s needs.
- Immediate (emergency) shelter as a safe, decent alternative to the streets.
- Transitional housing with appropriate supportive services to help people reach independent living.
- Permanent housing or permanent supportive housing for the disabled homeless.

Continuum of Care Criteria
Each of the seven (7) State Program eligible Continuum of Care organizations will be allocated a portion of the State program funds. In order for a Continuum of Care to be allocated funds, the Continuum must comply with the HUD Continuum rule definitions, regulations and timeline pertaining to Continuum structure and planning process.

An eligible Continuum of Care must manage the HUD established responsibilities under the CoC Program regulations.

Operate the CoC:
- Establish a Board to act on behalf of the Continuum of Care
- Conduct semi-annual (twice yearly) meetings of the full membership
- Issue a public invitation for new members, at least annually
- Adopt and follow a written process to select a board
- Appoint additional committees, subcommittees, or work groups
- Develop and follow a governance charter detailing the responsibilities of all parties
- Consult with recipients and subrecipients to establish performance targets appropriate for population and program type, monitor the performance of recipients and subrecipients, evaluate outcomes, and take action against poor performers
- Evaluate and report to HUD and ODOC outcomes of ESG and CoC projects as instructed.
- Establish and operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system
- Establish and follow written standards for providing CoC assistance

Designate and Operate a Homeless Management Information System:
- Designate a single HMIS
- Select an eligible applicant to manage the CoC’s HMIS
- Monitor recipient and subrecipient participation in the HMIS
- Review and approve privacy, security, and data quality plans

Coordinate CoC Planning:
- Coordinate the implementation of a housing and service system within its geographic area
- Conduct a Point-in-Time count of homeless persons, at least biennially
- Conduct an annual gaps analysis
- Provide information required to complete the Consolidated Plan(s)
- Consult with ESG recipients regarding the allocation of ESG funds and the evaluation of the performance of ESG recipients and subrecipients
Continuum of Care Authority Responsibilities relating to the ESG Program:

- The CoC Governing Board must establish policies/procedures to decide the dollar amount of grants awarded in their CoC region. The overall total amounts awarded must meet at minimum the 60(Shelter)/40(Housing)% spending regulations of the ESG Program.
- The CoC Governing Board must establish policies/procedures to add restrictions/requirements to the scoring process for awarding ESG funds. Any restrictions/requirements added to the scoring process must be in line with making improvements to better adhere to the CoC’s Action Plan and/or Performance Measures.
- The CoC Governing Board must establish an Appeal Process for a case in which an Emergency Solutions Grant Program applicant has its application rejected. The Process must include the following:
  - Number of days in which the applicant has to appeal in writing;
  - How the Board shall meet to hear the appeal;
  - After local appeal procedures are exhausted; the applicant may appeal the CoC’s decision to ODOC.
- The CoC Governing Board must establish policies/procedures regarding how to redistribute funds that are returned to the CoC if funds are made available after initial awards are granted.
- The CoC Governing Board creates policies/procedures regarding how funds will be awarded/distributed throughout each Continua service area to best answer the Federal/State’s overall “No Wrong Door” goals.
- The CoC Governing Board must schedule one Public Meeting between the months of June and September of each year. The meeting agenda must include time on the agenda to discuss any proposed changes to the Emergency Solutions Grant Program for the next funding year. The following process must be followed to allow public posting of the annual meeting:
  - A meeting notice must be posted in the local paper and Collaborative Applicant’s (CoC Lead Agency) Website.
  - The meeting agenda must be posted at all CoC’s members’ offices and shelters, the site of the location and at the CoC’s Lead Contact’s Offices a minimum of 48-hours before the meeting.

Continuum of Care Eligibility Documentation:

1. Each CoC Lead Agency must submit the following to ODOC/CD:
   a. Names of members who will be scoring the applications
   b. If applicable, agreement with another lead CoC agency to score each other’s CoC applications
   c. The following data to show proof of Lead CoC Eligibility:
      i. Copy of most updated CoC Governance Charter
      ii. Copy of most current Point-in-Time Survey data showing who submitted the response into the HDX (Only if this has not already been submitted)
      iii. Copy of most current Continuum of Care Grant application (Exhibit 1) showing the name of the lead agency or member agency who submitted the application (Only if this has not already been submitted)
      iv. Documentation of any changes that have been made regarding the grant amounts awarded and proof that membership was made aware and agreed to approved changes:
         1. Copy of Agenda and Minutes of meeting where changes were discussed and/or approved.
         2. Copy of policies/procedures created as a result of above discussion and approval.
Distribution/Redistribution of non-awarded funds:
CoC allocated funding will be redistributed to remaining Continuum of Care entities when:
• The CoC does not comply with the responsibilities listed above
• A CoC is not considered an eligible Continuum of Care.
• Funds are not allocated due to there being no eligible CoC in a region
• Dollars are returned due to lack of eligible applicants in a CoC region.

Any funds not awarded through a first round allocation will be redistributed to other eligible Continuum of Care organizations through procedure set by ODOC/CD. Redistribution will be based on performance and need of each CoC as a whole network.

ODOC reserves the right to recapture any administrative funds not budgeted by the awarded subrecipients equal to the maximum spending requirement allowed by HUD regulations.

FY 2021 Program Design
The 2021 ESG Program is designed to address the following priority areas:
• Identification/prioritization of community needs and assessments.
• Clients’ successful movement towards self-sufficiency.
• Development of Continuum of Care Participation.
• Performance Measure Results and Reporting.

Emergency Solutions subrecipients are required to choose and track all State Performance measures that best match their own organizational performance measures and local Continuum Action Plan. Domestic Violence Shelters must collect the same measures in their own comparable database. The Statewide Performance Measures tracked for the purpose of this program are:

1. Track the Extent to which Persons who Exit Homelessness to Permanent Housing Destinations Return to Homelessness within six (6) to twelve (12) months
   Explanation: This measure begins with clients who exited a permanent housing destination in the date range two years prior to the report date range. Of those clients, the measure reports on how many of them returned to homelessness as indicated in the HMIS system for up to two years after their initial exit.
2. Track total number of Homeless Persons served.
   Explanation: A) Counts of clients using PIT count data. This data should be manually entered from the appropriate point-in-time count data previously submitted. Due to ever-changing data, it is often difficult or impossible to run the same query months later and return the same results. Thus, this metric is not intended to be programmed into the HMIS as part of the System Performance Measures Report. B) Counts of clients using HMIS data. Using HMIS data, determine the unduplicated counts of active clients for each of the project types throughout the reporting period.
   Explanation: This measure is collected by six (6) tables in HMIS. The project types reported are divided by type of income and universe of clients differ.
4. Track number of Persons who become homeless for the first time.
   Explanation: This measure tracks clients entering in Emergency Shelter, Safe Haven and Transitional housing.
5. Track Homeless Prevention and Housing Placement of Persons Defined by Category 3 of HUD’s Homeless Definitions.
   Explanation: All numbers tracked are limited to all persons in projects serving Category 3 homeless.
6. Track successful placement from Street Outreach and Successful Placement in or Retention of Permanent Housing.
Explanation: This measure tracks A) leavers who exited during the report date range and how many of those exited to an acceptable destination; B) tracks leavers who exited emergency shelter, supportive housing, transitional housing and permanent housing-rapid rehousing.

Definitions related to the Performance Measures:

**Individuals** – Persons not accompanied by children or adult partner. Individuals can also mean the number of family members in a household

**Households** – A single individual or group of persons who either currently live together in one dwelling unit or would live together in one dwelling unit were they able to maintain suitable housing accommodations.

**Homeless Assistance Services** – Any agency service providing assistance with ESG funds

“**Increase or Maintain**” – As relates to income, where assistance from the agency allows the client to keep their job during their housing crisis or assistance from the agency helps the client to receive a job or receive income benefits from mainstream services and/or local services.

**Maintain** – As it relates to Prevention, services provided that allows the client households to stay in their housing for at least 90 days if such follow up is possible.

**Housing Services** – As it relates to Rapid Re-Housing, services provided through Rapid ReHousing services that assist households who are literally homeless.

**Unaccompanied Youth** – Youth - for the purposes of this program - under the age of 25 years of age that qualify under the category for unaccompanied youth defined as homeless under other federal statutes. Youth who are in the official custody of the State, as a ward of the State, do not qualify for Emergency Solutions Grant assistance.

**Funds distributed to Rural Continuum of Care.**
The State recognizes that use of the established Continuum of Care structure is the best method for determining appropriate entities for the distribution of the New ESG funds. Starting with a base of $140,000, the formula described below will be used to distribute the remainder of the funds; each eligible Continuum will be provided a target allocation of funds for distribution within its service area. Tulsa CoC will receive a base allocation of $60,000 to be awarded to service providers outside of the City of Tulsa entitlement area. Based on the 2021 HUD allocation of $1,665,623 (minus the ODOC admin of $62,460.00) the 2021 Continuum of Care allocations will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CoC</th>
<th>Allocation with Base of $140,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tulsa with Base of $60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLEVELAND</td>
<td>$168,935.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Central</td>
<td>$215,388.00</td>
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<td>Northeast</td>
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<td>Northwest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>$364,962.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>$269,064.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulsa (minus City of Tulsa)</td>
<td>$82,468.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The formula used for ESG project funding:

a. 10% - 2014 Estimated Total Population
b. 30% - Weighted Median Income Measure
c. 30% - September 2015 Quintile Tiering Based on Unemployment Rate
d. 30% - 2010 - 2014 Housing units experience severe overcrowding (1.5 occupants per room)
According to the set Timetable (page 2), Each Continuum will collect, score and rank submitted applications according to the ODOC provided rating system and return the scores and ranking to ODOC. The recommendations for funding will be assessed for compliance with all ESG and CoC threshold criteria. Applications meeting the threshold criteria will be verified and awards determined.

ODOC will follow a State version of the Continuum of Care grant process. Lead agencies must submit certain basic demographic and capacity data for their Continuum of Care service area.

Documentation will be required to show proof of capacity and prior success in managing of programs that match the eligible activities of ESG.

After ODOC has received the recommendations from each Continuum of Care, ODOC will enter into contractual agreements directly with the approved subrecipient to carry out the financial and programmatic requirements according to law. The contracts will outline the funding source, funding year, amount of funding, terms and conditions.

Each CoC has the authority and responsibility to create their own policies and procedures pertaining to funding amounts and division of funding eligible activities.

**Eligible Program Participants**

In order to receive financial assistance or services funded by ESG, individuals and families—whether homeless or housed—must at least meet the following minimum criteria:

1) The household must be at or below 30 percent of Area Median Income (AMI). Income limits are available on HUD’s web site.
   a. When the household is literally homeless, the below 30% AMI Income limit cannot be used to determine approval for assistance. At the time the household is re-assessed or reevaluated for continued or extended assistance is when the household cannot make above 30 percent Area Median Income (AMI).

2) The household must be either homeless or at risk of losing its housing and meet both of the following circumstances:
   a. no appropriate subsequent housing options have been identified; AND
   b. the household lacks the financial resources and support networks needed to obtain immediate housing or remain in its existing housing.

**Eligible Program Activities**

While flexible in terms of the wide range of servings available to homeless sub-populations and preventing persons from becoming homeless, the ESG Program legislation and implementing regulations do limit the types of activities and amounts of funds that can be spent on different activities. Details regarding eligible activities are listed below. Unlike the previous program guidelines, if the activity/service is not listed, then that activity/service cannot be funded through this program.

**1.0 Street Outreach Component.**

1.1 Eligible costs. Subject to the expenditure limits in 576.100 (b), ESG funds may be used for costs of providing essential services necessary to reach out to unsheltered homeless people; connect them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services; and provide urgent, non-facility-based care to unsheltered homeless people who are unwilling or unable to access emergency shelter, housing, or an appropriate health facility. For the purposes of this grant, the term “unsheltered homeless people” means individuals and families who qualify as homeless under the “homeless” definition § 576.2 (also found on page 41 in the Definitions). The eligible costs and requirements for essential services consist of:

1.2 Engagement. The costs of activities to locate, identify, and build relationships with unsheltered homeless people and engage them for the purpose of providing immediate support, intervention, and
connections with homeless assistance programs and/or mainstream social services and housing programs. These activities consist of making an initial assessment of needs and eligibility; providing crisis counseling; addressing urgent physical needs, such as providing meals, blankets, clothes, or toiletries; and actively connecting and providing information and referrals to programs targeted to homeless people and mainstream social services and housing programs, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, community-based services, permanent supportive housing, and rapid re-housing programs. Eligible costs include the cell phone costs of outreach workers during the performance of these activities.

1.3 Case management. The cost of assessing housing and service needs, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of the program participant. Eligible services and activities are as follows: using the centralized or coordinated assessment system as required under § 576.400(d); conducting the initial evaluation required under § 576.401(a), including verifying and documenting eligibility; counseling; developing, securing and coordinating services; obtaining Federal, State, and local benefits; monitoring and evaluating program participant progress; providing information and referrals to other providers; and developing an individualized housing and service plan, including planning a path to permanent housing stability.

1.4 Emergency health services.
   (A) Eligible costs are for the direct outpatient treatment of medical conditions and are provided by licensed medical professionals operating in community-based settings, including streets, parks, and other places where unsheltered homeless people are living.
   (B) ESG funds may be used only for these services to the extent that other appropriate health services are inaccessible or unavailable within the area.
   (C) Eligible treatment consists of assessing a program participant’s health problems and developing a treatment plan; assisting program participants to understand their health needs; providing directly or assisting program participants to obtain appropriate emergency medical treatment; and providing medication and follow-up services.

1.5 Emergency mental health services.
   (A) Eligible costs are the direct outpatient treatment by licensed professionals of mental health conditions operating in community-based settings, including streets, parks, and other places where unsheltered people are living.
   (B) ESG funds may be used only for these services to the extent that other appropriate mental health services are inaccessible or unavailable within the community.
   (C) Mental health services are the application of therapeutic processes to personal, family, situational, or occupational problems in order to bring about positive resolution of the problem or improved individual or family functioning or circumstances.
   (D) Eligible treatment consists of crisis interventions, the prescription of psychotropic medications, explanation about the use and management of medications, and combinations of therapeutic approaches to address multiple problems.

1.6 Transportation. The transportation costs of travel by outreach workers, social workers, medical professionals, or other service providers are eligible, provided that this travel takes place during the provision of services eligible under this section. The costs of transporting unsheltered people to emergency shelters or other service facilities are also eligible. These costs include the following:
   (A) The cost of a program participant’s travel on public transportation;
   (B) If service workers use their own vehicles, mileage allowance for service workers to visit program participants;
   (C) The cost of purchasing or leasing a vehicle for the subrecipient in which staff transports program participants and/or staff serving program participants, and the cost of gas, insurance, taxes and maintenance for the vehicle; and
   (D) The travel costs of subrecipient staff to accompany or assist program participants to use public transportation.

1.7 Services for special populations. ESG funds may be used to provide services for homeless youth, victim services, and services for people living with HIV/AIDS, so long as the costs of providing these services are eligible activities under this section. The term victim services means services that
assist program participants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including services offered by rape crisis centers and domestic violence shelters, and other organizations with a documented history of effective work concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

1.8 Maintenance of effort - If the subrecipient is a unit of general purpose local government, its ESG funds cannot be used to replace funds the local government provided for street outreach and emergency shelter services during the immediately preceding 12-month period, unless HUD determines that the unit of general purpose local government is in a severe financial deficit.

1.9 Minimum period of use. The subrecipient must provide services to homeless individuals and families for at least the period during which ESG funds are provided.

2.0 Emergency Shelter Component.

2.1 General. Subject to the expenditure limit in § 576.100(b), ESG funds may be used for costs of providing essential services to homeless families and individuals in emergency shelters, renovating buildings to be used as emergency shelter for homeless families and individuals, and operating emergency shelters.

(A) Essential services. ESG funds may be used to provide essential services to individuals and families who are in an emergency shelter, as follows:

(B) Case management. The cost of assessing, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of the program participant is eligible. Component services and activities consist of:

1. Using the centralized or coordinated assessment system as required under § 576.400 (d);
2. Conducting the initial evaluation required under § 576.401(a), including verifying and documenting eligibility;
3. Counseling;
4. Developing, securing, and coordinating services and obtaining Federal, State, and local benefits;
5. Monitoring and evaluating program participant progress;
6. Providing information and referrals to other providers;
7. Providing ongoing risk assessment and safety planning with victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and
8. Developing an individualized housing and service plan, including planning a path to permanent housing stability.

(C) Child care. The costs of childcare for program participants, including providing meals and snacks, and comprehensive and coordinated sets of appropriate developmental activities, are eligible. The children must be under the age of 13, unless they are disabled. Disabled children must be under the age of 18. The child-care center must be licensed by the jurisdiction in which it operates in order for its costs to be eligible.

(D) Education services. When necessary for the program participant to obtain and maintain housing, the costs of improving knowledge and basic educational skills are eligible. Services include instruction or training in consumer education, health education, substance abuse prevention, literacy, English as a Second Language, and General Educational Development (GED). Component services or activities are screening, assessment and testing; individual or group instruction; tutoring; provision of books, supplies and instructional material; counseling; and referral to community resources.

(E) Employment assistance and job training. The costs of employment assistance and job training programs are eligible, including classroom, online, and/or computer instruction; on-the-job instruction; and services that assist individuals in securing employment, acquiring learning skills, and/or increasing earning potential. The cost of providing reasonable stipends to program participants in employment assistance and job training programs is an eligible cost. Learning skills include those skills that can be used to secure and retain a job, including the acquisition of vocational licenses and/or certificates. Services that assist individuals in securing employment consist of employment screening, assessment, or testing; structured job skills and job-seeking
skills; special training and tutoring, including literacy training and prevocational training; books and instructional material; counseling or job coaching; and referral to community resources.

(F) Outpatient health services. Eligible costs are for the direct outpatient treatment of medical conditions and are provided by licensed medical professionals. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds may be used only for these services to the extent that other appropriate health services are unavailable within the community. Eligible treatment consists of assessing a program participant’s health problems and developing a treatment plan; assisting program participants to understand their health needs; providing directly or assisting program participants to obtain appropriate medical treatment, preventive medical care, and health maintenance services, including emergency medical services; providing medication and follow-up services; and providing preventive and non-cosmetic dental care.

(G) Legal services.

(1) Eligible costs are the hourly fees for legal advice and representation by attorneys licensed and in good standing with the bar association of the State in which the services are provided, and by person(s) under the supervision of the licensed attorney, regarding matters that interfere with the program participant’s ability to obtain and retain housing.

(2) Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds may be used only for these services to the extent that other appropriate legal services are unavailable or inaccessible within the community.

(3) Eligible subject matters are child support, guardianship, paternity, emancipation, and legal separation, 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, and the resolution of outstanding criminal warrants.

(4) Component services or activities may include client intake, preparation of cases for trial, provision of legal advice, representation at hearings, and counseling.

(5) Fees based on the actual service performed (i.e., fee for service) are also eligible, but only if the cost would be less than the cost of hourly fees. Filing fees and other necessary court costs are also eligible. If the subrecipient is a legal services provider and performs the services itself, the eligible costs are the subrecipient’s employees’ salaries and other costs necessary to perform the services.

(6) Legal services for immigration and citizenship matters and issues relating to mortgages are ineligible costs. Retainer fee arrangements and contingency fee arrangements are ineligible costs.

(H) Life skills training. The costs of teaching critical life management skills that may never have been learned or have been lost during the course of physical or mental illness, domestic violence, substance use, and homelessness are eligible costs. These services must be necessary to assist the program participant to function independently in the community. Component life skills training are budgeting resources, managing money, managing a household, resolving conflict, shopping for food and needed items, improving nutrition, using public transportation, and parenting.

(I) Mental health services.

(1) Eligible costs are the direct outpatient treatment by licensed professionals of mental health conditions.

(2) ESG funds may only be used for these services to the extent that other appropriate mental health services are unavailable or inaccessible within the community.

(3) Mental health services are the application of therapeutic processes to personal, family, situational, or occupational problems in order to bring about positive resolution of the problem or improved individual or family functioning or circumstances. Problem areas may include family and marital relationships, parent-child problems, or symptom management.

(4) Eligible treatment consists of crisis interventions; individual, family, or group therapy sessions; the prescription of psychotropic medications or explanations about the use and management of medications; and combinations of therapeutic approaches to address multiple problems.

(J) Substance abuse treatment services.
(1) Eligible substance abuse treatment services are designed to prevent, reduce, eliminate, or
deter relapse of substance abuse or addictive behaviors and are provided by licensed or
certified professionals.
(2) ESG funds may only be used for these services to the extent that other appropriate substance
abuse treatment services are unavailable or inaccessible within the community.
(3) Eligible treatment consists of client intake and assessment, and outpatient treatment for up to
30 days. Group and individual counseling and drug testing are eligible costs. Inpatient
detoxification and other inpatient drug or alcohol treatment are not eligible costs.
(K) Transportation. Eligible costs consist of the transportation costs of a program participant’s
travel to and from medical care, employment, childcare, or other eligible essential services
facilities. These costs include the following:
(1) The cost of a program participant’s travel on public transportation;
(2) If service workers use their own vehicles, mileage allowance for service workers to visit
program participants;
(3) The cost of purchasing or leasing a vehicle for the subrecipient in which staff transports
program participants and/or staff serving program participants, and the cost of gas,
insurance, taxes, and maintenance for the vehicle; and (D) The travel costs of subrecipient
staff to accompany or assist program participants to use public transportation.
(L) Services for special populations. ESG funds may be used to provide services for homeless
youth, victim services, and services for people living with HIV/AIDS, so long as the costs of
providing these services are eligible under paragraphs (a)(1)(i) through (a)(1)(x) of this section.
The term victim services means services that assist program participants who are victims of
domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including services offered by
rape crisis centers and domestic violence shelters, and other organizations with a documented
history of effective work concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or
stalking.
(M) Renovation. Eligible costs include labor, materials, tools, and other costs for renovation
(including major rehabilitation of an emergency shelter or conversion of a building into an
emergency shelter). The emergency shelter must be owned by a government entity or private
nonprofit organization.
(P) Shelter operations. Eligible costs are the costs of maintenance (including minor or routine
repairs), rent, security, fuel, equipment, insurance, utilities, food, furnishings, and supplies
necessary for the operation of the emergency shelter. Where no appropriate emergency shelter
is available for a homeless family or individual, eligible costs may also include a hotel or motel
voucher for that family or individual.
(Q) Assistance required under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition
Policies Act of 1970 (URA). Eligible costs are the costs of providing URA assistance under §
576.408, including relocation payments and other assistance to persons displaced by a project
assisted with ESG funds. Persons that receive URA assistance are not considered “program
participants” for the purposes of this part, and relocation payments and other URA assistance
are not considered “rental assistance” or “housing relocation and stabilization services” for the
purposes of this part.
(R) Prohibition against involuntary family separation. The age, of a child under age 18 must not be
used as a basis for denying any family’s admission to an emergency shelter that uses
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding or services and provides shelter to families with
children under age 18.
(S) Minimum period of use.
(1) Renovated buildings. Each building renovated with ESG funds must be maintained as a
shelter for homeless individuals and families for not less than a period of 3 or 10 years,
depending on the type of renovation and the value of the building. The “value of the
building” is the reasonable monetary value assigned to the building, such as the value
assigned by an independent real estate appraiser. The minimum use period must begin on the
date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed
renovation. A minimum period of use of 10 years, required for major rehabilitation and conversion, must be enforced by a recorded deed or use restriction.

(i) Major rehabilitation. If the rehabilitation cost of an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building before rehabilitation, the minimum period of use is 10 years.

(ii) Conversion. If the cost to convert a building into an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building after conversion, the minimum period of use is 10 years.

(iii) Renovation other than major rehabilitation or conversion. In all other cases where ESG funds are used for renovation, the minimum period of use is 3 years.

(2) Essential services and shelter operations. Where the subrecipient uses ESG funds solely for essential services or shelter operations, the subrecipient must provide services or shelter to homeless individuals and families at least for the period during which the ESG funds are provided. The subrecipient does not need to limit these services or shelter to a particular site or structure, so long as the site or structure serves the same type of persons originally served with the assistance (e.g., families with children, unaccompanied youth, disabled individuals, or victims of domestic violence) or serves homeless persons in the same area where the subrecipient originally provided the services or shelter.

2.2 Long-term Emergency Shelter

The Transitional Housing that was Grandfathered in as of 2010 is no longer an eligible activity for the ESG Program. Applicants are welcome to propose projects for long-term Emergency Shelter.

This type of shelter would be for clients whose needs to become stable enough for permanent housing will take longer than the regular shelter stay period.

Details for approval of an extended length of stay in a shelter environment will have to be provided in the Project Narrative questions portion of the application.

2.3 Maintenance of effort. The maintenance of effort requirements under § 576.101(c), which apply to the use of ESG funds for essential services related to street outreach, also apply for the use of such funds for essential services related to emergency shelter.

3.0 Homelessness Prevention.

ESG funds may be used to provide housing relocation and stabilization services and short- and/or medium-term rental assistance necessary to prevent an individual or family from moving into an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition in § 576.2. This assistance, referred to as homelessness prevention, may be provided to individuals and families who meet the criteria under the “at risk of homelessness” definition, or who meet the criteria in paragraph (2), (3), or (4) of the “homeless” definition in § 576.2 and have an annual income below 30 percent of median family income for the area, as determined by HUD. The costs of homelessness prevention are only eligible to the extent that the assistance is necessary to help the program participant regain stability in the program participant’s current permanent housing or move into other permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. Homelessness prevention must be provided in accordance with the housing relocation and stabilization services requirements in § 576.105, the short-term and medium-term rental assistance requirements in § 576.106, and the written standards and procedures established under § 576.400.

4.0 Rapid re-housing assistance component.

ESG funds may be used to provide housing relocation and stabilization services and short- and/or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to help a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. This assistance, referred to as rapid re-housing assistance, may be provided to program participants who meet the criteria under paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition in § 576.2 or who meet the criteria under paragraph (4) of the “homeless” definition and live in an emergency shelter or other place described in paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition. The rapid re-housing assistance must be provided in accordance with the housing relocation
and stabilization services requirements in § 576.105, the short- and medium-term rental assistance requirements in § 576.106, and the written standards and procedures established under §576.400.

5.0 Housing relocation and stabilization services.

5.1 Financial assistance costs. Subject to the general conditions under § 576.103 and § 576.104, ESG funds may be used to pay housing owners, utility companies, and other third parties for the following costs:

(A) Rental application fees. ESG funds may pay for the rental housing application fee that is charged by the owner to all applicants.

(B) Security deposits. ESG funds may pay for a security deposit that is equal to no more than 2 months’ rent.

(C) Last month’s rent. If necessary to obtain housing for a program participant, the last month’s rent may be paid from ESG funds to the owner of that housing at the time the owner is paid the security deposit and the first month’s rent. This assistance must not exceed one month’s rent and must be included in calculating the program participant’s total rental assistance, which cannot exceed 24 months during any 3-year period.

(D) Utility deposits. ESG funds may pay for a standard utility deposit required by the utility company for all customers for the utilities listed in paragraph (5) of this section.

(E) Utility payments. ESG funds may pay for up to 24 months of utility payments per program participant, per service, including up to 6 months of utility payments in arrears, per service. A partial payment of a utility bill counts as one month. This assistance may only be provided if the program participant or a member of the same household has an account in his or her name with a utility company or proof of responsibility to make utility payments. Eligible utility services are gas, electric, water, and sewage. No program participant shall receive more than 24 months of utility assistance within any 3-year period.

(F) Moving costs. ESG funds may pay for moving costs, such as truck rental or hiring a moving company. This assistance may include payment of temporary storage fees for up to 3 months, provided that the fees are accrued after the date the program participant begins receiving assistance under paragraph (b) of this section and before the program participant moves into permanent housing. Payment of temporary storage fees in arrears is not eligible.

5.2 Services costs. Subject to the general restrictions under § 576.103 and § 576.104, ESG funds may be used to pay the costs of providing the following services:

(A) Housing search and placement. Services or activities necessary to assist program participants in locating, obtaining, and retaining suitable permanent housing, include the following:

(i) Assessment of housing barriers, needs, and preferences;
(ii) Development of an action plan for locating housing;
(iii) Housing search;
(iv) Outreach to and negotiation with owners;
(v) Assistance with submitting rental applications and understanding leases;
(vi) Assessment of housing for compliance with Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) requirements for habitability, lead-based paint, and rent reasonableness;
(vii) Assistance with obtaining utilities and making moving arrangements; and
(viii) Tenant counseling.

(B) Housing stability case management. ESG funds may be used to pay cost of assessing, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to facilitate housing stability for a program participant who resides in permanent housing or to assist a program participant in overcoming immediate barriers to obtaining housing. This assistance cannot exceed 30 days during the period the program participant is seeking permanent housing and cannot exceed 24 months during the period the program participant is living in permanent housing. Component services and activities consist of:
(i) Using the centralized or coordinated assessment system as required under § 576.400(d), to evaluate individuals and families applying for or receiving homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance;
(ii) Conducting the initial evaluation required under § 576.401(a), including verifying and documenting eligibility, for individuals and families applying for homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance;
(iii) Counseling;
(iv) Developing, securing, and coordinating services and obtaining Federal, State, and local benefits;
(v) Monitoring and evaluating program participant progress;
(vi) Providing information and referrals to other providers;
(vii) Developing an individualized housing and service plan, including planning a path to permanent housing stability; and
(viii) Conducting re-evaluations required under § 576.401(b).
(C) Mediation. ESG funds may pay for mediation between the program participant and the owner or person(s) with whom the program participant is living, provided that the mediation is necessary to prevent the program participant from losing permanent housing in which the program participant currently resides.
(D) Legal services. ESG funds may pay for legal services, as set forth in § 576.102(a)(1)(vi), except that the eligible subject matters also include landlord/tenant matters, and the services must be necessary to resolve a legal problem that prohibits the program participant from obtaining permanent housing or will likely result in the program participant losing the permanent housing in which the program participant currently resides.
(E) Credit repair. ESG funds may pay for credit counseling and other services necessary to assist program participants with critical skills related to household budgeting, managing money, accessing a free personal credit report, and resolving personal credit problems. This assistance does not include the payment or modification of a debt.

5.3 Maximum amounts and periods of assistance. The recipient may set a maximum dollar amount that a program participant may receive for each type of financial assistance under section 5.1 of this section. The recipient may also set a maximum period for which a program participant may receive any of the types of assistance or services under this section. However, except for housing stability case management, the total period for which any program participant may receive the services under Section 5.2 of this section must not exceed 24 months during any 3-year period. The limits on the assistance under this section apply to the total assistance an individual receives, either as an individual or as part of a family.

5.4 Use with other subsidies. Financial assistance under Section 5.1 of this section cannot be provided to a program participant who is receiving the same type of assistance through other public sources or to a program participant who has been provided with replacement housing payments under the URA, during the period covered by the URA payments.

5.5 Short-term and medium-term rental assistance.
(A) General provisions. Subject to the general conditions under § 576.103 and § 576.104, the subrecipient may provide a program participant with up to 24 months of rental assistance during any 3-year period. This assistance may be short-term rental assistance, medium-term rental assistance, payment of rental arrears, or any combination of this assistance.
   (1) Short-term rental assistance is assistance for up to 3 months of rent.
   (2) Medium-term rental assistance is assistance for more than 3 months but not more than 24 months of rent.
   (3) Payment of rental arrears consists of a one-time payment for up to 6 months of rent in arrears, including any late fees on those arrears.
   (4) Rental assistance may be tenant-based as set forth in Section B4 (below) of this section.
(5) Discretion to set caps and conditions. Subject to the requirements of this section, the recipient may set a maximum amount or percentage of rental assistance that a program participant may receive a maximum number of months that a program participant may receive rental assistance, or a maximum number of times that a program participant may receive rental assistance. The recipient may also require program participants to share in the costs of rent.

(6) Use with other subsidies. Except for a one-time payment of rental arrears on the tenant’s portion of the rental payment, rental assistance cannot be provided to a program participant who is receiving tenant-based rental assistance, or living in a housing unit receiving project-based rental assistance or operating assistance, through other public sources. Rental assistance may not be provided to a program participant who has been provided with replacement housing payments under the URA during the period of time covered by the URA payments.

(7) Rent restrictions. (1) Rental assistance cannot be provided unless the rent does not exceed the Fair Market Rent established by HUD, as provided under 24 CFR part 888, and complies with HUD’s standard of rent reasonableness, as established under 24 CFR 982.507.

(B) For purposes of calculating rent under this section, the rent shall equal the sum of the total monthly rent for the unit, any fees required for occupancy under the lease (other than late fees and pet fees) and, if the tenant pays separately for utilities, the monthly allowance for utilities (excluding telephone) established by the public housing authority for the area in which the housing is located.

(1) Rental assistance agreement. The subrecipient may make rental assistance payments only to an owner with whom the subrecipient has entered into a rental assistance agreement. The rental assistance agreement must set forth the terms under which rental assistance will be provided, including the requirements that apply under this section. The rental assistance agreement must provide that, during the term of the agreement, the owner must give the subrecipient a copy of any notice to the program participant to vacate the housing unit, or any complaint used under state or local law to commence an eviction action against the program participant.

(2) Late payments. The subrecipient must make timely payments to each owner in accordance with the rental assistance agreement. The rental assistance agreement must contain the same payment due date, grace period, and late payment penalty requirements as the program participant’s lease. The subrecipient is solely responsible for paying late payment penalties that it incurs with non-ESG funds.

(3) Lease. Each program participant receiving rental assistance must have a legally binding, written lease for the rental unit, unless the assistance is solely for rental arrears. The lease must be between the owner and the program participant for a duration of no less than 30 days.

(4) Tenant-based rental assistance.
   (i) A program participant who receives tenant-based rental assistance may select a housing unit in which to live and may move to another unit or building and continue to receive rental assistance, as long as the program participant continues to meet the program requirements.
   (ii) The recipient may require that all program participants live within a particular area for the period in which the rental assistance is provided.
   (iii) The rental assistance agreement with the owner must terminate and no further rental assistance payments under that agreement may be made if:
       (a) The program participant moves out of the housing unit for which the program participant has a lease;
       (b) The lease terminates and is not renewed; or
       (c) The program participant becomes ineligible to receive ESG rental assistance.

(C) Changes in household composition. The limits on the assistance under this section apply to the total assistance an individual receives, either as an individual or as part of a family.

6.0 Data Collection (HMIS) component.

6.1 Eligible costs.
(A) The subrecipient may use ESG funds to pay the costs of contributing data to the HMIS designated by the Continuum of Care for the area, including the costs of:
   (i) Purchasing or leasing computer hardware;
(ii) Purchasing software or software licenses;
(iii) Purchasing or leasing equipment, including telephones, fax machines, and furniture;
(iv) Obtaining technical support;
(v) Leasing office space;
(vi) Paying charges for electricity, gas, water, phone service, and high-speed data transmission necessary to operate or contribute data to the HMIS;
(vii) Paying salaries for operating HMIS, including:
   (a) Completing data entry;
   (b) Monitoring and reviewing data quality;
   (c) Completing data analysis;
   (d) Reporting to the HMIS Lead;
   (e) Training staff on using the HMIS or comparable database; and
   (f) Implementing and complying with HMIS requirements;
(B) 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;
(C) Paying staff travel costs to conduct intake; and
(D) Paying participation fees charged by the HMIS Lead, if the subrecipient is not the HMIS Lead. The HMIS Lead is the entity designated by the Continuum of Care to operate the area’s HMIS.

6.2 If the recipient is the HMIS lead agency, as designated by the Continuum of Care in the most recent fiscal year Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Grants Competition, it may also use ESG funds to pay the costs of:
   (A) Hosting and maintaining HMIS software or data;
   (B) Backing up, recovering, or repairing HMIS software or data;
   (C) Upgrading, customizing, and enhancing the HMIS;
   (D) Integrating and warehousing data, including development of a data warehouse for use in aggregating data from subrecipients using multiple software systems;
   (E) Administering the system;
   (F) Reporting to providers, the Continuum of Care, and HUD; and
   (G) Conducting training on using the system or a comparable database, including traveling to the training.

6.3 If the subrecipient is a victim services provider or a legal services provider, it may use ESG funds to establish and operate a comparable database that collects client-level data over time (i.e., longitudinal data) and generates unduplicated aggregate reports based on the data. Information entered into a comparable database must not be entered directly into or provided to an HMIS.
   (A) General restrictions. Activities funded under this section must comply with HUD’s standards on participation, data collection, and reporting under a local HMIS.

7.0 Administrative Activities.

7.1 Eligible costs. The subrecipient may use up to 3.75 percent of its ESG grant for the payment of administrative costs related to the planning and execution of ESG activities. This does not include staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out activities eligible under § 576.101 through § 576.107, because those costs are eligible as part of those activities. Eligible administrative costs include:
   (A) General management, oversight and coordination. Costs of overall program management, coordination, monitoring, and evaluation. These costs include, but are not limited to, necessary expenditures for the following:
      (i) Salaries, wages, and related costs of the recipient's staff, the staff of subrecipients, or other staff engaged in program administration. In charging costs to this category, the recipient may either include the entire salary, wages, and related costs allocable to the program of each person whose primary responsibilities with regard to the program involve program administration assignments, or the pro rata share of the salary, wages, and related costs of each person whose job includes any program administration assignments. The recipient may
use only one of these methods for each fiscal year grant. Program administration assignments include the following:

(a) Preparing program budgets and schedules, and amendments to those budgets and schedules;
(b) Developing systems for assuring compliance with program requirements;
(c) Developing interagency agreements and agreements with subrecipients and contractors to carry out program activities;
(d) Monitoring program activities for progress and compliance with program requirements;
(e) Preparing reports and other documents directly related to the program for submission to HUD;
(f) Coordinating the resolution of audit and monitoring findings;
(g) Evaluating program results against stated objectives; and

(B) Administrative services performed under third-party contracts or agreements, including general legal services, accounting services, and audit services; and
(C) Other costs for goods and services required for administration of the program, including rental or purchase of equipment, insurance, utilities, office supplies, and rental and maintenance (but not purchase) of office space.
(D) Training on ESG requirements. Costs of providing training on ESG requirements and attending HUD-sponsored ESG trainings.
(E) Consolidated plan. Costs of preparing and amending the ESG and homelessness related sections of the consolidated plan in accordance with ESG requirements and 24 CFR part 91.

Policy and Procedures Standards
The changes made to the homelessness assistance programs from the implementation of the HEARTH Act has given all entities involved a chance to review past policies and practices. Homeless Service Providers should take time to reflect on what changes need to be made to help those most in need in their service areas.

Each ESG subrecipient must establish written standards for providing ESG assistance. Returning applicants must submit documentation that the Program’s Written Policies and Procedures have been reviewed by the Staff and Board at least once a year. Documentation must include a Board Agenda showing the Policies/Procedures as an Agenda item as well as the minutes produced from the meeting showing the discussion and approval of the Policies/Procedures from the Board. New subrecipients must have an established set of Policies and Procedures within ninety (90) days of receiving their ESG Award letter. The new subrecipient must submit a copy of the written Policies/Procedures, Board Agenda showing the Policies/Procedures as an Agenda item as well as the minutes produced from the meeting showing the discussion and approval of the Policies/Procedures from the Board.

The following standards must be applied consistently within the subrecipient’s program:

Evaluation of individuals and families eligible for assistance under ESG
Policies and procedures must include:

• Process by which the subrecipient must conduct an initial evaluation to determine the eligibility of each individual or family’s eligibility for assistance.
• Process by which the subrecipient conducts assessment in accordance with the CoC’s centralized or coordinated assessment requirements.
• Process by which the subrecipient requires the program participant to meet with a case manager (not less than once per month to assist in ensuring long-term housing stability);
• Process by which the subrecipient develops a plan to assist the program participant to retain permanent housing after assistance ends; taking into account all relevant considerations such as current or expected income and expenses; other public or private assistance available to the program participant and relative affordability of the available housing in the area.
• Process by which the subrecipient re-evaluates the program participant’s eligibility and the types and amounts of assistance the program participant needs not less than once every 3 months for
those receiving homeless prevention assistance and not less than once a year for those receiving rapid re-housing assistance

- Process by which program participant notifies subrecipient of changes to the program participant’s income of other circumstances that affect the need for assistance and how such changes will be re-evaluated.

**Coordination of services among Emergency Shelter Providers**

Policies and procedures must include:

- Where applicable, coordination of ESG-funded services with other services in the local or regional service area of the Continuum of Care or area over which the services are coordinated to provide a strategic, community-wide system to prevent and end homelessness for the area. These programs include:
  - Shelter Plus Care Program
  - Supportive Housing Program
  - Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Program for Single Room Occupancy Program for Homeless Individuals
  - HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
  - Education for Homeless Children and Youth Grants for State and Local Activities
  - Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals
  - Healthcare for the Homeless
  - Programs for Runaway and Homeless Youth
  - Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness
  - Services in Supportive Housing Grants
  - Emergency Food and Shelter Program
  - Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Program
  - Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program
  - Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans Program
  - VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program
  - Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program
  - Homeless Veterans Dental Program
  - Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program
  - Veteran Justice Outreach Initiative

**Coordination with Mainstream resources**

Policies and procedures must include:

- Organizations and/or shelters receiving ESG funds must coordinate and integrate wherever possible ESG-funded activities with mainstream housing, health, social services, employment, education and youth programs for which families and individuals at risk of homelessness and homeless individuals and families may be eligible.

- Such mainstream programs include, but are not limited to:
  - Public housing programs assisted under section 9 of the US Housing Act of 1937
  - Housing programs receiving tenant-based or project-based assistance under section 8 of the US Housing Act of 1937
  - Department of Developmental Disability Services
  - Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities
  - Home Investment Partnerships Program
  - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
  - Health Center Program
  - State Children’s Health Insurance Program
  - Head Start
  - Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grants
Determination and Prioritization of which eligible families and individuals receive homelessness prevention and which ones will receive rapid re-housing services
The State requires that subrecipients create and implement written standards regarding how an individual or family is chosen to receive either homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing services. The written standards must be applied consistently within the subrecipient’s program.

Determination of the share of rent and utilities costs that each program participant must pay, if any, while receiving homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance
The State requires that subrecipients create and implement written standards regarding what participants have to pay, if anything, over time. The written standards must be applied consistently within the subrecipient’s program.

Determination of how long a particular program participant will be provided with rental assistance and whether and how the amount of that assistance will be adjusted over time
The State requires that subrecipients create and implement written standards regarding adjusted amount of participant assistance, if any, over time. The written standards must be applied consistently within the subrecipient’s program.

Determination of the type, amount and duration of housing stabilization and/or relocation services to provide a program participant
Policies and procedures must include:
- limits; if any, on the homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance that each program participant may receive
- maximum amount of assistance
- maximum number of months the program participant receives assistance
- the maximum number of times the program participants may receive assistance.

Determine the procedures of a Discharge Policy
Grant recipients must develop and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent such discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for such persons.

Determine the procedures an Applicant Appeals Process
Policies and Procedures must include:
- Process by which equal access to services and resources available under programs funded by ODOC the following steps need to be included in an Applicant Appeals Process:
  1. The notice of right to appeal shall appear on all application forms used to determine applicant eligibility for any services or resources provided with funds received from ODOC.
  2. The Contractor shall initiate the appeals procedure, upon request by an applicant, within ten (10) days of the request.
  3. The applicant appeals procedure shall guarantee that each person seeking services shall
i. Have the right to file formal application for services or resources upon request;
ii. Be afforded an opportunity to have private and confidential interviews pertaining to the case;
iii. Not be denied assistance on the basis of race, color, gender, creed, religion, age, familial status, political preference or disability;
iv. Receive timely approval or disapproval of the application; and
v. Receive written notification of appeal and appeal procedures, including notices that:
   a. All aggrieved parties shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity for a fair hearing;
   b. The applicant or the representative of the applicant shall have access to records relevant to the appeal process; and
   c. The applicant shall have the right to a timely determination and prompt notice of hearing decisions.

4. After all local appeal procedures have been exhausted; an applicant may appeal the Contractor's decision to ODOC. In such cases, the Contractor and appellant shall provide ODOC with all relevant documentation.

Termination of Assistance
Policies and procedures must include:

- Process by which the subrecipient may terminate assistance when a program participant violates program requirements must include:
  - Written notice to the program participant containing a clear statement of the reasons for termination;
  - A review of the decision, in which the program participant is given the opportunity to present written or oral objections before a person or other than the person (or a subordinate of that person) who made or approved the termination decision; and
  - Prompt written notice of the final decision to the program participant.

Homeless Participation Requirement
The organization or shelter receiving ESG funds must provide for the participation of not less than one homeless individual or formerly homeless individual on the Board of Directors or other equivalent policy-making entity of the subrecipient; to the extent that the entity considers and makes policies and decisions regarding any facilities, services or other assistance that receive funding under ESG.

If the subrecipient is unable to meet the above requirement; it must instead develop and implement a plan to consult with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering and making policies and decisions regarding any facilities, services or other assistance that receive funding under Emergency Solutions Grant. The plan must be included with the application upon submission.

Habitation Standards
The following are a number of basic standards to ensure that shelter and housing facilities, including qualifying rental assistance residences, funded through the ESG program are safe, sanitary, and adequately maintained.

Habitation Standards for Shelter Component and Housing programs
Organizations providing rental assistance with ESG funds will be required to conduct initial and any appropriate follow-up inspections of housing units into which a program participant will be moving. Following are the habitation standards that grantees must follow:

- **State and local requirements.** Each grant recipient under this Notice must ensure that shelter facilities or housing occupied by a family or individual receiving ESG assistance is in compliance with all applicable state and local housing codes, licensing requirements, and any other requirements in the
jurisdiction in which the housing is located regarding the condition of the structure and the operation of the housing or services.

(b) **Habitability standards.** Housing occupied by a family or individual receiving ESG rental assistance must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. **Structure and materials.** The structures must be structurally sound so as not to pose any threat to the health and safety of the occupants and so as to protect the residents from the elements.

2. **Access.** The housing must be accessible and capable of being utilized without unauthorized use of other private properties. Structures must provide alternate means of egress in case of fire.

3. **Space and security.** Each resident must be afforded adequate space and security for themselves and their belongings. Each resident must be provided an acceptable place to sleep.

4. **Interior air quality.** Every room or space must be provided with natural or mechanical ventilation. Structures must be free of pollutants in the air at levels that threaten the health of residents.

5. **Water supply.** The water supply must be free from contamination.

6. **Sanitary facilities.** Residents must have access to sufficient sanitary facilities that are in proper operating condition, may be used in privacy, and are adequate for personal cleanliness and the disposal of human waste.

7. **Thermal environment.** The housing must have adequate heating and/or cooling facilities in proper operating condition.

8. **Illumination and electricity.** The housing must have adequate natural or artificial illumination to permit normal indoor activities and to support the health and safety of residents. Sufficient electrical sources must be provided to permit use of essential electrical appliances while assuring safety from fire.

9. **Food preparation and refuse disposal.** All food preparation areas must contain suitable space and equipment to store, prepare, and serve food in a sanitary manner.

10. **Sanitary condition.** The housing and any equipment must be maintained in sanitary condition.

11. **Fire safety.**
   
   (i) Each unit must include at least one battery-operated or hard-wired smoke detector, in proper working condition, on each occupied level of the unit. Smoke detectors must be located, to the extent practicable, in a hallway adjacent to a bedroom. If the unit is occupied by hearing impaired persons, smoke detectors must have an alarm system designed for hearing-impaired persons in each bedroom occupied by a hearing-impaired person.

   (ii) The public areas of all housing must be equipped with a sufficient number, but not less than one for each area, of battery-operated or hard-wired smoke detectors. Public areas include, but are not limited to, laundry rooms, community rooms, day care centers, hallways, stairwells, and other common areas.
Release of Funds
Applicants awarded funds must submit and receive authority to use grants funds prior to expending grant funds. Funds will not be released until all required documentation has been received. Funds expended prior to the authority to use grant funds will not be reimbursed.

Budget
Each recipient must complete a project budget and budget narrative form. Project budget should list the amount of ESG funds to be expended in each separate category and the project narrative should provide a description detailing the anticipated expenditures by category.

Matching Funds
The FY 2021 ESG Program requires a dollar-for-dollar local match. All eligible match funds, in-kind to cash, included in the application must be available for spending during the grant’s contract period. The dates available for each match resource must be entered on the Match Certification form in OK Grants. Each Applicant is required to complete certification documenting the sources and amounts submitted for match available in the contract period. The amount of match must be tracked and reconciled by month and reflected on the monthly expenditure report submitted to ODOC on the 20th of each month. It is the award recipient’s responsibility to ensure that cash match must be spent on ESG eligible activities only. Match funds and expenditures must also be included in the annual audit.

The following are examples of what can be used as match:
- Cash (can only be spent on ESG eligible activities)
- The value or fair rental value of any building used for program purposes (in-kind)
- Donated material (in-kind)
- The value of an owned or donated building (match may be used only one time)
- Salary paid to staff to carry out the program of the recipient (Source of funding for staff salaries must be listed on Matcher Certification form and tracked monthly.
- Volunteer time (@ $5/hour)

Record Keeping
Through the CoC Statewide meetings, a taskforce will be established to review documents used for Record Keeping requirements. This taskforce will review documents currently used by current subrecipients and establish either a standardized checklist of required documents and/or a set of documents that each subrecipient must use in their intake/assessment and record keeping process to prove Status of Homelessness. Results from the Task Force will be distributed to the CoC Lead Agencies for the purpose of discussing and approving items in regular membership meetings.

Reporting
Emergency Solutions Grant recipients will use HMIS through the applicable Continuum of Care to collect data and report on outputs and outcomes as required by HUD. The required data elements to be collected are included in the FY 2021 HMIS Data Standards September 2019: https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HMIS-Data-Standards-Manual.pdf

According to HUD’s final ruling over data collection from Domestic Violence Shelters, the revised “VAWA Protections” include that Domestic Violence Shelters are exempt from having to use any shared database such as the HMIS software to collect client information and services provided. However, data collection relating to non-confidential demographics and services provided is required to be reported by the DV shelter. A comparable database can be used to collect such data. The comparable database must meet all HMIS data standards and reporting requirements.

Sage Reporting
SAGE is the online portal for the submission of aggregate, de-identified data from HMIS or comparable databases via a Comma Separated Value (CSV) import. As of October 1, 2017, The Office of Housing
and Urban Development (HUD) now requires all ESG subrecipients to upload their CAPER report from HMIS into this database. SAGE replaces the former eCart database system. All Applicants who receive ESG funds will be required to upload Performance Report data to the SAGE System. Domestic Violence Shelters are not exempt from providing required aggregate data to upload into SAGE. The comparable system that the Domestic Violence Shelters use must be able to create a CSV file needed to upload to the SAGE system to meet requirements. If a Domestic Violence Shelter’s comparable database cannot provide required demographic data and cannot provide required reports in the required format (CSV file for SAGE) the Domestic Violence Shelter may be disqualified to be awarded Emergency Solution Grant funds.

Reports due to ODOC using data from approved data collection methods are as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Report Type</th>
<th>Reporting Period</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monthly Progress</strong> - Due the 20th of each following month.</td>
<td>For example, the January monthly report would be due no later than February 20th.</td>
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| **Semi-Annual Progress Reports** – Report providing unduplicated numbers due 25 days after each semi-annual period; October – March, April --- September | Period ending March 30th – Due April 25th  
Period ending September 30th – Due October 25th |
| **Annual Performance Report** – Due 60 days after the end of the contract year for each fiscal year in which ESG funds are expended. | Due November 30th |
| **SAGE Upload – Must be uploaded 45 days before CAPER is due to HUD** | Due May 15th |

**Payments**
ODOC shall disburse funds to the Applicants awarded funds upon receipt and approval by ODOC of the Request for Release of Funds. Once the “Authorization to Spend funds” form has been received by the new subrecipient, a reimbursement payment process will be implemented.

**Deadline for Using Grant Amounts**
The grant period for the ESG project is 12 months effective October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022. From the date the contract is signed with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. Extensions to the program (grant) periods are made at the discretion of the State and will only be approved in extreme circumstances.

In addition, timelines within the twelve month contract period have been established to ensure one-hundred percent (100%) of program funds are spent within the program period. Grant funds must be spent within the following timelines: Fifty percent (50%) of awarded funds must be spent by the first six (6) months of the contract; seventy-five percent (75%) must be spent within nine (9) months of the contract and one-hundred percent (100%) must be spent by the end of the contract period.

**Obligated**
ODOC will send a letter to each rural continuum once agreement has been received by HUD notifying each Lead agency the total dollar amount the CoC will be allowed to award in their service area. Each CoC Governance Board has a certain time period in which they review the submitted applications. Once reviewed and final decisions made, each CoC will submit a letter to ODOC with their recommendations for funding to eligible applicants. Funds cannot be expended until ODOC/CD receives an Environmental Review (if applicable), Sponsor Shelter Agreement or summary (if applicable) and a
Request for Release of Funds. Upon receipt of these documents, ODOC will return to the Applicant a signed Authority to Use Grant Funds.

**Certifications**

Federal requirements will be assured by certifications in the grant application. Federal requirement certifications that must be submitted by applicants are as follows:

**Local Government Certification** – This form is signed by the local unit of government Chief Elected Official when the unit of government agrees to be the Sponsor for a nonprofit organization. The local unit of government agrees to follow federal regulations as it relates to building standards, assistance to the homeless along with other Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) laws and regulations.

**Private Non-Profit Certification** – This form is signed by the Executive Director of the Community Action Agency when said agency agrees to be the Sponsor for a nonprofit organization or the independent nonprofit itself. The signing entity agrees to follow federal regulations.

**Certification of Local Government Approval for Nonprofit Organizations** – This form is signed by the Chief Elected Official of the city/town in which the Homeless Assistance program activities are being provided. The local government approves of the services being provided in their city/town.

**Applicant Assurances** – This is signed by the Applicant. The Applicant agrees that Homeless individuals will receive an appropriate level of service and will be given opportunities to participate in policy making decisions regarding shelter and services provided.

**Program Certifications** – This is signed by the Applicant. The Applicant agrees to comply with having policies relating to the State’s Consolidated Plan, Confidentiality, Discharge Planning, Affirmatively Further Fair Housing and HMIS.

**Certification of Consistency with Consolidated Plan HUD 2991** – This form is signed by the Certifying Official at ODOC. The Certifying Jurisdiction agrees that the Applicant’s program is consistent with the jurisdiction’s Consolidated Plan.

**J. Drug-Free Workplace Requirements** - The Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (41 U.S.C. 701, et seq.) and HUD’s implementing regulations as applied to ESG.

**Lead-Based Paint Requirements** - The Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4801 et seq.), as amended by the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 4851 et seq.) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 35, subparts A, B, M, and R shall apply to housing occupied by families receiving assistance through ESG.

**Anti-Lobbying Certification** – This is signed by the Applicant. The Applicant agrees that no Federally appropriated funds will be used for lobbying activities.

**Request for Release of Funds and Certification** – This is signed by the Applicant. The Applicant submits all forms necessary for Environmental Review compliance or states exemption status for Environmental Review process.

**Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report** – This form is signed by the Applicant. The applicant must disclose if they are receiving, or expect to receive, assistance from other HUD Programs that are subject to the disclosure requirements of Subpart C of 24 CFR Part 12.

**Continuum of Care Lead Agency Participation letter** – This is provided by the Continuum of Care Lead Agency. The letter must include that the shelter is a member of the Continuum of Care, the level of participation in the HMIS or comparable data collection database, level of participation during the Annual Point-in-Time Survey Count and any Continuum of Care committees or related participation.
Audit Requirement
All audits of prior awards from ODOC/CD must be in accordance with ODOC/CD Audit Policies and Procedures Manual. An audit is required if $25,000 or more was received from ODOC/CD. The audit should be completed and the report submitted no later than six (6) months after the end of the contractor's fiscal year.

If the audit has not been submitted or the audit is not closed prior to the release of funds, then contractor may be unable to draw funds unless a good cause is shown and approved by ODOC/CD.

Match is a contractual requirement on ESG and must be reported in the audit for both revenue and expenditures. Here are two examples:
1. Note with an asterisk or a number/letter on the financials for both revenues and expenditures. At the bottom of that audit page the explanation would include that this amount includes the match of $____ as required for contract number_____.
2. Add a Note to the financial statements that states the match of $_____ as required in the contract for contract number ______ was met.

Confidentiality
All ESG recipients must develop and implement procedures to ensure:
(1) The confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided with assistance; and
(2) That the address or location of any assisted housing will not be made public, except to the extent that this prohibition contradicts a preexisting privacy policy of the grantee.

Performance
ODOC reserves the right to recapture Emergency Solution Grant funds under the following circumstances:
- Failure to obligate and spend within the time periods as specified:
  - Fifty percent (50%) of awarded funds must be spent by the first six (6) months of the contract; seventy-five percent (75%) must be spent within nine (9) months of the contract.
- Failure, without approved modification, to implement the project as set forth in the approved ESG grant application.
- Failure to meet the specified performance measures.
- Failure to meet threshold responsibilities during the contract period.

Application Procedures, Submission and Selection Requirements

Continuum of Care Scoring Process:
1. After applications are submitted into OK Grants, volunteers whose names have been submitted from each CoC will receive training to become a Reviewer through a Webinar. Reviewers will be trained how to use the ESG Scoring tool and shown how to enter scores into OK Grants. CoC Reviewers will then be given a login to OK Grants and additional instructions to score their assigned applications online. The Scoring criteria will not be released to the CoC leads until after the application deadline.
2. There will be three (3) reviewers assigned to every eligible application. The two (2) highest scores will be averaged for the CoC Governing Board to use to make final funding recommendations.
3. Reviewers will be given a deadline to score applications.
4. Once the applications have been scored, the CoC Lead agency will submit a letter to ODOC listing the applicants that are being recommended for funds and the dollar amount being awarded equaling the dollar amount allocated to the CoC.
5. ODOC will then conduct a Pre-Award Risk Assessment. The results of this survey will determine if an applicant is a Low, Medium or High Risk and will help determine any additional special conditions that will be added to the Applicant’s contract. First time applicants that are awarded funds will be automatically scored as a “High Risk” and will have special conditions added to their contract, including additional Technical Assistance, monitoring and submitted source documentation with every expense report.
6. ODOC will send award letters to subrecipients with final instructions regarding how contracts are initiated in OK Grants.

Submission Requirements
In the occurrence of a Sponsor applying on behalf of more than one shelter, separate applications must be submitted for each shelter.

Application Workshop
A mandatory application workshop has been scheduled for April 8th, 2021. Attendance will be mandatory for all organizations planning on applying for the 2021 Program year. After the Application is made available in OK Grants, only questions of a clarifying nature will be answered after the workshop has been held. ODOC will not answer any questions regarding the Emergency Solutions program or provide technical assistance during the application process.

Verification and On-site Visits
The Oklahoma Department of Commerce/ Community Development reserves the right to verify information and documentation received as part of the ESG application. An on-site visit may be scheduled by ODOC to conduct an observation of the facility where the proposed ESG project will be carried out. On site observations of shelter facilities will receive no more than 24 hour notice via telephone. A representative from both the shelter and the sponsor must be available during the visit.

Program Application Guidelines and Submission Requirements
All grant applications must be submitted electronically through the ODOC OKGrants Grant Management System. Here is the link to the grant site and registration instructions:

https://grants.ok.gov/

In the instance of a unit of general local government or CAA applying on behalf of more than one shelter, separate applications must be submitted for each shelter. Applicants may present multiple funding requests in a single application. When this occurs, answer the application questions associated with the highest level Tier for which funding is requested and list all Tiers the applicant is applying for under the appropriate application questions. Only one application per shelter will be accepted.
FY 2021 Emergency Solutions Grant Checklist (Form Online in OK Grants)

To be considered for ESG funds, an application must contain the items detailed below:

**OK Grant Forms**
- Application Summary (Form 424)
- All required responses Section I through Section V
- Budget Detail
- Budget Summary (Save Only)
- Budget Narrative
- Match / Additional Funds Certification Form (Match availability must be dated for contract period Oct 1st – Sept 30th)
- Audit

**Application Forms; Signatures required Upload to Uploads Page**
- Program Certifications and Assurances, which includes:
  - Section I. Applicant Assurances
  - Section II. Program Certifications (formerly ODOC 6)
  - Section III. Drug-Free Workplace (formerly ODOC 7)
  - Section IV. Anti-Lobbying Certification (formerly ODOC 8)
- Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report
- Certification of Consistency with Consolidated Plan HUD 2991
- Environmental Review Record for Exemptions/Release of Funds

- Required forms for Units of General Local Government
  - Local Government Certification
- Or-
- Required forms for Community Action Agency (CAA) or Independent Nonprofit
  - Private Non-Profit Certification
  - Certification of Local Government Approval for Nonprofit Organizations

**Required forms**
- System for Award Management (SAM.gov) PDF Search Verification of Non-DeBarred Status
- Continuum of Care Agreement for HMIS Data Entry
- Continuum of Care Lead Agency Participation letter
- Documentation showing proof of Annual Board Review of ESG Written Policies and Procedures
- HMIS or Comparable Database Data Quality Report for the last 12 months

- In the case of a Community Action Agency, a signed letter must be submitted by the Unit of Local Government assuring that they will perform the environmental review.
Projects will be evaluated by a point system scoring each category of the narrative and taking into consideration the overall quality of the application and information collected during on-site reviews. In the Narrative Exhibit Section (In OK Grants), please provide as much thorough information as possible.

Section I – V Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Question</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The shelter has a targeted and clearly demonstrated need. The shelter’s services will make a significant impact on the community in alleviating homelessness.</td>
<td>I-1) Describe the need for homeless assistance services in your area</td>
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<td></td>
<td>o Include where “proof of need” data was collected.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>I-2) Describe Applicants participation in Annual Point-in-time Count.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Explain the numbers collected by the applicant and how the applicant uses the PIT results to change program priorities or services.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The applicant is knowledgeable of the level of need in the community and provides local data to document who is being served and a potential for those who may need to be served in the community.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Applicant’s response to I-2 must clearly describe how their staff/volunteers participated in the annual Point-in-time (PIT) Count. The results from the PIT must also be included</td>
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Section II Proposed Use of Funds(50 pts)

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Question</th>
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<tr>
<td>Each applicant must provide one of two options:</td>
<td>II-1) Describe the organization’s Emergency Shelter Component?</td>
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<tr>
<td>1)In communities where no appropriate emergency shelter is available, written agreements or a voucher system may be implemented to pay for hotel or motel costs for the family or individual, or a written agreement with a partnering organization that does have a shelter facility within reasonable distance of the applicant; or</td>
<td>Include details such as:</td>
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<tr>
<td>2)Applicant has an Emergency Shelter facility designed to provide temporary housing for individuals and/or families lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Local policy shall determine length of stay in the shelter.</td>
<td>• How shelter remains accessible/open to meet the 24/7/365</td>
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<td>• What is the maximum length of Stay</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Description and explanation of any fees for services that the shelter charges</td>
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| Applicant describes a well-defined, independent program from their Shelter services. A Street Outreach program cannot be one where the potential client is coming to any of the Shelter’s facilities (example’ Soup kitchen or Day Center).

Services are provided to eligible participants on the street or in parks, abandoned buildings, bus stations, campgrounds, and in other such settings where unsheltered persons are staying. Staff salaries related to carrying out street outreach activities are also eligible. | II-2.) Describe the organization’s Street Outreach Services. |
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<tr>
<td>Thorough description of how Rapid Rehousing funds can be accessed and how client’s program eligibility is determined as well as indication of what documentation is collected/verified. Applicant may have included a plan relating to short-term and medium term assistance. Depending on the needs of the community and the funding needs of the applicant, the applicant is not required to provide all of the listed activities. The applicant does not need to provide all activities listed to receive full points. Applicant describes the steps taken to provide prevention and keep a client in their housing. Looking for data used to justify using prevention in service area. Answer must include some data relating to housing statistics, condition of local housing; affordability of available housing, barriers caused by landlords to rent, etc.</td>
<td>II-3) Describe how clients access requested Rapid Rehousing / Prevention Services; including what documentation is collected/verified regarding the client’s program eligibility and how housing is selected.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Proposed case management services are well described and easily relate to the needs of the clients described in I-1 and target populations under II-1. All key positions are described in relation to program implementation and operation. The Applicant must include qualifications required of case managers along with what type of training is provided or made available to case management staff. | II-4) Describe what level of case management clients receive at the Shelter.

- Identify the person(s) responsible for carrying out case management activities.
- Include the qualifications of the case managers identified in the response
- Also include what kind of training is provided to case management staff |
| Applicant must describe some level of external training provided for case management/ housing assistance staff members. SOAR should definitely be mentioned. | II-5) Describe the training ESG staff receives to improve quality of service for the program participants approved for shelter/housing assistance. Whom in the organization/shelter has received the following training: SOAR, ADA compliance training, Housing first, trauma informed care, evidenced-based case management practices, etc. |
Response should include a brief description about appropriate policies and protocol for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as healthcare facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent such discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for such persons.

Response should include description of the following:
- Equity refers to proportional representation (by race, class, gender, etc) of opportunities in housing, healthcare, employment, and all indicators of living a healthy life

Advancing Equity through Homeless Response Inclusion: To what extent are the diverse identities and perspectives of Black, Indigenous and people of color included in this decision-making process that will impact their lives?

Data (quantitative and qualitative): To what extent do you know who is most impacted—beyond who currently presents at the front door(s)—look in the margins and the outcomes as a result of their interaction

Strategies: To what extent do the strategies (programs and policies) meet the needs of those impacted and does not cause harm?

Impact: To what extent do you seek out the unintended harm and creation of new margins through policies and program requirements?

Evaluation: To what extent do you use disaggregated data and feedback from those with lived experience to monitor the impact that your decision, policy, or program has on each population.

Accountability: To what extent have you built gathering input, advice and recommendations on an on-going basis into the homeless response system?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section III Performance Measures (30 Pts)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Performance measures of the program are clearly identified, and applicant has described a clear plan for achieving those goals. Goals are quantitative, realistic and appear well thought out in relation to the services identified in the application narrative.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Questions</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>III-1) List local Program Performance Measures and Outcomes. How will achieving the local performance measures help achieve the State Performance Measures?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It is acceptable that the applicant has local performance measures or goals that are different from the State performance measures. In this case, the applicant must explain how accomplishing their local goals or performance measures will overall help achieve the State Performance measures.

For III-2; the applicant is not required to set an estimate for services they do not provide. For example, if an applicant does not provide prevention services, then they do not have to estimate how many clients for which they are going to provide prevention services.

Examples of items that could be mentioned for questions III-1 & III-3.
* Description of process used to determine program accomplishments and client progress/accomplishment is well defined. * The percentage of clients exiting to the next step in the Continuum is being measured and the process for how this is determined is well described and understandable. * The performance measures as they are listed on the HMIS APR report

III-3: Applicant must include Data Quality Report. Scores/percentages less than 95% should not be given full available points.

### Section IV Community and Local Government Commitment (5 Pts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Questions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Documentation corresponds with totals listed on Match / Additional Funds Form in OK Grants</td>
<td>IV-1) Source documentation showing match funding amounts must be uploaded within the application. *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For IV-2: These points need to go to the organizations that go beyond matching their program with other federal or State grant dollars.</td>
<td>IV-2) Describe how community and local government support (in-kind or cash contributions) is received and how these contributions benefit the proposed program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For IV-2: The points should be awarded to the organizations that can prove their community is involved and have obtained multiple resources to provide for the needs of their clients.</td>
<td>*Letters relating to match must be on the letterhead of the organization’s providing the match and uploaded within the Application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not take away points if source documentation is not provided.</td>
<td>Eligible forms of match include but are not limited to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Match must be available during 2021 program year</td>
<td>• The value of the time and services contributed by volunteers to carry out the program at a rate of $5.00 per hour.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The value of volunteers providing professional services such as medical or legal services valued at the reasonable and customary rate in the community.
- The value of any donated goods, material or building. The value of any building lease using a method to reasonably calculate fair market value.
- The value of salary paid to staff to carry out the ESG Program.

Cash awards from foundations, organizations, private individuals, and other government sources.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Questions</th>
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</table>
| The applicant should provide a description of how their services fit in with the performance measures, action plan and/or mission of their local Continuum.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | V-1) Explain how services proposed fit into the local CoC’s Action Plan to end homelessness?  
➢ Provide CoC Agreement for HMIS Data Entry  
• If exempt from using HMIS, describe how method for collecting data is comparable to HMIS.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Applicant describes the organization’s participation in the CoC’s Coordinated Intake Process required by HUD. The description must provide enough detail that the reviewer has a clear understanding of the Coordinated process and the applicant’s involvement in the process.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | V-2) Describe the Organization’s involvement in the CoC’s Coordinated Entry Process required by HUD. Explain what and how priorities were changed to accommodate the updated HUD guidance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Mainstream services and the process by which shelter clients are connected to those services is thoroughly described and appears feasible. **Mainstream services include SSI/SSDI, TANF, Food Stamps, services through DHS, OJA, etc.; services that are mainly provided through Federal or State funding.** The Shelter can also mention how they work with local law enforcement, hospitals and mental health facilities regarding discharge planning.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | V-3) Describe the mainstream services available in your area and the process for connecting shelter clients to these services.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| The applicant should include names of specific organizations they partner and describe how services are delegated to prevent duplication. This is where local partners can be mentioned. This is also the section where the applicant mentions local partners; such as local churches, Rotary, AMBUCS, Lion’s Club, local clinics and mental health facilities that provide services and partnerships to provide better services to clients.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | V-4) What agencies in your area do you collaborate with to provide better care for your clients and to prevent duplication of services?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The organization must provide for the participation of not less than one homeless individual or formerly homeless individual on the board of directors or other equivalent policymaking entity of the recipient, to the extent that the entity considers and makes policies and decisions regarding any facilities, services, or other assistance that receive funding under Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)…                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | V-5) Describe how homeless and/or formerly homeless persons participate in the operations, planning, development, and/or policy making at your shelter.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
HUD Programs Subject to the Disclosure Requirements

Please read before filling out the Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report

Following is a list of all the HUD Programs that are subject to the disclosure requirements of Subpart C of 24 CFR Part 12. All applicants for Emergency Solutions Grant assistance must review this list to determine if they are receiving, or expect to receive, assistance from other covered programs. Applicants must consider HUD funds that are received either directly from HUD or through the State.

It is the total amount of funds received from all the below sources that the applicant uses to answer the second question of Part II of the Disclosure Report.

- Section 312 Rehabilitation Loans under 24 CFR Part 510, except loans for single-family properties.
- Applications for grant amounts for a specific project or activity under the Rental Rehabilitation Grant Program under 24 CFR Part 511 made to:
  - A State grantee under Subpart F;
  - A unit of general local government or consortium of units of general local government or a consortium of units of general local government receiving funds from a State or directly from HUD whether or not by formula under Subparts D, F, and G; and
  - HUD, for technical assistance under § 511.3.
- (Excludes formula distributions to States, units of general local government, or consortia of units of general local government under Subparts D and G, within-year reallocations under Subpart D, and the HUD-administered Small Cities Program under Subpart F.)
- Applications for grant amounts for a specific project or activity under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 made to:
  - HUD, for a Special Purpose Grant under Section 105 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 for technical assistance, the Work Study Program or Historically Black colleges;
  - HUD, for a loan guarantee under 24 CFR Part 470, Subpart M;
  - HUD, for a grant to an Indian tribe under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974;
  - HUD, for a grant under the HUD-administered Small Cities Program under CFR Part 570, Subpart F; and
  - A State or unit of general local government under 24 CFR Part 570.
- Applications for grant amounts for a specific project or activity under the Emergency Shelter Grant Program under 24 CFR Part 576 made to a State or to a unit of general local government, including a Territory.
- (Excludes formula distributions to States and units of general local government [including Territories]; reallocations to States, units of general local government [including Territories] and non-profit organizations; and applications to an entity other than HUD or a State or unit of general local government.)
- Transitional Housing under 24 CFR Part 577.
- Permanent Housing for Handicapped Homeless Persons under 24 CFR Part 578.
- Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments (only project-based housing under the Existing Housing and Moderate Rehabilitation programs under 24 CFR Part 882, including the Moderate Rehabilitation Program for Single Room Occupancy Dwellings for the Homeless under Subpart H).
- Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments for Housing for the Elderly or Handicapped under 24 CFR Part 885.
- Loans for Housing for the Elderly or Handicapped under Section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (including operating assistance for Housing for the Handicapped under Section 162 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 and Seed Money Loans under Section 106(b) of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968).
• Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments - Special Allocations - under 24 CFR Part 886.
• Flexible Subsidy under 24 CFR Part 219 - both Operating Assistance under Subpart B and Capital Improvement Loans under Subpart C.
• Low-Rent Housing Opportunities under 24 CFR Part 904.
• Indian Housing under 24 CFR Part 905.
• Public Housing Development under 24 CFR Part 941.
• Comprehensive Improvement Assistance under 24 CFR Part 968.
• Resident Management under 24 CFR Part 964, Subpart C.
• Neighborhood Development Demonstration under Section 123 of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983.
• Nehemiah Grants under 24 CFR Part 280.
• Research and Technology Grants under Title V of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970.
• Congregate Services under the Congregate Housing Services Act of 1978.
• Counseling under Section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968.
• Fair Housing Initiatives under 24 CFR Part 125.
• Fair Housing Assistance under 24 CFR Part 111.
• Mortgage Insurance under 24 CFR Subtitle B, Chapter II (only multi-family and non-residential).
• Supplemental Assistance for Facilities to Assist the Homeless under 24 CFR Part 579.
• Shelter Plus Care Assistance under Section 837 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act.
• Planning and Implementation Grants for HOPE for Public and Indian Housing Homeownership under Title IV, Subtitle A, of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing act.
• Planning and Implementation Grants for HOPE for Homeownership of Multi-family Units under Title IV, Subtitle B, of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing act.
• HOPE for Elderly Independence Demonstration under Section 804 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act.
FY 2021 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program
Request for Application (RFA) - Definitions

For the purposes of this Request for Application, the following definitions will be used:

**Administration:** Units of General Local Government and/or Community Action Agencies are allowed 3.75% of the total award for administration of the ESG grant. These funds may be passed on to the shelter.

**At risk of homelessness:**
(1) An individual or family who:
   (A) Has an annual income below 30 percent of median family income for the area, as determined by HUD;
   (B) Does not have sufficient resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition in this section; and
   (C) Meets one of the following conditions:
      (a) Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for homelessness prevention assistance;
      (b) Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;
      (c) Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 14 days after the date of application for assistance;
      (d) Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost of the hotel or motel stay is not paid by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals;
      (e) Lives in a single-room occupancy or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 persons reside per room, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;
      (f) Is exiting a publicly funded institution, or system of care (such as a health-care facility, a mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program or institution); or
      (g) Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the recipient’s approved consolidated plan;

(2) A child or youth who does not qualify as "homeless" under this section, but qualifies as "homeless" under section 387(3) of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a(3)), section 637(11) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832(11)), section 41403(6) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e-2(6)), section 330(h)(5)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(h)(5)(A)), section 3(m) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012(m)), or section 17(b)(15) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b)(15)); or

(3) A child or youth who does not qualify as "homeless" under this section, but qualifies as "homeless" under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)), and the parent(s) or guardian(s) of that child or youth if living with her or him.

**Consolidated plan:** A plan prepared in accordance with 24 CFR part 91. An approved consolidated plan means a consolidated plan that has been approved by HUD in accordance with 24 CFR part 91.

**Continuum of Care:** The group composed of representatives of relevant organizations, which generally includes nonprofit homeless providers; victim service providers; faith-based organizations; governments; businesses; advocates; public housing agencies; school districts; social service providers; mental health agencies; hospitals; universities; affordable housing developers; law enforcement; organizations that serve homeless and formerly homeless veterans, and homeless and formerly homeless persons that are organized to plan for and provide, as necessary, a system of outreach, engagement, and assessment; emergency shelter; rapid re-housing; transitional housing; permanent housing; and prevention strategies
to address the various needs of homeless persons and persons at risk of homelessness for a specific geographic area.

**Co-Occurring Disorder:** Persons who have a diagnosis of mental illness and a diagnosis of substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, or other health condition.

Debarment: Debarment is the state of being excluded from certain possessions, rights, privileges, or practices and the act of prevention by legal means. For example, companies can be debarred from contracts due to allegations of fraud, mismanagement, and similar improprieties.

**Eligible Applicants:** Units of General Local Government and Community Action Agencies (CAAs). Cities of Tulsa and Oklahoma City must apply directly to HUD and are therefore excluded from the receipt of funds administered by ODOC.

**Emergency shelter:** Emergency Shelter is a facility designed to provide temporary housing for individuals and/or families lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Local policy shall determine length of stay in the shelter.

Emergency Shelter services are available to all persons or individuals who meet the definition of homeless. No person or family shall be denied shelter or services if they are a part of the sub-population to be served by the shelter and do not pose a safety risk to themselves or others. Emergency Shelter operators must have a plan in place to assist in the provision of emergency services, including clothing, food, and assistance locating other state and local services and funds. Emergency Shelters shall be available 24 hours a day and seven (7) days per week.

**Equipment and Furnishings:** Typically large, one-time expenditures essential for the continued operation of the homeless shelter. Office equipment and major furniture replacement or purchase such as beds or cots for an expanding facility, are examples of items to be budgeted under Equipment and Furnishings.

**Developmental Disability:** As defined in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002):

1) A severe, chronic disability of an individual that—
   a. Is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments;
   b. Is manifested before the individual attains age 22;
   c. Is likely to continue indefinitely;
   d. Results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity:
      i. Self-care;
      ii. Receptive and expressive language;
      iii. Learning;
      iv. Mobility;
      v. Self-direction;
   e. Capacity for independent living;
   f. Economic self-sufficiency; and
   g. Reflects the individual’s need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.

2) An individual from birth to age 9, inclusive, who has a substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired condition, may be considered to have a developmental disability without meeting three or more of the criteria described in paragraphs (1)(i) through (v) of this definition if the individual, without services and supports, has a high probability of meeting those criteria later in life.
Homeless, homeless individual and homeless person:

1) An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and is:
   a. An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;
   b. An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including hotels and motels paid for by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals or by charitable organizations and congregate shelters); or
   c. An individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in a shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution;

2) An individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:
   a. The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the application for homeless assistance;
   b. No subsequent residence has been identified; and
   c. The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing;

3) Unaccompanied youth and homeless families with children and youth defined as homeless under other Federal statutes who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition and:
   a. Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing at any time during the 91 days immediately preceding the application for homeless assistance;
   b. Have experienced persistent instability as measured by three moves or more during the 90-day period immediately before applying for homeless assistance; and
   c. Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities, chronic physical health or mental health conditions, substance addiction, histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse, the presence of a child or youth with a disability, or two or more barriers to employment, which include the lack of a high school degree or General Education Development (GED), illiteracy, low English proficiency, a history of incarceration, and a history of unstable employment; and

4) Any individual or family who:
   a. Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member that has either taken place within the individual’s or family’s primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence;
   b. Has no other residence; and
   c. Lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.

Homeless individual with a disability:

1) an individual who is homeless and has a disability that:
   a. Is expected to be long-continuing or of indefinite duration;
   b. Substantially impedes the individual’s ability to live independently;
   c. Could be improved by the provision of more suitable housing conditions; and
   d. Is a physical, mental, or emotional impairment, including an impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury;

2) Is a developmental disability, as defined in this section; or
3) Is the disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) or any conditions arising from the etiologic agency for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, including infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

**Income Eligibility:** A homeless individual shall be eligible for assistance under any program provided by the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, or by the amendments made by this Act, only if the individual complies with the income eligibility requirements otherwise applicable to such program.

**Exclusion:** For purposes of this Act, the term “homeless” or “homeless individual” does not include any individual imprisoned or otherwise detained pursuant to an Act of the Congress or State Law.

**Families with Children and Youth Defined as Homeless under other Federal Statutes:** The term ‘families with children and youth defined as homeless under other Federal statutes’ means any children or youth that are defined as ‘homeless’ under any Federal statute other than this subtitle, but are not defined as homeless under section 103, and shall also include the parent, parents, or guardian of such children or youth under subtitle B of title VII this Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.).

**Homeless Management Information System (HMIS):** The information system designated by the Continuum of Care to comply with the HUD’s data collection, management, and reporting standards and used to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at-risk of homelessness.

**HUD:** U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Long Term Emergency Shelter:** The Transitional Shelter that was Grand-Fathered in as of 2010 is no longer an eligible activity for the ESG Program. Applicants are welcome to propose projects for long-term Emergency Shelter. This type of housing would be for clients whose needs to become stable enough for permanent housing will take longer than the regular shelter stay period. Details for approval of an extended length of stay in a shelter environment will have to be provided in the Project Narrative questions portion of the application.

**Match Funds:** Funds contributed to the project for the expressed purpose of implementing the eligible activities proposed in the application. Eligible match includes cash on deposit, and cash committed from other sources, as documented by bank statements, and funding award letters. Non-cash match shall be documented by timesheets, appraisals, or other sufficient documentation. Match funds must be expended during the time frame of the ESG contract. Match Funds are a contractual requirement in ESG and must be reported in the audit for both revenue and expenditures.

**Major Rehabilitation:** Rehabilitation that involves costs in excess of 75 percent of the value of the building before rehabilitation. Major rehabilitation undertaken with ESG funds must meet local government safety and sanitation standards under 24 CFR 576.55. In addition, for projects of 15 or more units where rehabilitation costs are 75 percent or more of the replacement cost of the building, that project must meet the requirements of 24 CFR 8.23(a). The facility must be used as an emergency shelter for a period of not less than ten years after the ESG contract is closed or the applicant may be required to repay grant funds.

**Nonprofit Recipient:** Any nonprofit organization assisting the homeless to which a Unit of General Local Government or CAA distributes ESG funds.

**Obligated:** The ESG contractor, as appropriate, has placed orders, awarded contracts, received services, or entered similar transactions that require payment from the grant amount.
Operations: Recurring costs incurred by a recipient operating a homeless shelter with respect to administration, rent, food for feeding the homeless, security, maintenance, utilities, fuels, and insurance for the homeless shelter.

Private nonprofit organization: A private nonprofit organization that is a secular or religious organization described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and which is exempt from taxation under subtitle A of the Code, has an accounting system and a voluntary board, and practices nondiscrimination in the provision of assistance. A private nonprofit organization does not include a governmental organization, such as a public housing agency or housing finance agency.

Program income: Program income includes any amount of a security or utility deposit returned to the subrecipient under 24 CFR 85.25.

Program participant means an individual or family who is assisted under ESG program.

Program year means the consolidated program year established by the recipient under 24 CFR part 91.

Recipient: Any State, territory, metropolitan city, or urban county, or in the case of reallocation, any unit of general purpose local government that is approved by HUD to assume financial responsibility and enters into a grant agreement with HUD to administer assistance under this part.

Rehabilitation: Labor, materials, tools, and other costs of improving the building, including repair directed toward an accumulation of deferred maintenance; replacement of principal fixtures and components of existing buildings; installation of security devices; and improvements through alterations or incidental additions to or enhancement of, existing buildings including improvements to increase the efficient use of energy. Rehabilitation includes the conversion of a building to an emergency shelter where the costs of conversion and any rehabilitation do not exceed 75 percent of the cost of the building before rehabilitation, and includes structural changes necessary to make a facility accessible to persons with physical handicaps. The facility must be used as an emergency shelter for a period of not less than three years after the ESG contract is closed or the applicant may be required to repay grant funds.

System for Award Management (SAM): The System for Award Management (SAM) is a Federal Government owned and operated free web site that consolidates the capabilities in Central Contractor Registration (CCR)/FedReg, Online Representations and Certifications Applications (ORCA) and the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS).

SAM Registration: Register your Business with the System of Award Management (SAM). You need to register your business (non-profit) with the federal government’s SAM, the primary database of vendors doing business with the federal government. This registration is sometimes referred to as “self-certifying” your small business.

Subrecipient: A unit of general purpose local government or private nonprofit organization to which a recipient makes available ESG funds.

Transitional Housing: Facility-based or scattered-site temporary housing combined with essential services, with occupancy typically limited to 24 months. The applicant would administer the transitional housing activities and establish eligibility for occupants. Transitional Housing is an eligible activity under the Continuum of Care Grant funds only. Transitional housing also functions to do the following:

- Assist homeless families and individuals overcome the problems/conditions that made them homeless;
- Increase skills and/or income and aid in obtaining and remaining in permanent housing; and
- Provide or coordinate, as required, substance abuse services, mental health services, day care, life skills training, educational services and/or family support.
Transitional Housing, as compared to a general shelter, implies a greater level of responsibility in that residents typically maintain their own home or apartment without 24-hour supervision, while at the same time receiving essential services from the administrators of the facility, or from a contracted service provider. These services function to teach each resident the necessary skills in order for them to move to permanent housing and independent living. Individual rehabilitation plans are also emphasized over a group treatment approach.

**Underserved Populations:** The term ‘underserved populations' includes populations underserved because of geographic location, underserved racial and ethnic populations, populations underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, alienage status, or age), and any other population determined to be underserved by the Secretary, as appropriate.

**Unit of local government:** means any city, county, town, township, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State.

**Value of building:** Value of building is defined as the monetary value assigned to a building by an independent real estate appraiser or as otherwise reasonably established. If the value of the building is established other than by an appraisal, ODOC must be advised and provided with written documentation of the method for determining the value.

The value of the building can only be used as match if the building is donated after the ESG contract is entered into with ODOC. If the shelter is purchasing or renting the facility, only the mortgage or lease amount paid with non-ESG funds multiplied by 12 months (the term of the ESG contract) can be used as match.

Please refer to [Federal Register](https://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getfr.pl?Number=19980401.pdf) for further clarification and for other related definitions.

**Victim Service Provider:** The term ‘victim service provider' means a private nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to provide services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. This term includes rape crisis centers, battered women's shelters, domestic violence transitional housing programs, and other programs.

**Victim Services:** The term ‘victim services' means services that assist domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking victims, including services offered by rape crisis centers and domestic violence shelters, and other organizations, with a documented history of effective work concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) Program
Annual Action Plan
Program Year 2021

Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency
Housing Development Team
100 N.W. 63rd, Suite 200
P.O. Box 26720
Oklahoma City, OK 73126-0720
(405) 419-8263
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HOME Program: One-Year Action Plan

The State of Oklahoma’s allocation of HOME funds for Program Year 2021 is $8,530,193. The range of activities planned for 2021 is similar to that of Program Year 202120, but some changes have been made.

Title 24 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 92, governs this program. Those regulations are incorporated by reference in this Action Plan. In some cases, the Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) has adopted more restrictive requirements than are included in Title 24 CFR Part 92. The primary goal of the OHFA HOME Program is to retain and increase the supply of decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing. OHFA furthers this goal by using the HOME Program financial resources as a catalyst in the development and strengthening of public partnerships with local governments, nonprofit organizations, private sector development entities, financial institutions, and debt and equity capital outlets.

Participating Jurisdiction Service Area
Applications for HOME funds will be accepted from all parts of the State of Oklahoma with the exception of the HUD designated HOME Program Metropolitan Participating Jurisdictions of Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Lawton, and Norman. These communities receive a direct annual allocation of HOME funds from HUD.

An exception will be made for applications for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) only. TBRA funds may be utilized anywhere within the State of Oklahoma, including within the city limits of Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Lawton and Norman.

Applications for HOME funds will also be accepted from within the Tulsa HOME Consortium, provided the proposed activities will not be undertaken within the city limits of the City of Tulsa. Consortium areas, for purposes of OHFA’s HOME Program, are considered rural.

1. HOME Eligible Entities

OHFA encourages partnerships that promote the goals of the HOME program. OHFA plans to partner with the following entities. Only these entities are eligible to receive HOME funds from OHFA.

State Recipients: Units of general local government, including cities, towns, counties and Indian tribes.

CHDOs: A Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) is a private, nonprofit organization that meets a series of qualifications prescribed in the HOME regulations. OHFA must use a minimum of 15 percent of its annual allocation for housing owned, developed or sponsored by CHDOs. OHFA will evaluate organizations’ qualifications and designate them as CHDOs. CHDOs also may be involved in the program as sub-recipients, but the use of HOME funds in this capacity is not counted toward the 15 percent minimum requirement.

Sub-recipients: A sub-recipient is a public agency or nonprofit organization selected by OHFA to administer all or a portion of the HOME Program. It may or may not also qualify as a CHDO. Sub-recipients run programs, not projects.
Nonprofit Developers: Private, nonprofit housing development organizations that do not meet the qualifications to be a CHDO, or that have not applied to be a CHDO with OHFA. **Nonprofit developers may also be CHDOs applying for non-CHDO funds.** Nonprofit developers may undertake individual projects that comply with the HOME Program requirements, and may do so out of any set-aside for which they are eligible.

Private, for-profit Developers: Private, for-profit developers are eligible to apply for HOME funds only for projects developed in conjunction with Affordable Housing Tax Credits. **They are ineligible to apply for HOME funds for any of the other HOME-eligible activities.**

2. HOME Funding Activities

Homeowner Rehabilitation
OHFA does not intend to use any of its 2021 HOME Program allocation for Homeowner Rehabilitation activities.

Homeownership
HOME funds may be used by eligible applicants to assist individuals or families for homebuyer assistance, acquisition, acquisition and rehabilitation, new construction and lease-purchase of affordable housing for homeownership. **Homebuyer education classes are required for homeownership activities.**

Rental Housing
HOME funds may be used by eligible applicants for acquisition, rehabilitation, acquisition and rehabilitation, or new construction of affordable rental housing.

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
HOME funds may be used by eligible applicants to help individual households afford housing costs such as rent and utility costs.

CHDO Project Pre-development Loans
HOME funds may be used by eligible CHDOs for project-specific pre-development assistance intended to assure funds for up-front, eligible project expenditures.

CHDO Operating Assistance
HOME funds may be used by eligible CHDOs for general operating assistance. **CHDO Operating Assistance funds will be awarded at the same time a CHDO receives an award of HOME funds for a CHDO activity. CHDO Operating Assistance funds will only be awarded to CHDOs that are currently receiving HOME funds for a CHDO activity.**

3. HOME Program Funds Allocation

OHFA will use the funds allocated for Program Year 2021 in accordance with the percentages listed below. The percentages identified below will be used to calculate the final dollar amounts.

Administrative Funds
**Ten percent (10%),** of the annual allocation will be used for administration. These funds will be used by OHFA to support its overall program delivery and monitoring.
CHDO Operating
No more than five percent (5%), of the State PJ’s annual allocation will be available for CHDO operating assistance. For the 2021 Program Year, the amount for which any eligible CHDO may apply will be limited to a maximum of $50,000. In addition, CHDO Operating Assistance will be limited to ten percent (10%) of the HOME funds awarded for CHDO activities. Therefore, total CHDO Operating Assistance awarded to any one CHDO during Program Year 2021 will be limited to the lesser of $50,000 or ten percent (10%) of the HOME funds awarded to a CHDO for all CHDO activities.

CHDO Set-Aside
Twenty-five percent (25%) of the annual allocation shall be reserved for CHDOs applying for CHDO activities. Only CHDO-eligible activities as defined in the HOME Final Rule, 24 CFR Part 92, will be funded from this set-aside.

Rental/Homeownership
Fifty percent (50%) of the annual allocation shall be used for other Rental or Homeownership activities. This set-aside will be open to eligible non-CHDO Applicants. It will also be available to CHDOs applying for non-CHDO activities, and to CHDOs applying for CHDO activities once the CHDO Set-Aside funds have been exhausted, but not sooner.

Down-Payment Assistance
Ten percent (10%) of the annual allocation shall be used for Down-Payment Assistance programs. Assistance to individual households cannot exceed $14,999. If any funds remain in this set-aside after October 1, 2021, they will be transferred to the Rental/Homeownership Set-Aside, unless there are pending applications that could be funded at the November 2021 meeting of OHFA’s Board of Trustees.

General Information on Funds Allocation:
All amounts set forth in this Action Plan may be changed at the discretion of OHFA, except where mandated by HOME Program rules. Such decisions shall be based upon demand, need, efficient resource use, and other Program-relevant considerations. Funding awards are subject to the availability of HOME funds and the timing needs of individual Projects.

Program Income
Awardees are required to clearly identify whether or not the proposed activity will result in Program Income. All Program Income must be returned to OHFA. OHFA no longer permits Awardees to retain Program Income. Exceptions may be made for Awardees that are currently using Program Income derived from Written Agreements already completed and closed out. Such exceptions must be specifically approved by OHFA and HUD, and may be rescinded at any time should OHFA Monitoring Staff determine that the Program Income is not being used in accordance with HOME Program and OHFA rules and regulations.

Recaptured Funds
If OHFA recaptures any HOME funds, they will be allocated by OHFA to eligible activities. In the event a significant amount of funding becomes available, a public announcement of the availability of funds may be made.
4. **Administrative funds**

OHFA will use all of the administrative funds for its costs of administering the HOME Program for the State of Oklahoma. **OHFA will not accept Applications for administrative funds.**

5. **Mode of HOME investment**

- OHFA shall award HOME funds in the form of equity grants. The only exception is for CHDO Pre-Development Loans, which per the Final Rule must be in the form of loans.

6. **HOME Written Agreement Award Instrument**

Written Agreements will be used to contract with funded Applicants in order to implement proposed HOME activities and govern project execution. **All Written Agreements will provide for protection of the Period of Affordability throughout its entire term.**

At OHFA’s discretion, a pre-agreement meeting between OHFA, the HOME Awardee, and any Project partners may be required prior to execution of Written Agreements.

**For all Homebuyer activities, OHFA will require that funded Applicants execute Written Agreements with the ultimate beneficiaries of the HOME funds, setting forth the restrictions and requirements of the HOME Program. The Written Agreements must contain, at a minimum, the following requirements:**

- The housing must conform to the requirements of 24 CFR 92.254(a).

- The housing must be modest; its value must not exceed 95% of the median price of comparable housing. It must also not include any luxury improvements as defined by HUD and/or OHFA.

- The home must be the principal place of residence of the homebuyer.

- Recapture or Resale provisions must be set forth in detail, and written in such a way that the homebuyer can understand them.

- The agreement should set forth the amount of HOME assistance provided, the form of such assistance, and the deadline for acquiring the housing unit with the HOME funds, if applicable.

- The agreement should be drafted in such a manner as to ensure compliance with all HOME Program requirements, and ensure that the homebuyer fully understands such requirements.

Activity and design modifications to funded projects are strongly discouraged. **Activity and design modifications cannot be made to funded Projects without the prior written approval of OHFA.**

Extensions of Written Agreement periods may, at OHFA’s discretion, be permitted for any
HOME Awardee that can demonstrate that the Project is proceeding in a manner such that completion of the Project is certain in the time identified. **However, Written Agreements cannot be extended beyond the Project completion deadlines set forth in the Final Rule.**

**Funded Applications are subsequently made a part of all Written Agreements between OHFA and the HOME Awardee.** Unapproved variations to funded Project designs are considered violations of contractual agreements and may result in disallowed costs, the repayment of HOME funds, or possible suspension from future Program participation.

Projects selected for funding in conjunction with Applications for Affordable Housing Tax Credits (AHTC), National Housing Trust Fund (HTF), or Oklahoma Housing Trust Fund may receive a **contingent HOME commitment,** since they may be considered prior to a reservation of Tax Credits or an award of HTF funds. Contingent commitments will be withdrawn should an Applicant be unable to obtain a reservation of Tax Credits or an award of HTF funds, as applicable, within the time period specified by OHFA.

Projects selected for funding that involve the acquisition and rehabilitation of existing housing, and the specific address or addresses of the housing unit(s) cannot be identified at the time of application, will also receive a contingent HOME commitment. **The HOME Program Final Rule states that no Written Agreement can be executed without a specific address or legal description.** Therefore, for these projects, the Written Agreement will be executed once the legal description, address or addresses have been determined.

**No other contingent HOME commitments are permitted.** Contingent HOME commitments will not be made for any other eligible activities or in conjunction with any other type of funding source. All other funding sources must already be committed to the Project.

Contingent commitment amounts are good faith estimates by OHFA and may be adjusted based on the actual award of Tax Credits and/or HTF funds, or the work write-ups and cost estimates of acquisition/rehabilitation Projects. OHFA may reduce the amount of the contingent award, but **under no circumstances will OHFA increase the amount of a contingent award.**

**OHFA will limit to five (5) the number of open HOME Written Agreements that any one entity may have at any given time. This includes Written Agreements for which said entity is either the Awardee or the Administrator.** OHFA defines an open HOME Written Agreement as one that has not been 100% expended and all close-out documents submitted to OHFA. **This limit will not include CHDO Operating Assistance Written Agreements.**

A large number of open Written Agreements represents a possible capacity issue, especially should key staff leave before the Written Agreements are completed and closed out. Capacity is of great concern to OHFA, since OHFA must certify in the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) that an Awardee has the capacity to undertake the Project or activity for which an award has been made. Further, the five (5) Written Agreement limit prevents any one entity from monopolizing the very limited HOME funds available.
7. HOME Written Agreement Performance

OHFA regularly assesses the performance of its HOME partners. Based on the performance pursuant to the requirements contained in its Written Agreements and the Program regulations, OHFA may withdraw funding due to non-performance, poor performance, and/or untimely performance. In addition, OHFA may, at its discretion and within its regulatory authority pursuant to 24 CFR Part 92.2, reassign untimely Written Agreement funding in order to affect timely expenditure, performance, and Project completion.

Satisfactory performance in regard to HOME Written Agreements is a threshold requirement for all Applications for new awards of HOME funds. The 2021 HOME Application will set forth specific performance standards. Failure to meet these performance standards will be grounds for denial of any new Application for HOME funds. Some information on how Written Agreement performance will be measured can be found in Section 22 of this Action Plan, “Written Agreement Performance Measurement”.

8. Compliance Monitoring

These compliance monitoring procedures apply to all buildings placed in service in Oklahoma, which have received allocations of HOME funds determined under the HOME Regulations. The compliance monitoring procedures and requirements are as follows:

A. OHFA will verify that the Awardee of a low-income housing Project is maintaining records for each qualified low-income unit in the Project. These records must show, for each year in the compliance period, the information required by the record-keeping provisions contained in the HOME Regulations, incorporated herein by reference.

B. OHFA will verify that the records documenting compliance with the HOME Regulations for each year as described in Paragraph A above are retained for the entire affordability period.

C. **OHFA will conduct construction inspections** in order to ensure that HOME funds are not being drawn down for work that has not been completed, work that has not been done according to the specifications of the Written Agreement, or costs that are ineligible for HOME funding.

D. OHFA will inspect one hundred percent (100%) of the HOME Written Agreements as prescribed by HUD regulations and will inspect the low-income certification, the documentation the Awardee has received to support that certification, the rent records for Rental Projects and the home valuation limits for Homebuyer Projects.

E. For Rental Projects, OHFA will perform on-site inspections at the time of property completion and, at a minimum, every three years thereafter, in order to determine compliance with construction standards and physical condition standards. **All HOME-assisted Rental housing must meet the Uniform Physical Condition Standards, or UPCS.** HOME Compliance monitors will not conduct a REAC inspection, but will monitor for any violations. OHFA may perform more frequent on-site inspections based upon a risk assessment of all projects.

F. The Awardee must allow OHFA to perform an on-site inspection of any low-income unit and/or building in the Project through the end of the Period of Affordability. This inspection may be separate or in conjunction with any review of tenant files, and will include habitability requirements.
G. During programmatic monitoring activities, OHFA shall review Program Awardees’ affirmative marketing, minority outreach, and fair housing activities to ascertain compliance with standards established by HUD’s Fair Housing Office.

H. OHFA will promptly notify the Awardee in writing if OHFA is not permitted to inspect and review as described in Paragraphs C, D, E, F and G, or otherwise discovers that the Project does not comply with the HOME Regulations. In such event, the Awardee will be allowed a correction period to supply missing documentation or to correct noncompliance.

I. OHFA will notify HUD of an Awardee’s noncompliance or failure to certify no later than forty-five 45 days after the end of the time allowed for correction and no earlier than the end of the correction period.

J. Compliance with requirements of the HOME Regulations is the responsibility of the Awardee and the owner of the building for which HOME funds are loaned or granted. OHFA’s obligation to monitor for compliance with the requirements of the HOME Regulations does not make OHFA or the State of Oklahoma liable to any owner or to any shareholder, officer, director, partner, member or manager of any owner or of any entity comprising any owner for an owner’s non-compliance therewith.

K. The Final Rule for the HOME Program permits Participating Jurisdictions to charge compliance monitoring fees for all projects funded after August 23, 2013. OHFA intends to charge a small monitoring fee for some properties at some point in the future. Any fee increase must be incorporated into OHFA’s HOME Program Rules, Title 330, Chapter 55, before they can be implemented. No compliance monitoring fees will be charged in Program Year 2021.

9. **Affirmative Marketing, Minority Outreach, and Fair Housing**

All Applicants for HOME Program funds for Rental and Homebuyer projects containing five (5) or more units must adopt affirmative marketing procedures and follow all affirmative marketing requirements for all HOME-assisted housing. Affirmative marketing requirements and procedures must include:

- methods for informing the public, owners and potential tenants about fair housing laws and the policies of the local program;
- a description of what owners and/or the program administrator will do to affirmatively market housing assisted with HOME Program funds;
- a description of what owners and/or the program administrator will do to inform persons not likely to apply for housing without special outreach;
- maintenance of records to document actions taken to affirmatively market HOME-assisted units and to assess marketing effectiveness; and
- a description of how efforts will be assessed and what corrective actions will be taken when requirements are not met.

In order to achieve compliance with the Affirmative Marketing, Minority Outreach, and Fair Housing requirements at 24 CFR Parts 92.350 and 92.351, Written Agreements shall be executed between OHFA and all Program Awardees. Written Agreements shall prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, handicap, or familial status in connection with any activities funded with HOME Investment Partnerships Program assistance.
Implementation manuals shall be provided to Awardees and shall contain information regarding Affirmative Marketing, Minority Outreach, and Fair Housing Standards and Procedures. At a minimum, Written Agreements shall require all contractors and subcontractors to comply with equal opportunity requirements, procurement efforts to solicit the use of minority and women’s’ business enterprises, undertake activities to further fair housing, and, where five (5) or more units are HOME-assisted, implement Affirmative Marketing procedures.

**Affirmative Marketing is now required for all HOME Program activities, including Down-Payment Assistance and Tenant-Based Rental Assistance.**

Section 281 of the National Affordable Housing Act (the “Act”) requires the State to prescribe procedures acceptable to the Secretary of HUD to establish and oversee a minority outreach program to ensure the inclusion, to the maximum extent possible, of minorities and women, and entities owned by minorities and women, including without limitation, real estate firms, construction firms, appraisal firms, management firms, financial institutions, investment banking firms, underwriters, accountants, and legal firms, in all Written Agreements, entered into by the Participating Jurisdiction with such persons or entities, public and private, in order to facilitate the activities of the Participating Jurisdiction to provide affordable housing authorized under the Act or any other federal housing law applicable to such jurisdiction.

**Minority Business Enterprises/Women Business Enterprises**

Applicants will be required to solicit and encourage the participation of Minority Business Enterprises/Women Business Enterprises (M/WBEs) in connection with their Project. **Applicants must affirm and certify to the same in their Applications or they will not be eligible to receive an award of HOME funds.**

**Recommended Methods for the Encouragement of M/WBEs:**

The following methods are recommended for Applicants who wish to encourage the participation of M/WBEs on HOME-assisted contracts:

(i) Actively and affirmatively solicit bids for contracts and subcontracts from qualified M/WBEs, including solicitations to minority and women contractor associations;

(ii) Ensure that plan specifications, request for proposals and other documents used to secure proposals for the performance of work or supply of materials will be made available in sufficient time for review by prospective M/WBEs;

(iii) Divide, where economically and technically feasible, the work into smaller portions to enhance participation by M/WBEs;

(iv) Encourage, where economically and technically feasible, the formation of joint ventures, partnerships or other arrangements among contractors to enhance participation by M/WBEs;

(v) Consult with and use the services of governmental agencies, their consultants and contractor associations to further the participation of M/WBEs;

(vi) Ensure that progress payments to M/WBEs are made on a timely basis and with such frequency that undue financial hardship is avoided and other credit requirements are waived or appropriate alternatives developed to encourage M/WBE participation;

(vii) Make written solicitations in a timely fashion of M/WBEs listed in the Minority and Women-Owned Business Directory; and

(viii) Make timely responses to any advertisements and solicitations provided by M/WBEs.

**Reporting**

All applicants must submit M/WBE Utilization reports, which will include, but are not limited to the following:

(i) The name, address and telephone number of each M/WBE the Applicant intends to use;
(ii) A brief description of the contract scope of work to be performed for the Applicant by each M/WBE and the scheduled dates for performance;

(iii) A statement of whether the Applicant has a written agreement with each M/WBE, and if requested, copies of the agreements the applicant is using or intends to use;

(iv) The actual total cost of the contract, the work performed and the materials provided, scope of work to be performed by each M/WBE for each contract;

(v) The actual amounts of any payments made by the Applicant to each M/WBE as of the date the compliance report was submitted; and

(vi) The percentage of total contractors, subcontractors, vendors and suppliers utilized for the project and the total prices for each.

10. Language Access

Recipients of federal financial assistance, including HOME funds, are required to provide meaningful access to their programs and services for persons with limited English proficiency (LEP). The U.S. Supreme Court has held that failing to take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access for LEP persons is a form of national origin discrimination prohibited by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The requirement to provide language assistance to LEP individuals applies to all recipients of federal financial assistance, including HOME funds, regardless of conflicting state or local laws. When meaningful access requires interpretation, interpreters should be provided at no cost to the persons involved. Budgeting adequate funds to ensure language access is essential. While costs are a consideration in determining what language assistance is reasonably required, fiscal pressures do not provide an exemption from civil rights requirements.

Recipients of HOME funds should develop, and periodically update, a written LEP plan that describes their language assistance services and explains how staff and LEP persons can access those services. Recipients who are not fully compliant with the LEP guidance issued by the federal government should be making steady progress toward becoming fully compliant. Guidance regarding LEP compliance can be accessed on the HUD website at www.hud.gov.

11. HOME Subsidy limits and minimums

**Minimum HOME Investment**: The minimum amount of HOME funds that must be invested in a project is $1,000 multiplied by the number of HOME-assisted units in a project. The minimum only relates to the HOME funds, and not to any other funds that might be used for Project costs. The minimum HOME investment does not apply to Tenant-based Rental Assistance.

**Special Minimum Investment for HOME awards in conjunction with Affordable Housing Tax Credits (AHTCs)**: The minimum amount of HOME funds that must be invested in a project that is utilizing HOME funds in conjunction with AHTCs is $200,000.

**Maximum HOME investment**: There are three limiting factors that must be taken into account when determining the maximum HOME investment:

1. An award of HOME funds cannot exceed the HOME Program Maximum per Unit Subsidy Limits as established by HUD. The limits are based on the Section 234 Mortgage Limits and are determined by number of bedrooms.
2. The maximum HOME investment is limited to the minimum amount required to cover the project’s financial gap, as determined by subsidy layering analysis.

3. The maximum HOME investment is limited to the pro-rata share of HOME-eligible project costs, as determined by multiplying the total HOME-eligible project costs multiplied by the percentage of HOME units to total units or the percentage of HOME unit square footage to total unit square footage (whichever percentage is less).

The maximum HOME investment, therefore, is limited to the LOWEST of the pro-rata share of eligible costs, the HOME Program Maximum per Unit Subsidy Limit, or the financial gap as determined by a subsidy layering analysis.

The maximum for HOME Down-payment Assistance is $14,999 per HOME-assisted unit. However, it should be noted that this limit is also subject to underwriting analysis, and HOME Awardees cannot provide Down-Payment Assistance in an amount over and above the amount required to permit the homebuyer(s) to qualify to purchase the home.

Maximum Awards for Activities
The maximum amount of HOME funds that will be awarded to a Rental or a Homeownership project is $500,000. The maximum amount of HOME funds for Down-Payment Assistance programs will be $200,000. The Maximum amount of HOME funds for a Tenant-Based Rental Assistance program will be $500,000.

12. Period of Affordability

Rental Housing:

Rehabilitation or Acquisition
- $1,000 - 14,999 HOME funds per unit, 5 years
- $15,000 - 40,000 HOME funds per unit, 10 years
- $40,001 - maximum allowable HOME funds per unit, 15 years

New Construction (or acquisition of newly constructed housing): 20 years, regardless of the amount of HOME funds invested.

Homeownership:

- $1,000 - 14,999 HOME funds per unit, 5 years
- $15,000 - 40,000 HOME funds per unit, 10 years
- $40,001 - maximum allowable HOME funds per unit, 15 years

13. Resale and Recapture Options

24 CFR 92.254 provides guidance for Resale/Recapture options for Homeownership. OHFA is authorized under the HOME Rules to select which option will be used for preserving the Period of Affordability. For 2021, OHFA has chosen the Recapture option. If applicants demonstrate to OHFA staff that special conditions exist that would make the Resale option superior, then it may be considered as an exception. If there is no direct subsidy to the homebuyer, the resale option must be used.

Since Recapture is only possible if there is a direct subsidy to the homebuyer, some Written Agreements between OHFA and a CHDO, non-profit developer, State Recipient or Sub-
recipient may be structured such that under certain circumstances a Recapture Agreement with one homebuyer will be required, and under other circumstances a Resale Agreement with a different homebuyer will be required. Nonetheless, the agreement between the CHDO, non-profit developer, State Recipient or Sub-recipient and any individual recipient of HOME funds may contain only one provision, either Recapture or Resale. An agreement with an individual recipient of HOME funds cannot contain both.

The Applicant is to describe to OHFA its procedures as they relate to the HOME Recapture (or Resale) requirements. The procedures must fully comply with the HOME Rules, and must be approved by OHFA before implementation.

Recapture provisions must ensure that there is recovery of all or a portion of the HOME assistance that represents a direct subsidy to the homebuyer, if the housing does not continue to meet the affordability requirements and/or continue to be the principal residence of the family for the duration of the Period of Affordability. Mortgages, deed restrictions, land covenants or other similar legal mechanisms must be in place to enforce these provisions.

The amount subject to recapture is based on the amount of HOME assistance that represents a direct subsidy to the homebuyer. The amount subject to recapture may be forgiven over time. It must be forgiven on a prorated basis based on the amount of time remaining on the Period of Affordability. For instance, if the Period of Affordability is five years, the amount subject to recapture may be forgiven at the rate of twenty percent (20%) per year. The recaptured funds must be returned to OHFA. OHFA requires that all Recapture provisions for Homeownership and Homeowner Rehabilitation activities base the recapture amount on the net proceeds available from the sale and not the entire amount of the HOME investment. Applicants may structure their Recapture provisions such that the HOME funds are recaptured in one of the following three methods:

- Recapture of the HOME investment first, with the homeowner receiving any remaining net proceeds
- Allow the homeowner to recover his/her initial investment first, with the remainder of the net proceeds recaptured
- A “shared appreciation” method, where a pre-determined percentage of the net proceeds is retained by the homeowner, and the remainder of the net proceeds is recaptured

14. **Match Requirements**

Match contributions must meet the definition of eligible Match under the federal program regulations at 24 CFR Part 92. Written, itemized documentation of all proposed Match contributions must be provided.

Specific documentation requirements will be detailed in the application. At a minimum, Match documentation must include a signed statement that Match is not from federal sources, as well as documentation of the sources and amounts of commitments. Applicants proposing to meet their Match liability using banked Match must at a minimum include confirmation that the banked Match has not been expended or committed to any other application or project. Banked Match cannot be derived from an open contract. Banked Match can only be derived from a closed, audited contract.
The HOME Program operates using a twenty-five percent (25%) non-federal Matching requirement. All Applicants must structure their proposals based on the twenty-five percent (25%) Match requirement. Waivers granted by HUD will not affect this requirement.

OHFA may make available to Applicants a portion of its banked Match credit. This will be set forth more specifically in the 2021 HOME Program Application Packet.

Potential sources of local Match include, but are not limited to, donated or discounted land, donated or discounted materials, and donated or discounted labor.

15. Leverage

Applicants must fully describe all development leverage resources, inducements and incentives that are present in the proposed Application. All sources of financing, except HOME, paying development budget costs are potentially eligible for leverage. Assistance for Homebuyers, such as a first mortgage, is not considered leverage.

Any leveraged funds will require a commitment letter to be attached to the application.

16. Troubled Public Housing Authorities

OHFA will wait to hear from HUD regarding whether or not there are currently any troubled public housing authorities.

OHFA will work closely with HUD to provide technical assistance and oversight where necessary. It is not anticipated that any HOME funds will be used to help troubled public housing authorities. The State of Oklahoma has not appropriated funds for this purpose, nor has it authorized OHFA to assume the federal government’s role of subsidizing the operations of public housing agencies.

17. Projected Production

The following chart details the units the OHFA is projecting will be produced with the 2021 HOME allocation. This projection is based upon the actual numbers from prior years and amounts allotted to the various set-asides for 2021. It includes only HOME units and not any other units in the HOME-assisted projects:

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</table>

18. Application Process
The HOME Program operates on a continuous Application basis. The Board of Trustees of OHFA must review and approve all awards of HOME funds to Applicants. The Board meets every other month throughout the year, and therefore deadlines will be established for the consideration of Applications at each of the upcoming Board meetings. These deadlines will be set forth specifically in the 2021 HOME Program Application Packet, and are established in order to allow OHFA Staff to properly review each individual Application.

Even though Applications for HOME Program activities are continuously accepted, it may become necessary to cease accepting Applications before the end of the Program Year because funds are no longer available.

The Program Year 2021 HOME Program Application Packet, as well as the 2021 HOME Program Processes, Procedures and Topical Guidance will be drafted, and will be made available for public input. The Application Packet will contain the Application submission requirements, threshold factors, and the evaluation criteria for all HOME Program Applications.

**Applications for Rental Activities in Conjunction with AHTCs**

For Program Year 2021, all eligible entities wishing to submit an Application for Rental Activities in Conjunction with AHTCs for the Second AHTC Funding Period of 2021 must submit their applications **on or before June 24, 2021**. The Applications for Rental Activities in Conjunction with AHTCs will be considered at either the September or November 2021 meeting of the OHFA Board of Trustees. It is OHFA’s intent to consider them at the September 2021 Board meeting if possible.

Applications that meet all threshold requirements will be funded in rank order by score, from highest to lowest. Tie-breakers as set forth in the 2021 HOME Application Packet will be used in the event that there are sufficient funds remaining for only one application, and the next two or more applications in rank order have achieved an equal score.

**Application timeline:**

- A draft of the proposed 2021 HOME Program Application Packet, including all Application and scoring evaluation criteria was presented for public comment and input on or about August 12, 2020. The draft will be posted on OHFA’s website, [www.ohfa.org](http://www.ohfa.org).
- An informal public input session on the 2021 HOME Application was held on August 12, 2021 by a zoom meeting.
- The final version of the 2021 HOME Application Packet was posted on OHFA’s website, [www.ohfa.org, on or about August 8, 2020](http://www.ohfa.org).
- OHFA may hold a training session on the 2021 HOME Program Application Packet in March of 2021 at the offices of OHFA in Oklahoma City. If OHFA Staff determines that the changes to the HOME Program for 2021 are minimal, OHFA may decide not to hold such a training session.
- OHFA will begin accepting Applications April 1, 2021.

OHFA staff will make every effort to meet this timeline. The dates for each step in the Application process will be published on OHFA’s website. The web address is [www.ohfa.org](http://www.ohfa.org). All prospective Applicants and interested parties are encouraged to check the website frequently for updated information concerning important dates.
2021 Program Year – Important Dates

- **March 1, 2021** – Final version of 2021 HOME Application Packet available
- **April 1, 2021** – OHFA will begin accepting applications for the 2021 Program Year for all eligible activities
- **June 25, 2021** – Applications for Rental Activities in Conjunction with AHTCs are due

During Application review, the following are the factors that may be considered as Threshold Factors and/or Evaluation Criteria:

- Application Information Form
- **Attachments A, B and C**
- HOME Application Certification
- Description
- Audit
- Match
- Monitoring
- Federal Requirements
- Market Analysis
- Development Commitments
- Organizational Structure and Experience
- Capital Needs Assessment
- Financial Management
- Financing
- Readiness to Proceed
- CHDO Eligibility Criteria Elements
- Special Populations
- HOME Training
- Leverage
- HOME Investment per Unit
- CHDO Status
- Energy Efficiency
- HOME/Fair Housing Training
- Tenant Special Needs Populations
- Storm Shelter
- Viability

The complete list of Threshold Factors and Evaluation Criteria may not be limited to those above, and also may not include every criteria listed above.

Applications to be considered at the next OHFA Board of Trustees meeting must be submitted by the deadlines listed in OHFA’s 2021 Application Packet. Applicants are encouraged to access the 2021 HOME Program Application Packet available on OHFA’s web-site at www.ohfa.org to verify submission deadlines and ensure timely filing of their applications.

Applicants proposing to incorporate the use of HOME funds with Affordable Housing Tax Credits (AHTCs) should confirm the deadlines for submission in the HOME Application and the AHTC Application.
Awards of HOME funds are subject to the availability of funds and the satisfaction of all threshold factors. **Applications that do not satisfy these criteria are ineligible for funding.** In the event that insufficient funds remain to award HOME funds to all Applications for any eligible activity, Applications for each activity will be funded in rank order by score, as determined by Staff review of the evaluation criteria. In the event that two or more Applications achieve an equal score, tie-breakers as set forth in the 2021 HOME Application Packet will be used to determine funding.

**Applications for Down-Payment Assistance and CHDO Operating Assistance will not be scored.** If insufficient funds remain to award to all Applications for Down-Payment Assistance and CHDO Operating Assistance, tie-breakers as set forth in the 2021 HOME Application will be used to determine which Applications will be funded.

**Application Requirements Specific to CHDOs**

CHDOs are responsible for notifying OHFA of any changes relating to the HOME Program CHDO eligibility criteria elements. Therefore, OHFA certified CHDOs making Application for CHDO activities, including CHDO Operating and Project Specific Loans, must, at the time of Application, indicate any changes in the eligibility criteria elements since the date of their last certification.

**Eligibility criteria elements:**

- Legal status
- Capacity and Experience
- Organizational structure
- Board Composition of current members.
- Relationships with for-profit entities
- Service Area

CHDOs with current OHFA certifications that have had no eligibility criteria element changes since their certification date, must submit a certification signed by the Board Chairman or Executive Director indicating that no eligibility criteria element changes have occurred.

If eligibility criteria element changes have occurred since the date of the CHDO’s last OHFA certification, updated documentation relating to all changes must be provided. In addition, the CHDO must provide a certification signed by the Board Chairman or Executive Director that clearly identifies all the relevant changes that have been made. All certifications must indicate that all supporting documents relating to the CHDO’s certification are on file in the CHDO’s corporate office and available for OHFA’s review.

19. **CHDO Annual Recertification Process**

OHFA requires that CHDOs meet the CHDO eligibility criteria in order to apply for HOME funds for CHDO activities. **OHFA no longer requires annual recertification of all CHDOs. CHDOs will be recertified whenever they apply for new funding from OHFA for a CHDO Project.**
20. **New Applicants for CHDO Certification**

Any not-for-profit organization receiving OHFA HOME-CHDO funding must be certified by OHFA as a CHDO under 24 CFR 92.2.

**New Applicants for certification must meet with OHFA Staff.** Those in attendance must be authorized representatives of the organization. They must also be principals in the operation of the applicant. This meeting is required before an application may be submitted for CHDO certification.

OHFA will prepare an Application Packet for CHDO Certification, and will make it available to prospective Applicants after the required meeting has taken place. A completed Application must be submitted with all required documentation.

Applications for CHDO certification may be submitted to OHFA at any time throughout the year. **However, the not-for-profit organization must have received its CHDO certification from OHFA before submitting an Application for HOME CHDO funding.**

Applicants should allow 4-6 weeks for OHFA to review a fully completed CHDO Certification Application. Once OHFA is satisfied that all certification requirements have been met, a CHDO certification letter and a certificate will be issued within two weeks.

21. **Outcome Performance Measurement System**

The Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) at HUD has developed an Outcome Performance Measurement System. This system will enable HUD to collect information on the outcomes of activities funded with CPD formula grant assistance, and to aggregate that information at the national, state, and local level. The outcome performance measurement system is not intended to replace existing local performance measurement systems that are used to inform local planning and management decisions and increase public accountability.

**Performance Measurement Objectives**

The outcome performance measurement system has three overarching objectives: (1) Creating Suitable Living Environments, (2) Providing Decent Affordable Housing, and (3) Creating Economic Opportunities. There are also three outcomes under each objective: (1) Availability/Accessibility, (2) Affordability, and (3) Sustainability. Thus, the three objectives, each having three possible outcomes, will produce nine possible "outcome/objective statements" within which to categorize HOME activities. OHFA will complete an outcome/objective statement in HUD's Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) by entering data in the form of an output indicator.

It is mandatory for OHFA to collect this data. The collection and reporting of performance data is not optional, but individual outcome indicators can and will vary, depending on the activity. The proposed outcome measurement framework will not change the types of activities available to eligible applicants, but it will require new ways of reporting the data. The flexibility of the Program will be maintained. The objectives and outcomes will be determined by OHFA, based on the intent of the activity.
The following is a list of the activities to be undertaken with HOME funds in Program Year 2021, and the outcome and objective for each of those activities:

- **Rental/Homeownership:** Affordability for the purpose of providing Decent Housing
- **CHDO Pre-Development Loans:** Affordability for the purpose of providing Decent Housing
- **CHDO Operating Assistance:** This activity is not covered in the Performance Measurement System.

### 22. Written Agreement Performance Measurement

Meeting affordable housing objectives and obtaining satisfactory outcomes is important, but proper performance goes beyond housing production. Administration of the HOME Written Agreement is also important. The OHFA HOME Finance Staff has developed the following chart outlining how contract progress will be monitored. **All time periods are from the date of the execution of the Written Agreement unless otherwise specified by OHFA.**

**Written Agreement Performance Measurement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>% Expended</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 months from WA begin date</td>
<td>If 0% expended</td>
<td>send letter</td>
<td>Concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 months from WA begin date</td>
<td>0% expended</td>
<td>Determine contract feasibility</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 months from WA begin date</td>
<td>&lt; 25% expended and no explanation</td>
<td>send letter</td>
<td>Finding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 months from WA begin date</td>
<td>&lt; 50% expended</td>
<td>send letter</td>
<td>Concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 months from WA begin date</td>
<td>&lt;100%</td>
<td>send letter</td>
<td>Concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 – 60 days after WA end date</td>
<td>Need closeout documents; Will send a letter 1-month before WA end date to request closeout documents; <strong>If documents are not received within 60-day closeout period, a compliance visit will be scheduled and this will be a Finding</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IDIS Expenditure Measurement per Activity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>% Expended</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 months after IDIS setup</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Send letter to request reimbursement request</td>
<td>Concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeframe</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Condition</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 months after IDIS setup</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Activity flagged and cancelled in IDIS</td>
<td>Concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 months between drawdowns</td>
<td></td>
<td>Activity flagged; need explanation from Grantee to continue</td>
<td>Concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 days from last drawdown</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Send letter if no activity completion report received</td>
<td>Concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120 days from last drawdown</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Activity flagged; Need completion report to continue processing drawdown requests</td>
<td>Finding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Written Agreement Extensions**

Written Agreements will be for three year periods. However, Written Agreements will contain specific performance benchmarks, and except in very unusual circumstances, project completion will be required well in advance of the three year term. If an extension beyond the three year period is required, it will be a **Finding**.

**For CHDOs, excessive findings in regard to Written Agreement performance may result in CHDOs being placed on probation or, in severe cases, decertified.**

**Additional performance benchmarks will be set forth in Written Agreements and the failure to meet a performance benchmark could result in a concern, a finding or cancellation of the agreement, depending on the severity.**
Introduction
This 2021 Allocation Plan/Action Plan is necessary to implement the federal government’s National Housing Trust Fund (HTF). The Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) has been designated by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma to administer the HTF for the State. HTF funding is provided through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). OHFA will receive $3,000,000 for HTF in 2021.

All HTF funds that OHFA receives in 2021 will be used to provide housing for Extremely Low-Income families or families at or below the Poverty Line, whichever is greater. In accordance with 24 CFR Part 93, OHFA will allocate 10% of its grant to program planning and administration costs ($300,000); up to one-third for funding operating cost reserves; the balance of the grant will provide capital funding for new construction or rehabilitation of housing units.

1. National Housing Trust Fund Strategic Plan §91.315(b)(2)

Geographic Priorities
The HTF funds will be targeted to address specific and critical needs in rental housing markets, including multiple geographic areas if at all possible.

Goals
- Number of HTF units constructed or rehabilitated with 2020 funds: 35
- Number of HTF units receiving operating subsidies in the form of operating reserves: 0

2. National Housing Trust Fund Action Plan §91.320(k)(5)

Distribution of HTF funds
OHFA for 2021 will not allocate funds to sub-grantees for their distribution to owners/developers. Instead, HTF funds will be distributed directly to owner/developers of affordable housing via OHFA’s 2021 HTF Application, a competitive process of selecting the best possible Projects for an award of HTF funds.

Application Requirements and Selection Criteria
Developers, owners, and the entire development team are required to meet the same threshold eligibility criteria as for other OHFA programs, as specified in the 2021 HTF Application Packet.

In addition, points will be awarded for certain other priorities, including those set forth in 24 CFR Part 91.320. These are highlighted to distinguish them from OHFA’s own requirements. They may include, but are not limited to:

Threshold Requirements:
- Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Marketing Plan
- Audit
- Program and Financial Monitoring
- Market Analysis
- Description of the Project
- Affordable Rents

2021 HTF Allocation Plan draft
• Financing, Underwriting and Subsidy Layering
  • Applicant Organizational Structure, Capacity and Experience
  • Capital Needs Assessment (for acquisition/rehabilitation projects only)
  • Readiness to Proceed
  • NHTF Environmental Training

Priority (Points) for Awarding Funding to Eligible Applicants:

Leveraging
OHFA will award points for leveraging the HTF funds with other funding sources, including the extent to which an Application makes use of non-federal funding sources, such as State and local funding sources and private funding. Points will not be awarded for funding from the developer or the ownership entity.

Duration of Affordability Period
New Construction, rehabilitation, and rehabilitation and acquisition rental projects have an affordability period of thirty (30) years. OHFA will award points for Projects promising an additional ten (10) years of affordability.

Energy Efficiency/Green Building
OHFA will award points for energy efficient/green building items that exceed the minimum requirements of the applicable building codes.

Project-based Rental Assistance
OHFA will award points for the preservation of rent-assisted projects; and for projects with binding commitments for project-based vouchers.

Special Populations
Points will be awarded for Projects that propose to serve special populations. The special populations for 2021 will be the homeless, families or individuals dealing with mental and physical disabilities, veterans, youth aging out of foster care (18-24 years of age), and individuals transitioning out of incarceration and their families.

Services for Special Populations
OHFA will award points for access to high quality supportive services focused on staying housed, improving physical and mental health, increasing income and employment, and developing social and community connections. Applications for HTF funding should be tied to funding for services that are appropriate to the population to be served.

Storm Shelter
Points will be awarded for storm shelters or safe rooms that meets or exceeds FEMA guidelines and the ICC/NSSA standards (ICC-500).

Visitability
OHFA will award points for Projects committing to provide the following: 1) Door openings must be at a minimum 32” wide to accommodate a wheelchair 2) One bathroom on the main floor of the property that is accessible by wheelchair. 3) One zero-step entry located on at least one accessible entrance to the unit. If there is not one zero-step entry located on at least one accessible entrance to the unit, a ramp must be provided.

**Geographic Diversity**

OHFA will give bonus points to the highest scoring applications from the two main areas of the State, Eastern Oklahoma and Western Oklahoma, as set forth in the 2021 HTF Application Packet. The areas will be designated on a county by county basis. Due to the limited funding for 2021, OHFA believes that this is the most that can be done to encourage Geographic Diversity. Tiebreakers will be used if two or more applications achieve the same score.

**Priority housing needs**

Oklahoma’s most current Consolidated Plan identifies priority housing needs among ELI renters for all renter household types from small and large families to elderly households. OHFA will award points for the merits of the Application in meeting the State’s priority housing needs as set forth in the Consolidated Plan.

Cross-agency collaboration is particularly important when serving an ELI population because they may be frequent users of other public services, and providing affordable, service enriched housing may represent cost savings that could be reinvested in services funding)

In addition, many ELI populations want to work but have experienced barriers related to health, disability, criminal justice background, access to child care, or lack of skills that could put them on a path to family-sustaining work. HTF developers are encouraged to show evidence of partnerships with workforce development agencies.

Roles, responsibilities and communication strategies should be clearly established among the supportive housing partners, codified in written agreements (MOUs, MOAs, contractual or grant agreements) and revisited regularly.

**Relative Importance of Scoring Criteria**

OHFA will award the above described points using the following scoring system, in order to ensure that the best projects are awarded funds.

Application responses are to be structured and information presented in such a way as to fully address each scoring criterion. The information, data, and statements provided in response to each criterion will be the basis for evaluating each Application. Failure to submit or properly address evaluation criteria items will disqualify the Application from receiving points for those items. Some criteria may not apply to all Applications. Some requirements under a particular criterion may not apply to all Applications.

The scores for all Applications will be totaled, and the Application scores will be used to determine the order of funding if there are insufficient funds available to fund all of the
Applications for HTF funds. The highest scoring Application will receive an award of funds. In the event of a tie on scores between Applications, tiebreakers shall be used. The tiebreakers are set forth in the Tiebreakers criterion at the end of this section.

**Leveraging - 10 Points**
Applicants must fully describe all development leverage resources, inducements and incentives that are present in the proposed Application. All sources of construction or permanent financing, except HTF, paying development budget costs are eligible for leverage points. **If any source of funding provides both construction and permanent financing, it will not be counted twice.**

Public and private resources, such as Rural Housing Incentive Districts, CDBG, AHP, AHTC equity, Historic Tax Credit equity, USDA-RHS, HUD, foundation funds, and private capital will be considered in the leverage analysis.

Leverage points to be awarded:
- At least 10% up to 25% of the HTF funds requested 1 point
- At least 26% up to 50% of the HTF funds requested 2 points
- At least 51% up to 75% of the HTF funds requested 3 points
- At least 76% up to 100% of the HTF funds requested 4 points
- 101% or more of the HTF funds requested 5 points

When determining the leverage percentage, **normal rounding shall apply.** Thus, for example, 50.5% will be rounded up to 51%. 50.4% will be rounded down to 50%.

**Duration of Affordability - 5 Points**
Five (5) points will be awarded for Applicants who promise to extend the affordability period from thirty (30) to forty (40) years.

**Energy Efficient Building Materials – 18 Points**
The following is an exclusive list of amenities for which OHFA may award points. One point shall be awarded for each item below, up to a maximum of 7 points.

- Shower heads with a maximum of 2.5 gallons per minute flow rate
- Low-flow kitchen faucets
- Low-flow toilets (must be all toilets in every unit)
- The use of **better than** R-2 insulation on exposed hot water pipes
- Installation of Energy Star qualified appliances
- Energy Star qualified windows with Low E glass
- Energy Star qualified HVAC
- Energy Star qualified Efficiency Water Heaters
- Radiant barrier per ASTM standards in attic and/or roof sheathing; and/or exterior wall sheathing (**may not be combined with spray foam insulation**)
- Low or no VOC paint
- Programmable thermostats
- Insulation: **R-3** or better insulation installed around the exterior foundation of every Building
- **Applicants may select one (1) of the following:**
• Insulation: Attic insulation **better than** R-38, wall insulation **better than** R – 13, and floor insulation (if applicable) **better than** R-19
  o OR
• Spray foam insulation exceeding code requirements

**Priority Housing Needs – 5 Points**
Points will be awarded for addressing any of the following priority housing needs as identified in the Consolidated Plan. (Serving Extremely Low Income individuals and families was identified as the highest priority, but that is already a requirement of the HTF.)

• Families with Children
• Elderly
• Public Housing Residents
• Rural
• Chronic Homelessness
• Mentally Ill
• Chronic Substance Abuse
• Veterans
• Victims of Domestic Violence
• Persons with Mental Disabilities
• Persons with Physical Disabilities
• Persons with Developmental Disabilities
• Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions
• Victims of Domestic Violence

**Project Based Rental Assistance – 5 Points**
Points will be awarded to a Project that will preserve project-based rental assistance from any federal, State or local program, or for Projects with a binding commitment for project-based vouchers.

The Applicant must provide an executed agreement with the entity providing the project-based rental assistance, or a signed letter promising to provide such assistance. The commitment to provide project-based rental assistance must be a firm commitment.

**Tenant Special Needs Populations – 10 Points**
Points will be awarded to a Project that commits to dedicate at least ten percent (10%) of the total residential units to serve a Special Needs Population, or multiple Special Needs Populations. A minimum of one (1) unit dedicated to a Special Needs Population is required in order to receive the points, regardless of the percentage. Points will be awarded for the following Special Needs Populations. This is an exclusive list:

• Homeless
• Persons with mental or physical disabilities
• Military veterans
• Youth aging out of foster care (age 18-24)
• Formerly incarcerated individuals transitioning into society
Services for Special Populations – 5 Points
OHFA will award points for Applications promising access to high quality supportive services focused on the ELI beneficiaries remaining housed, improving physical and/or mental condition, increasing income and employment, and developing social and community connections. To receive the points, Applications for HTF funding must be tied to funding for services that are appropriate for the population to be served.

The Applicant must provide an executed agreement with the entity providing the services, or a signed letter promising to provide such services. OHFA must be able to determine that the commitment to provide the services is a firm commitment. OHFA may request additional documentation if necessary to make such a determination.

Storm Shelter – 5 Points
Storm shelter or Safe room that meets or exceeds FEMA guidelines and the ICC/NSSA standards (ICC-500). Storm shelters/Safe room must accommodate all possible residents based on number of bedrooms one and a half (1.5) people per bedroom. (please find helpful information regarding storm shelters within the links below)

Vistiability – 5 Points
Applicants must commit to all three items in order to receive points by completing attachment #17. It is up to the applicant to follow all Section 504 requirements if applicable to the specific project.

Accepted items:
1. Door openings must be at a minimum 32” to accommodate a wheelchair
2. Wheelchair accessible shower on the main floor of the property in place of the traditional tub/shower concept.
3. Ramp located on at least one entrance of the unit.

Bonus Points:
Geographic Diversity – 5 Points
OHFA will give bonus points to the highest scoring Application from each of the two main areas of the State, the counties grouped with the Oklahoma City MSA for establishing the HOME Program Maximum Per-Unit Subsidy Limits, and the counties grouped with the Tulsa MSA for the same purpose. Due to the limited funding available for 2021, OHFA believes that this is the most that can be done to encourage Geographic Diversity. Tiebreakers, as set forth below, will be used if two or more Applications achieve the same score.

Tiebreakers
Applications compete only against other Applications for funding being considered at the same Board meeting. If there are sufficient funds to fund all Applications that meet all threshold requirements, then all of the Applications will be funded. If not, Applications will be funded in rank order by score, from highest to lowest. Tie-breakers will be used in the event that there are sufficient funds remaining for only one Application, and the next two or more Applications in rank order have achieved an equal score.
1. First, the Application proposing the most HTF units will be awarded ahead of the others. If there is still a tie;
2. Second, the Application utilizing the least amount of HTF funding per HTF-assisted unit will be awarded ahead of the others. If there is still a tie;
3. The third and final tiebreaker will be a random drawing.

3. Eligible Activities

Activities to be undertaken include rehabilitation (including acquisition), preservation, and new construction of rental housing, including operating reserves if necessary to ensure the financial feasibility of the Project.

All Applications must include descriptions of the Eligible Activities that include, at a minimum, all of the following:

A. Describe the location of the Project (e.g. county, city or town, street address if known, general location, or service area).
B. Define the number and type of units. This should include bedroom mix. Specify if the units are fixed or floating units.
C. The Applicant must show the calculation of the number of HTF-assisted units at the HTF Rents established by HUD as set forth in 24 CFR Part 93.302. The number of HTF-assisted units must be equal or greater than a pro rata share of the total units according to the percentage of HTF monies in the Project, compared to the total Project costs.
D. Describe how the Period of Affordability will be implemented. Include drafts or templates of all documents that will be used for this purpose.
E. Here
F. Address the relocation of tenants or residents if applicable.
G. For Rental New Construction only, Applicants must provide sufficient documentation to allow OHFA to make the determination that proposed sites for new construction meet the requirements in 24 CFR Part 983.57(e)(2) and (3) (Site and Neighborhood Standards). Applicants for Rental New Construction activities should carefully review the Site and Neighborhood Standards section of the 2021 HOME Program Processes, Procedures and Topical Guidance. All documentation utilized in making the determination must be included with the Application. OHFA is responsible to maintain records that document the results of the site and neighborhood standards review. If the documentation does not support the conclusion that a site meets the requirements, additional documentation will be requested.

4. Eligible Recipients

- **Nonprofit developers**: A nonprofit developer is a nonprofit housing development organization selected by OHFA, through the competitive Application process described herein, to develop a single HTF Program Project.
• **For-profit developers:** A for-profit developer is a for-profit housing development organization or individual selected by OHFA, through the competitive Application process described herein, to develop a single HTF Program Project.

• **State Recipients:** A State Recipient is a governmental entity within the State of Oklahoma selected by OHFA, through the competitive Application process described herein, to develop a single HTF Program Project. This includes cities, towns, counties and Indian tribes.

**Eligible Recipients must certify that housing assisted with HTF funds comply with all HTF regulations.** OHFA will provide an Application Certification Form with the Application Packet.

5. Performance Goals and Benchmarks

Oklahoma expects to receive the minimum state grant amount of $3,000,000 in 2021. All HTF funds received in 2021 will be used to house Extremely Low-Income families, or families at or below the Poverty Line.

OHFA will execute Written Agreements with all eligible recipients that receive an award of HTF funds. Such Written Agreements will contain multiple performance goals and benchmarks, allowing OHFA to ensure that the Projects will be completed successfully and in a timely manner, and that all the requirements of OHFA and the HTF will be met.

These goals and benchmarks include, but are not limited to:

- Deadlines for construction commencement and construction completion
- Regular construction inspections by OHFA’s inspector
- Deadlines for the submission of required documentation
- Written New Construction Standards or Written Rehabilitation Standards, as applicable
- Documentation of Environment Review
- Performance reports

6. Maximum Per-unit Development Subsidy Limits

For 2021, OHFA will use the most current HOME Program Maximum Per-Unit Subsidy Limits for the HTF. In future years OHFA may develop separate per-unit subsidy limits for the HTF when historical data is available.

OHFA already uses the HOME Program Maximum Per-Unit Subsidy Limits not only for the HOME Program but also for the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program (Also known as the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Program), which OHFA administers. OHFA has found these limits to be appropriate for both programs.
HUD’s experts have calculated these limits. Due to the fact that OHFA is not a direct lender, OHFA does not maintain staff to closely monitor development costs, other than through its historical records of the federal programs it administers. Based both on the HOME Program and the LIHTC Program results over the last several years, these limits have allowed sufficient funding to create long-term sustainability, while not allowing excessive per-unit subsidies.

OHFA believes there will be a need to partner the HTF funding with other federal, State and local funds, due to the limitation on the amount of HTF funds available to the State, and in order to create sustainable projects by blending funding for ELI households with funding for households at 50 to 80% of Area Median Income, allowing for higher rents for those units. The use of a single per-unit subsidy limit would reduce the administrative burden for both OHFA and the Recipients of the HTF funds.

A single limit for the entire State is appropriate because OHFA’s records indicate that costs across the State of Oklahoma are fairly consistent. Oklahoma is a rural state with only two metropolitan areas of even moderate size. Development costs in those metro areas are relatively low compared to some major metro areas around the United States, where housing prices and related costs, especially land costs, are extremely high.

**The most current Maximum Subsidy Limits are as follows:**

The following limits are determined, pursuant to 24 CFR 92.250(a), as amended, by taking the Basic Statutory Mortgage Limits for Section 234 Condominium Housing, elevator-type projects, and multiplying them by the latest published multiplier for the Ft. Worth, TX Southwest Regional Office, which at this time is 240%. These limits were effective June 4, 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Bedroom(s)</th>
<th>Maximum Subsidy Limit</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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**7. Rehabilitation Standards**

Projects awarded HTF funds must comply with all applicable State and local codes, standards and ordinances by project completion. In cases where standards differ, the most restrictive standard will apply. In the absence of a State or local building code, the latest version of the
International Residential Code will apply. In addition, all Projects must meet or exceed OHFA’s Written New Construction Standards or OHFA’s Written Rehabilitation Standards, whichever applicable.

Projects must meet local housing habitability or quality standards throughout the affordability period. Projects must also meet HUD’s Uniform Physical Conditions Standards (UPCS), as set forth in 24 CFR 5.705. In addition, Projects proposing rehabilitation of rental housing must follow the federal Lead-Based Paint requirements.

A copy of OHFA’s Written Rehabilitation Standards for the HTF Program is attached and marked as “Attachment A.” A chart of the Inspect-able Items under UPCS is attached and marked as “Attachment B.”


OHFA will not undertake any Homeownership activities with the HTF for 2021, and therefore no Resale and Recapture provisions would apply.

9. Affordable Homeownership Limits

OHFA will not undertake any Homeownership activities with the HTF for 2021, and therefore no Affordable Homeownership Limits would apply.

10. Limitation on Beneficiaries or Preferences

OHFA does not plan to limit the HTF funding to certain beneficiaries. However, preference will be given to certain special populations by way of extra points in the 2021 HTF Application Packet.

Points will be awarded to a Project that commits to dedicate at least ten percent (10%) of the total residential units to serve a Special Needs Population, or multiple Special Needs Populations. A minimum of one (1) unit dedicated to a Special Needs Population is required in order to receive the points, regardless of the percentage. Points will be awarded for the following Special Needs Populations. This is an exclusive list:

- Homeless
- Persons with mental or physical disabilities
- Military veterans
- Youth aging out of foster care
- Formerly incarcerated individuals transitioning into society

11. Refinancing Existing Debt

2021 HTF Allocation Plan draft
OHFA will not use HTF to refinance existing debt.

ATTACHMENT A

OKLAHOMA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY
National Housing Trust Fund Minimum Rehabilitation Standards

Please note: Regardless of the standards set forth herein, all housing assisted by Housing Trust Fund monies must meet all applicable State and local codes, ordinances and requirements, as well as such other requirements HUD may establish. In the absence of State or local building codes, the housing must meet the International Existing Building Code or the International Code Council.

For Rental housing, Awardees must produce an estimate, based on age and condition, of the remaining useful life of all major systems, including structural support, roofing, cladding and weatherproofing, plumbing, electrical, and HVAC.

A capital needs assessment (CNA), prepared no longer than 18 months prior to the date of Application, is required for all multi-family Rental Rehabilitation or Acquisition/Rehabilitation Projects of 26 or more units, and for all Applications in conjunction with Affordable Housing Tax Credits, regardless of the number of units. A CNA may be requested by OHFA for smaller Projects if deemed necessary to properly underwrite the Projects. Capital needs assessments performed for the same Project as a requirement of another funding source will be accepted in lieu of a specific CNA for the HTF Application.

Capital Needs Assessment (CNA) means a qualified professional's opinion of a property's current physical condition determined after a physical inspection of the interior and exterior of the units and structures. The physical inspection should include an interview with the onsite manager and maintenance personnel. This assessment should identify deferred maintenance, physical needs, remaining useful life, material building code violations that affect the property use, structural and mechanical integrity, and the future physical and financial needs. The assessment must include the cost of labor and materials identified in detail and the extent of future expenditures contemplated to ensure the costs will be addressed through operating and replacement reserves. Components which should be examined and analyzed in this assessment include but are not limited to:

- Site, including topography, drainage, pavement, curbing, sidewalks, parking, landscaping, amenities, water, sewer, storm drainage, gas and electric utility lines;
- Structural systems, both substructure and superstructure, including exterior walls and balconies, exterior doors and windows, roofing system and drainage;
- Interiors, including unit and common area finishes (carpeting, vinyl or tile flooring, plaster walls, paint condition, etc.), unit kitchen finishes, cabinets and appliances, unit bathroom finishes and fixtures, and common area lobbies and corridors; and
- Mechanical systems, including plumbing and domestic hot water, HVAC, electrical, lighting fixtures, fire protection, and elevators.

In all cases, if the remaining useful life of one or more major systems is less than the Period of Affordability, the Awardee must establish and maintain a replacement reserve and make adequate monthly payments thereto, such that there are sufficient funds to repair or replace systems as needed.
For Homebuyer housing, upon completion each of the major systems must have a minimum useful life of five years, or the major systems must be rehabilitated or replaced as a part of the rehabilitation work.

If the housing is occupied at the time of rehabilitation, Awardees must identify any life-threatening deficiencies and must address them immediately before any further work is undertaken. The potential life-threatening deficiencies, pursuant to the Uniform Physical Condition Standards (UPCS), are highlighted in orange on Attachment B, which contains the complete list of inspectable items covered by UPCS.

OHFA will review and approve all written cost estimates and ensure that construction contracts and work performed will meet these Rehabilitation Standards.

OHFA will conduct initial, progress and final inspections to ensure that all work is done in accordance to work write-ups.

I. PURPOSE OF STANDARDS
A. The National Housing Trust Fund Rehabilitation Standards (known herein as the “HTF Standards”) are designed to outline the requirements for building rehabilitation for all National Housing Trust Fund (HTF) funded multi-family housing projects in the State of Oklahoma. The HTF Standards, though a requirement specifically to the development entity in direct receipt of HTF funding, are written to provide guidance to all relevant members of a project development team.
B. The goal of the HTF Program is to provide functional, safe, affordable and durable housing that meets the needs of the tenants and communities in which the housing is located. The purpose of the HTF Standards is to ensure that property rehabilitation puts each building in the best possible position to meet this goal over its extended life and that, at a minimum, all health and safety deficiencies are addressed.
C. If a project is out of compliance with the HTF Standards, the Awardee shall bring to the attention of OHFA Staff the specific portion of the project which does not comply, stating the reasons for non-compliance. OHFA Staff will make a determination as to whether an exception to the HTF Standards shall be granted.
D. Note: At the time of publication and adoption of the HTF Standards, the adopted codes referenced are believed to be those in force. As standards and codes change and are put into effect by the governing authorities having jurisdiction, the new standards and codes will apply in lieu of those referenced.

II. QUALITY OF WORK
A. Quality of Work: Awardees and developers shall ensure that all rehabilitation work is completed in a thorough and workmanlike manner in accordance with industry practice and contractually agreed upon plans and specifications as well as subsequent mutually agreed upon change orders during the construction process. Awardees and developers will employ best practice industry standards relating to quality assurance to verify all work completed.
B. By meeting the various code requirements as a minimum standard, together with the other standards herein or in attendant OHFA policies, each building rehabilitation project is assured to be brought up to an acceptable level of rehabilitation.
C. Warranties shall be required per the standard construction contracts on all materials, equipment and workmanship.

III. CODE COMPLIANCE
A. All work shall comply with all applicable Oklahoma State and local codes, ordinances, and zoning requirements.

B. Please note that the OHFA HTF Awardee must demonstrate compliance with all State and local codes through project affiliation with professional design team drawing certifications (e.g. architectural design stamp) and/or other approved methods such as State inspector certification.

C. The HTF Standards are designed to meet or exceed the Uniform Physical Condition Standards (UPCS) and ensure that upon completion, the HTF-assisted project and units will be decent, safe, sanitary, and in good repair as described in 24 CFR 5.703. See Attachment B to the 2021 HTF Allocation Plan for a list of Inspect-able Items and Observable Deficiencies, including descriptions of the type and degree of deficiency for each item that any HTF-assisted project must address, at a minimum.

IV. HEALTH AND SAFETY
A. If the housing is occupied at the time of rehabilitation, any life-threatening deficiencies must be identified and addressed immediately. See Attachment B to the 2021 HTF Allocation Plan for a list of Inspect-able Items and Observable Deficiencies, including the identification of life-threatening deficiencies (highlighted in orange) for the property site, building exterior, building systems, common areas, and units.

V. SCOPE OF WORK DETERMINATION
A. In developing scopes of work, Awardees and developers will work with OHFA to ensure that all requirements under the HTF Standards are satisfied and that the proposed scope of work meets the goals of Part I above. OHFA approval of all scopes of work is required in accordance with OHFA standard practices.

VI. EXPECTED USEFUL LIFE
A. In developing scopes of work on housing rehabilitation projects, OHFA HTF Awardees and developers will consider the remaining expected useful life of all building components with regard to building long-term sustainability and performance. Specifically, each building component with a remaining expected useful life of less than the applicable HTF period of affordability (30 years) shall be considered for replacement, repair or otherwise updated. Additionally, new building components with an expected useful life of less than 30 years shall be considered for future replacement. 
B. OHFA Staff will underwrite the proposed project to determine if sufficient replacement reserves will be set aside each month to cover the full cost of any such replacement, repair or update. Whether or not a particular building component has been replaced, repaired or otherwise updated as part of the rehabilitation scope of work, all building components and major systems must demonstrate adequate funding to be viable throughout the 30-year affordability period.

VII. DISASTER MITIGATION
A. To the extent applicable/relevant, the housing must be improved to mitigate the impact of potential disasters (e.g. earthquakes, tornadoes, floods, wildfires) in accordance with State or local codes, ordinances, and requirements, or such other requirements that HUD may establish. The relevant State codes are the International Residential Code of 2009, as amended, for new construction and the International Building Code for rehabilitation.
B. In addition, construction of the housing must adhere to the Oklahoma Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan adopted in 2014. Awardees of HTF funds should particularly review and adhere to Chapter 3 regarding Risk Assessment and Chapter 4 regarding Mitigation Strategies.

VIII. ENERGY CONSERVATION
A. Equipment, appliances, windows, doors and appurtenances replaced during rehabilitation shall be replaced with Energy Star qualified products.
B. If feasible, attics should be insulated to R38 and walls to a minimum of R11.
C. Replacement heating and/or cooling systems shall be properly sized as evidenced by completion of ACCA/ANSI Manual J® or an equivalent sizing calculation tool.
D. All accessible air ducts shall be tightly sealed.
E. Heating or cooling supply running through unconditioned space should be avoided or rerouted if possible, but when present and accessible, shall be insulated.

IX. ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
A. Housing that is rehabilitated with HTF funds must meet all applicable federal and State regulations regarding accessibility for persons with disabilities. The applicability of these rules is complex and therefore it is recommended that developers seeking HTF funds consult with a qualified design professional.
B. Projects shall comply with other standards as may apply or be required by funding sources (i.e. USDA Rural Development)
C. Projects, if applicable, shall comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 implemented at 24 CFR Part 8 a. For “substantial” rehabilitation (projects with 15 or more total units and the cost of rehabilitation is 75% or more of the replacement cost): i. At least 5% of the units (1 minimum) must be made fully accessible for persons with mobility impairments based on the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) ii. In addition, at least 2% of the units (1 additional unit minimum) must be made accessible for persons with sensory impairments. iii. Common spaces must be made accessible to the greatest extent feasible
D. For projects with “less-than-substantial” rehabilitation (anything less than “substantial”), the project must be made accessible to the greatest extent feasible until 5% of the units are physically accessible, and common spaces should be made accessible as much as possible.

X. REHABILITATION CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS
A. SITE
1. General: a. Assure that the site is safe, clean and usable, and designed with details, assemblies and materials to provide ongoing durability without undue future maintenance.
   a. Site design and engineering shall be by a licensed professional civil engineer, or other qualified professional.
   b. Design and systems shall conform to all applicable codes, rules and regulations: i. Local and municipal zoning; ii. NFPA Codes as they may apply
2. Sprinkler water service – Underground water service as required for building sprinkler system shall be in accordance with NFPA 24.
3. Drainage – assure that the grading surrounding the building will slope away from the building and drain properly, without ponding or erosion.
4. Sewer connections to municipal sewage systems and on-site sewage disposal: a. Existing sewer laterals that are to be reused should be evaluated to assure that they are serviceable and have a remaining useful life of 30 years, or are covered by a plan to repair or replace during the 30-year affordability period.
   b. New systems designed to conform to the State codes and regulations.
5. Water service: a. Existing municipal water supplies to buildings shall be evaluated to assure that they are serviceable, of adequate capacity and have a remaining useful life of 30 years, or are covered by a plan to repair or replace during the 30-year affordability period.
b. Required new systems shall be designed to conform to State codes and regulations.
6. Vehicular access to public way – site design shall conform to local zoning and regulations, as well as be sensible in its layout to maximize vehicular and pedestrian safety.
7. On-site Parking – parking shall be adequate for project type, meet local codes, and be designed to drain well, with a durable appropriate surface material. Handicapped parking shall be provided as required.
8. Pedestrian access and hardscape – In general, paved walkways within the site will be designed to provide sensible pedestrian access from the public way into the site, from parking areas, and provide access to buildings. All walkways should generally conform to applicable codes for width and slopes, and fall protection. Site stairs shall be safe and sound, constructed of durable materials, with proper rise and run, and with code approved railings as required. Accessible routes into buildings shall be provided as required by code.
9. Site amenities – site amenities may be provided which enhance the livability of the project including playground areas, seating, benches, patio areas, picnic tables, bike racks, grills, and fencing, etc.
10. Mailboxes - Provision will be made for USPS-approved cluster mailbox units if required by the USPS.
11. Landscaping – lawns, ground cover, planting beds, perennial plants, shrubs and trees may be provided to enhance the livability, and to provide a positive aesthetic sense. a. Planting choices specified should be low maintenance, non-invasive species, of an appropriate size and scale and located, when adjacent to building structures, with regard to their size at maturity.
12. Solid waste collection & storage – if necessary, provision shall be made for the outdoor storage and collection of solid waste and recycling materials in receptacles (dumpsters, wheeled trash cans, totes). Enclosures may be provided and should be accessible as required by code.
13. Site lighting with shielded fixtures may be provided to illuminate parking and pedestrian walkways, and will conform to local zoning.
14. Fuel Storage – On site outdoor placement and storage of fuels per applicable regulations and utility requirements.
15. Underground or overhead utilities – as regulated by code and utility rules.

B. FOUNDATIONS
1. Existing foundations shall be examined by a qualified professional. a. Foundations to be adequately sized, free of broken components or deterioration which may compromise the load bearing structural integrity.
b. Design and implement structural reinforcements or reconstruction as necessary.
2. Above-grade masonry unit block or brick shall be reasonably stable, plumb and sound with no missing units or voids.
3. Pointing of mortar joints shall be specified as necessary to assure the continued integrity of the structural assembly.
4. New below-grade structures to conform to Chapter 18 of IBC as appropriate.

C. MASONRY COMPONENTS
1. Buildings with masonry bearing walls shall be examined for their structural integrity. Existing masonry building components shall be examined to assure sound condition, and repaired as necessary to provide the load-bearing capacity, resistance to water penetration, and aesthetic quality to assure the assemblies will perform for the purpose intended. a. Masonry shall be plumb, and structurally sound.
2. Repair or replace deteriorated portions or missing units. a. Brick veneer shall be sound, or repaired to be sound.
3. Masonry mortar joints shall be sound, and free of loose or deteriorated mortar, with no voids. a. Pointing of mortar joints shall be specified as necessary to assure the continued integrity of the structural assembly, and prevent water intrusion.

4. Historic masonry designated to remain shall be restored to sound serviceable condition, and in accordance with Section 106 of National Historic Preservation Act. a. Where masonry is considered historic, repairs will be carried out utilizing the Secretary of the Interior’s “Standards of Rehabilitation” and related NPS Preservation Briefs for “Repointing Mortar Joints on Historic Masonry Buildings”

5. Chimneys a. Assure structural integrity, reconstruct, and point as necessary
b. If used for fuel heating appliances – provide lining as may be required by code and as prescribed by the heating appliance manufacturer.

D. STRUCTURE
1. A qualified professional shall examine each building’s load-bearing structure, and assess its existing condition to determine suitability of continued use.

2. In general, structure evaluation and design shall be in conformance with IBC, Chapter 16. a. In most residential rehab projects where there is no change in use, it is not expected that the structure will be brought up to new construction standards.
b. Consideration shall be given if there are any proposed changes in use which would impact the historical loading.

3. Deficiencies identified shall be addressed and repairs designed and specified as necessary to correct such conditions: a. Repairs shall be made to any deteriorated load-bearing structural elements.
b. Reinforce, install supplemental or replace structural members determined not to be adequate for use.

E. ENCLOSURE - SHELL
1. Roofing a. Existing: i. Examine existing roofing and flashing systems to determine suitability for continued use. Continued life expectancy of existing roofing should be a minimum of 30 years, or covered by a plan to repair or replace during 30-year affordability period. ii. Repair existing roofing as required. iii. Existing historical slate roofs shall be repaired in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s “Standards for Rehabilitation” project requirements if applicable.
b. New Roofing i. New roofing shall be installed where existing roofing does not meet requirements for continued use. ii. New roofing system components shall be compatible, and include - the nail base, the underlayment layer, ice & water shield self-adhesive membrane flashings, metal flashings and roofing. • Strip existing roofing and dispose of properly. • Examine exposed existing substrate for structural soundness • Install new roofing system per code and per NCRA trade practices, and manufacturer specifications • Flashings – deteriorated flashings shall be replaced, and the weather proof integrity of the roof system shall be assured.
c. Ventilation i. Roof assemblies shall be properly ventilated in accordance with applicable code requirements, and appropriate building science detailing.

2. Exterior Finishes a. Cladding i. Wood Siding – • Examine existing siding for soundness – shall be free of major cracks, rot, and other deterioration which may compromise its useful life and be suitable to hold exterior paint. • Siding shall be free of gaps and holes and provide continuous weatherproof system.
  • Repair or re-side as necessary to provide a weather resistant enclosure. • Replace existing wood siding on historic buildings as necessary in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s “Standards for Rehabilitation” project requirements.
  ii. Masonry • Masonry bearing walls and veneers shall be restored as necessary. All work on historic masonry shall be done in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s “Standards for Rehabilitation” project requirements.
  iii. Other existing cladding system types and materials shall be repaired and/or restored in-kind with matching or similar materials to provide a durable weather resistant enclosure.

3. Trim – Exterior trim and architectural woodwork. a. Existing wood trim: i. Existing trim to remain must be sound, free of defects and deterioration which compromises its use. ii. Repair and restore trim to usable condition. Patch or replace in kind any deteriorated wood trim components.iii. Repair of historic
woodwork and trims shall be in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s “Standards for Rehabilitation” project requirements. b. New wood trim shall be installed in a workmanlike manner. Reference may be made to Architectural Woodwork Institute (AWI) standards. c. Other trim materials which are suitable may be used as appropriate and shall be installed per manufacturer’s recommendations. d. Trim which is part of the weather tight enclosure shall be flashed or caulked with joint sealers as necessary to prevent water intrusion.

4. Paint a. In general, all existing exterior wood surfaces shall receive new paint coatings, except as appropriate due to the recent application of paint and/or the sound condition of existing coatings. b. Examine surfaces and apply paint only to sound acceptable materials / surfaces. i. Prepare surfaces properly, removing loose or peeling previous paint. ii. Paint prep shall be done in accordance with applicable lead safe standards. c. Before painting, assure that any moisture issues which may compromise the life expectancy of the paint system are remedied. d. Exterior paint systems shall be compatible, and installed in accordance with manufacturers’ specifications.

5. Porches, decks and steps i. Existing porches, decks, steps and railings proposed to remain shall be examined and repaired as necessary. Repair and reconstruction shall be carried out to assure that they will have a continued useful life of 30 years, or covered by a plan to repair or reconstruct during the 30-year affordability period. ii. Inspect structure for soundness and reconstruct any deteriorated members as required. iii. Install new support piers as may be required. iv. Patch existing decking with matching materials, or install new durable decking. b. Railings i. shall be sound and adequately fastened to meet code requirements for structural loading. Repair or replace in-kind as appropriate. ii. Shall meet code requirements for height of protective guards, or have supplemental guards installed. c. Steps shall be safe and sound and meet applicable codes, with railings as necessary. d. Historic porches designated to remain shall be restored to sound serviceable condition, and in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s “Standards for Rehabilitation” project requirements. e. All porch elements shall be able to withstand the weather elements to prevent premature deterioration.

F. ACOUSTICAL TREATMENTS
1. Dwelling units separated acoustically using Chapter 1207 of IBC as a guideline minimum standard.

G. DOORS
1. General a. Doors to meet code requirements of NFPA 101, Chapters 7.2, 8.3, 30.3.6.2 & 30.2.2.2 b. Meet egress requirements for dimensions, swing and clearances, and be accessibility compliant as required. c. Be sound and secure. d. New doors shall be installed per manufacturers’ recommendations and standard trade practice standards. e. Flash properly, and have shim spaces insulated. f. Existing doors to remain should be examined and determined to be suitable for reuse with a remaining life after restoration of 30 years, or covered by a plan to repair or replace during the 30-year affordability period. i. Restore as required to provide useful life. ii. Shall be tested and modified as necessary to operate properly. iii. Install new weather stripping and sweeps to provide seal against weather elements and air infiltration. iv. Historic doors designated to remain shall be restored to sound serviceable condition, and in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s “Standards for Rehabilitation” project requirements. 2. Unit doors a. Unit unit entry doors shall be fire rated as required. 3. Other doors – Access doors shall meet code requirements for fire rating. 4. Door hardware shall operate properly, be secure and shall meet accessibility standards and NFPA 101, Chapters 7.2, 8.3, 30.3.6.2 & 30.2.2.2.

H. WINDOWS
1. Windows shall be of legal egress size when required by code a. In townhouse units, existing windows which are non-conforming egress size shall be reviewed for code compliance. 2. Existing windows: a. Existing windows to remain should be examined and determined to be suitable for reuse with a reasonable remaining life after restoration of 30 years without undue future maintenance, or covered by a plan to maintain or replace during the 30-year affordability period. b. Capable of
providing adequate seal against air infiltration, weather elements, and be determined to be appropriately energy efficient in keeping with the overall energy efficiency strategy of the project. c. Install new weather stripping to provide seal against weather elements and air infiltration. d. Air seal shim spaces and window weight pockets if possible. e. Restore and modify as required to provide useful life. f. Shall be tested and modified as necessary to operate smoothly and properly per code. g. Historic windows designated to remain shall be restored to sound serviceable condition, and in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s “Standards for Rehabilitation” project requirements. h. Hardware shall be intact and operational, or be replaced with new hardware as required

3. New Windows: a. where existing windows do not meet the standards for egress, condition, and/or energy efficiency deemed appropriate to the project, they shall be replaced by new windows. b. New windows shall be code compliant. Developers are encouraged to consider upgrading to Tier II level by providing R-5 windows. c. Additionally, new window units should be tested assemblies meeting ASTM standards for water penetration & air leakage. d. All windows shall be installed per manufacturer’s installation guidelines and specifications, and shall incorporate appropriate detail, flashings, joint sealers, and air sealing techniques.

I. INTERIOR FINISHES
1. In general, all interior finishes will be new and installed per manufacturer’s recommendations and the standards of quality construction per trade practices and associations related to the particular product or trade.
2. Per chapter 10 of NFPA 101 (Reference also Chapter 8 of the IBC).
3. Walls & ceilings a. Where existing finishes are proposed to remain, they will be determined to meet the standard of being sound, durable, lead-safe, and have a remaining useful life of no less than 30 years, or covered by a plan to repair or replace during the 30-year affordability period.
4. Flooring a. Existing wood flooring in good condition should be repaired, sanded and refinished. b. All new flooring materials (resilient flooring, wood flooring, laminate flooring, carpet, and/or ceramic tile) shall be installed over suitable substrates per manufacturer’s specs and the trade association practices.
5. Trim - Wood trim and architectural woodwork a. Existing trim shall be repaired and restored to usable condition, free of deterioration which compromises its use. Repair of historic woodwork & trims shall be in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s “Standards for Rehabilitation” project requirements. b. New wood trim shall be installed in a workmanlike manner. Reference may be made to AWI standards.
6. Paint - In general, all interior ceiling, wall, and trim surfaces shall receive renewed coatings of paint (or other clear/stain) finishes. Painting shall be done in a workmanlike manner, and in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations. All painting including preparation of existing surfaces shall be done in a lead-safe manner (See Section X. N).

J. SPECIALTIES
1. Toilet accessories – each bath will have appropriate accessories such as towel bars, robe hooks, bath tissue holders, etc., installed and securely fastened in place. Accessories shall be located per accessibility requirements where necessary.
2. Medicine cabinets and mirrors – install in each unit bath as appropriate.
3. Signage and identification – building signage shall be provided as appropriate: a. Including building address 911 #’s, units’ identification, building directory, exits, stairways, common and utility spaces, etc. shall be in conformance with NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, and be accessibility compliant and 911 approved.
4. Exit signage will be provided as required by code and be accessibility compliant as required.
5. Fire protection specialties – provide fire extinguishers in buildings, and in units as required by code and/or by State or local fire authorities. Locate as directed by authorities.
6. Shelving – provide durable, cleanable shelving for pantries, linen closets, clothes closets and other storage as appropriate, securely fastened in place.
K. EQUIPMENT
1. All new equipment to be ENERGY STAR® rated.
2. Existing equipment to be retained and continued to be used shall be in serviceable condition with an expected useful life of 30 years, or covered by a plan to replace during the 30-year affordability period.
3. Kitchen appliances – a. provide new stove and refrigerator in each unit. b. Existing appliances to be reused shall be in good and serviceable condition. c. Provide other appliances (such as microwaves) as may be appropriate to the project. d. All appliances in accessible unit units shall be accessibility compliant, and located in an arrangement providing required clear floor spaces.
4. Laundries – where adequate space is available and when appropriate to meet the project goals, washers and dryers may be provided in laundry rooms or in units. a. Heat pump dryers are encouraged where appropriate and readily available. b. Where a project is served by natural gas, consideration of the use of natural gas dryers is encouraged. In projects not served by natural gas, propane fired dryers should be considered for cost of operation reasons where feasible and appropriate.
5. Solid waste handling – Provide trash and recycling receptacles as appropriate to enable the tenants and property management staff to handle and store solid waste.
6. Playground equipment – Provide safe, code-approved new playground equipment if a playground is appropriate to the project.

L. FURNISHINGS - CASEWORK
1. Kitchen cabinetry and counters a. Existing cabinetry and/or countertops proposed to remain shall be in good condition with a remaining useful life of 30 years, or covered by a plan to restore or replace during the 30-year affordability period. b. New cabinetry i. shall be of good quality, meeting ANSI/KCMA A161.1-2012 “Performance & Construction Standards for Kitchen Cabinetry and Bath Vanities” standards. Other industry standards for cabinetry may be used as guidelines, such as the Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturer’s Association (KCMA) “Severe Use Specification – 2014,” the Architectural Woodwork Institute’s (AWI) Woodwork Standards and Cabinet Fabrication Handbook. ii. New counters shall be provided with a cleanable sanitary surface material impervious to water such as high pressure laminate (HPL). • Shop fabricated as one piece assembly where possible. Seal field joints. • Installed level and securely fastened to cabinetry
2. Bath cabinetry and counters – vanity lavatory tops, when used, should be one piece integral bowl with integral backsplash.

M. ASBESTOS REMOVAL
1. Project will be assessed for the existence of asbestos-containing building materials by qualified professionals: i. National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) apply. ii. Removal of asbestos shall be carried out per Federal EPA and State regulations and rules.

N. LEAD-BASED PAINT
As required under 24 CFR Part 35, the Final HUD Regulation on Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Federally Owned Housing and Housing Receiving Federal Assistance, all assisted dwelling units constructed before January 1, 1978, will be evaluated for lead-based paint hazards or presumed to have lead-based paint present throughout the unit when paint is disturbed.
1. Evaluation will be done by a qualified, certified or licensed person as required under the regulation.
2. All lead-based paint hazards will be identified and reduced or eliminated through paint stabilization, interim controls or abatement with work being done by supervised, trained, qualified, certified or licensed persons as required under the regulation.
3. Safe work practices will be followed at all times.
4. Occupants shall be protected or temporarily relocated as required by the regulation. With some exceptions, as listed at 24 CFR 35.1345, occupants shall be temporarily relocated before and during
hazard reduction activities to a suitable, decent, safe and similarly accessible dwelling unit that does not have lead hazards.

5. The dwelling unit and worksite shall be secured. The worksite shall be prepared and warning signs shall be posted as required by the regulation.

6. Clearance examinations will be performed by qualified personnel and final clearance shall be cleared by DEQ certified personnel.

O. CONVEYANCE SYSTEMS

1. Elevators may be installed when appropriate and possible, when such elevator is part of the project’s program goals, or as required by code, as follows: a. Installed per code NFPA 101, Chapter 9.4 b. ASME 17.1 Safety Code for Elevators - 2013

2. Existing elevators and lifts may be retained if they are appropriate to the use of the building and in serviceable condition with an expected useful life of 30 years, or covered by a plan to maintain or replace during the 30-year affordability period, and approved by agencies having jurisdiction.

P. MECHANICAL

1. General: a. all mechanical systems shall be designed by a mechanical engineer or other qualified professional. b. All mechanical systems shall meet all applicable codes.

2. Fire protection a. In general, all buildings assisted with HTF funds shall have fire suppression as required by applicable codes with approved sprinkler systems installed as required by NFPA 101 and NFPA 1: i. System design to conform to applicable NFPA standard 13 or 13R. ii. System installed by State approved persons. iii. Underground water services for sprinkler system shall meet NFPA 24 iv. Provide fire pumps, standpipes, and fire department connection as required per NFPA 13, 14 & 25. b. Where possible, piping for the sprinkler system shall be concealed.

3. Plumbing a. Where existing components of a system are to be reused, they will be examined and determined to be in good condition, code compliant and have a remaining useful life of a minimum of 30 years, or covered by a plan to repair or replace during the 30-year affordability period. Substandard or critical non-code compliant components shall be replaced. b. Use water-saving shower heads and faucet aerators. c. All fixtures, piping fittings and equipment shall be lead-free. d. Kitchen fixtures – When existing kitchen fixtures are not reused in accordance with a. above, new sinks and faucets, and associated plumbing shall be installed in each unit. e. Bath fixtures – When existing bath fixtures are not reused in accordance with a. above, new toilets, tubs and tub surrounds, lavatory sinks, and faucets shall be installed in each unit. i. Three and four-bedroom units are encouraged to be designed to include 1½ baths minimum where adequate space is available. f. Provision for laundry rooms or laundry hook-ups may be made per project’s program requirements. g. Provision for other utility plumbing for janitor sinks, floor drains, outdoor faucets, drains for dehumidification systems, etc., may be made as desired or required.

4. Heating a. System design: a. where existing components of a system are proposed to be reused, they will be examined and determined to be in good and serviceable condition, code compliant and have a remaining useful life of a minimum of 30 years, or covered by a plan to repair or replace during the 30-year affordability period. b. Temperature control - The temperature in each unit shall be individually thermostatically controlled. c. Provide adequate heat in common spaces. d. Install pipe insulation with minimum 1.5” wall thickness.

5. Ventilation a. Code-compliant indoor air quality will be addressed by the installation of either exhaust only or balanced (heat recovery) ventilation systems as required by: Fire protection of system ducts per NFPA 101, Chapter 9.2 b. Balanced mechanical ventilation systems are encouraged. c. Ventilation controls shall be per applicable codes

Q. ELECTRICAL
1. Project electrical design should be done by a licensed electrical engineer, or other qualified professional.
2. Project electrical must be installed by a licensed electrician
4. In general, the electrical system should be new throughout a building: a. Where existing service entrances, disconnects, meters, distribution wiring, panels, and devices are proposed to remain, they will be examined and determined to be in good condition, code compliant and have a remaining useful life of a minimum of 30 years, or covered by a plan to repair or replace during the 30-year affordability period. The designer, in concert with the State electrical inspector, shall examine the system and equipment. Existing components of the electrical system may be reused as appropriate. Substandard or critical non-code compliant components shall be replaced.
5. Utility connections shall be installed per the rules and regulations of the electrical utility.
6. Electrical service and metering: a. the service entrance size shall be calculated to handle the proposed electrical loads. b. Metering and disconnects shall be per code and mounted at approved locations.
7. Elevator wiring shall conform to the ANSI 17.1 as modified by State or local codes.
8. Electrical distribution system: a. Lighting and receptacle circuits shall be designed per code. b. Locations and layout of devices and lighting to be logical and accessibility compliant where required. c. Provision shall be made for the wiring of dedicated equipment circuits and connections for heating, ventilation equipment/exhaust fans, pumps, appliances, etc.
9. Artificial Lighting shall be provided using IBC 1205 as a minimum guideline. Developers are encouraged to upgrade to Energy Star® Category.
10. Site lighting with shielded fixtures may be provided to illuminate parking and pedestrian walkways, and will conform to local zoning.
ATTACHMENT B
OKLAHOMA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY
Uniform Physical Condition Standards for Housing Rehabilitation
Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS

(HOPWA) 2021 Action Plan-
Five-Year Strategic Plan for 2019-2023
Updated For Program Year 2021

Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency
HOPWA Development Team
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P.O. Box 26720
Oklahoma City, OK 73126-0720
405/419-8275
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Action Plan for Addressing Housing for People with HIV/AIDS

The Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency (OHFA), in its role as a housing service provider for low-income persons, is making $416,750.00 available during the program year April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2022 (PY2021). This budgeted amount does not include amounts appropriated under the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) Program for the City of Oklahoma City or the City of Tulsa. All funds will be used to ensure housing for persons living with HIV/AIDS is an essential component of the Continuum of Care approach. Priority will be given to projects that target low-income individuals living with HIV/AIDS in Oklahoma, who are either currently homeless or in eminent danger of becoming homeless.

OHFA has designated its HOPWA Program to support:

- Project or tenant-based rental assistance, including assistance for group housing;
- Short-term emergency rent and utility payments to prevent eviction or loss of services;
- Supportive services which include, but are not limited to: health and mental health, substance abuse, child care, assessment and case management, nutrition, intensive medical care, assistance in accessing federal, state, and local programs, and assistance in locating permanent housing;
- Resource identification to establish, coordinate, and develop housing assistance to eligible persons;
- Technical assistance in establishing and operating a community residence, including planning and other pre-construction activities;
- Operating costs for housing;
- Acquisition, rehabilitation, conversion, or lease of buildings used in the project; and
- Administrative expenses.

Funds Distribution

In 2015 OHFA initiated an Invitation to Bid (ITB), thereby announcing to all eligible applicants the program availability, guidelines, etc. for FY2016. A HOPWA Proposal Review Committee then ranked each proposal submitted by eligible applicants. Factors considered in the selection process were outlined in the ITB and included projects that targeted low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS in Oklahoma, and who are homeless or were in eminent danger of becoming homeless. The proposals selected demonstrated inventiveness, community support, and additional resources leveraged from non-HOPWA sources. Most importantly however, the proposals contained convincing evidence of cooperation and collaboration with a network of public and private agencies that provided complimentary services for people with HIV/AIDS; thus encouraging a true Continuum of Care approach. Project Sponsors are required to submit monthly program reports and funds are distributed to the Project Sponsors from the State Grantee based upon actual expenditure of funds. Project Sponsors selected in FY 2015 to administer the HOPWA
Program for the State of Oklahoma beginning in FY 2016 are eligible for an annual extension through FY 2022, based upon performance. Those extensions may be subject to approval by the OHFA Board of Trustees. OHFA is not recommending any changes for Program Year 2021.

OHFA, with the assistance of its local HUD representative, developed new Grant Agreements for Program Years 2017 and 2018 with improved guidance for the Project Sponsors, as well as more specific goals and performance measurements. OHFA believes these new Grant Agreements will greatly improve the delivery of vital services to the beneficiaries of HOPWA assistance.

2021 Program Goals

Program goals are as follows:

Western Oklahoma

Short-term rent fifteen (10) households
Rent and utility assistance fifteen (15) households
Supportive Services fifteen (15) households

Eastern Oklahoma

Short-term rent five (5) households
Rent and utility assistance ten (10) households
Permanency Planning one (1) household
Supportive Services fifteen (15) households

EXHIBIT 1: PROGRAM ABSTRACT
The State of Oklahoma is proposing to utilize Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) FY 2021 program funds to ensure that housing becomes an essential component of the continuum of care for persons living with HIV disease in our State. The proposed plan seeks to address both short and immediate housing needs, and to build a foundation to meet future housing needs. The plan consists of statewide rental assistance including emergency, short term and long term assistance and a utility bill assistance program combined with mental health and intensive case management services. Up to approximately one-fifth of Oklahoma’s total award could be realigned for other eligible activities (e.g., rehabilitation, acquisition). This plan strives to develop a program that will provide housing and supportive services to those persons who have the fewest resources to access these services and those who have the greatest need. It is essential that low-income individuals living with the HIV disease be able to access available direct care resources in the most accommodating environment possible rather than negotiating through a traditional bureaucracy.

EXHIBIT 2: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Characteristics of Eligible Persons:

Persons to be served by the proposed activities of this plan include the men, women and children of our State who are living with and/or affected by HIV disease.
Although the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Oklahoma may not reflect the alarming number of cases observed in larger epicenters, this disease has nonetheless had a devastating effect on those persons living with HIV. From the first reported case in 1983, the needs of persons living with HIV in our State have far exceeded the resources available. As a low-incident state, Oklahoma has struggled to secure funding for services, often to discover we were ineligible for funds due to our lower number of reported AIDS cases. Despite this, Oklahoma service providers have been successful in developing a service delivery system that continues to be strengthened as more resources become available.

HIV/AIDS in Oklahoma:

From the Oklahoma State Department of Health, as of December 31, 2016 (last update available):

**Newly Diagnosed HIV 2016**

- In 2016, 295 cases of HIV were newly diagnosed in Oklahoma. Of these cases, 82.4% (243 cases) were male and 17.6% (52 cases) were female.
  - Almost 65% of the newly diagnosed cases were ages 20-39 in Oklahoma in 2016 (189 cases).
  - Black/African Americans had the highest rate of newly diagnosed HIV cases in 2016 (26.4 cases per 100,000 population) among all racial and ethnic groups.
  - Of the newly diagnosed cases, 53.9% (159 cases) self-reported as MSM (Men who have Sex with Men).
  - Three Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) in Oklahoma accounted for the majority of the 2016 newly diagnosed cases: Oklahoma City (150 cases; 50.8%), Tulsa (77 cases; 26.1%), and Lawton (10 cases; 3.4%).

**Newly Diagnosed AIDS 2016**

- In 2016, 75 AIDS cases were newly diagnosed in Oklahoma. Of these cases, 85.3% (64 cases) were male and 14.7% (11 cases) were female, and 40% were diagnosed only 1-4 years after their HIV diagnosis.
  - At the time of AIDS diagnoses, the 40-49 years age group accounted for the highest number (32.0% or 24 cases) and highest rate (5.2 cases per 100,000) of newly diagnosed AIDS cases in 2016.
  - Black/African Americans had the highest rate of newly diagnosed AIDS cases in 2016 (9.6 cases per 100,000 population) which was 5 times higher than the overall state rate.
  - Over half (54.7% or 41 cases) of new AIDS cases were diagnosed among MSM.
  - Two counties in Oklahoma accounted for over 60% of newly diagnosed AIDS cases in 2016: Oklahoma (33.3% or 25 cases) and Tulsa (28.0% or 21 cases). Tulsa had the highest rate with 3.3 cases per 100,000.

**People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) 2016**

- At the end of 2016, an estimated 5,954 people were living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in Oklahoma. Of these, 53.7% were HIV cases and 46.3% were AIDS cases.
  - Males accounted for 82.7% (4,925 cases) of the HIV/AIDS cases living in
Oklahoma, while females accounted for 17.3% (1,029 cases).

- Over half (54.6%) of the living cases are currently between 40-59 years of age.
- In 2016, Black/African Americans had the highest rate of PLWHA cases (518.5 cases per 100,000) and accounted for 25.4% of all PLWHA (1,510 cases).
- Of the 5,954 PLWHA in 2016, 55.7% (3,316 cases) self-reported as MSM.
- Almost half (49.1% or 2,922 cases) of PLWHA in Oklahoma live in counties within the Oklahoma City MSA. The Tulsa MSA accounted for 31.0% (1,848 cases) of PLWHA in 2016.

Deaths among HIV/AIDS 2016
- By the end of 2016, 42.9% (4,469 cases) of the cumulative 10,423 HIV/AIDS cases diagnosed from 1982-2016 in Oklahoma were known to have died. Of these, 84.2% (3,762 cases) were diagnosed with AIDS, while 15.8% (707 cases) were diagnosed with HIV.
  - Of these, 20.3% (907 cases) died less than one year after their HIV diagnosis, and 63.7% (2,846 cases) of deaths were due to underlying HIV disease.
  - Those ages 30-49 years accounted for 64.8% (2,897 cases) of these cumulative deaths.
- In 2016, 90 deaths occurred among persons diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Oklahoma. Of these, 75.6% (68 cases) were among AIDS cases and 24.4% (22 cases) were among HIV cases. The majority of the deaths were among males at 81.1% (73 cases), while deaths among females were 18.9% (17 cases).
  - In 2016 people who were 50-59 years of age at the time of death accounted for the largest number of deaths (34.4% or 31 cases) as well as the highest rate of deaths (6.2 per 100,000).
  - Black/African Americans had the highest death rate in 2016 at 4.1 deaths per 100,000, but accounted for only 13.3% of deaths in 2016 among all racial and ethnic groups.

- The OKC MSA had a new HIV rate of 10.9 cases per 100,000.
- Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) accounted for 56.6% of the living HIV/AIDS cases.
  - Males accounted for 83.2% of the living HIV/AIDS cases in the OKC MSA.
  - Age group 20-29 years had the highest rate (29.7 per 100,000) of new HIV cases.

- In 2016, the Tulsa MSA had a rate of 187.2 cases per 100,000 living with HIV/AIDS.
- Blacks had the highest rate of living with HIV/AIDS cases (530.8 cases per 100,000) in the Tulsa MSA.
  - Males accounted for 85.7% of the newly diagnosed cases in the Tulsa MSA.
  - The 20-29 years age group had the highest rate of new HIV at 21.3 cases per 100,000.

OVERVIEW
At the end of 2016, an estimated 5,954 cases were living with HIV/AIDS in Oklahoma. Of these, 53.7% (3,197) were HIV cases and 46.3% (2,757) were AIDS cases. The rate of cases living with HIV/AIDS was 151.7 cases per 100,000 population. Of the 10,423 cumulative cases diagnosed in Oklahoma, 42.9% (4,469) were known to have died.

BY SEX

Males accounted for 82.7% (4,925) of the HIV/AIDS cases living in Oklahoma, while females accounted for 17.3% (1,029). The rate of males (253.4 cases per 100,000 population) living with HIV/AIDS in Oklahoma was 4.8 times higher than the rate of females (52.0 cases per 100,000 population). Almost half of the persons living with HIV/AIDS were White males (2,809; 47.2%). Black males accounted for approximately 20% of those living with HIV/AIDS (1,174; 19.7%). White females (462) and Black females (336) accounted for 7.8% and 5.6% of the living HIV/AIDS cases, respectively. Of the race/sex groups, Black males had the highest rate of living with HIV/AIDS (804.7 cases per 100,000), followed by Black females (231.2 cases per 100,000), White males (219.7 cases per 100,000), and Hispanic males (211.4 cases per 100,000).

BY RACE/ETHNICITY

At the end of 2016, Blacks had the highest rate of living HIV/AIDS cases (518.5 cases per 100,000) among the racial/ethnic groups in Oklahoma. Hispanics (131.0 cases per 100,000) had the second highest rate, followed closely by Whites (126.0 cases per 100,000). The rate among American Indians/Alaska Natives was 110.0 cases per 100,000 and the rate among Multi Race was 98.6 cases per 100,000. Asians/Pacific Islanders had the lowest rate of persons living with HIV/AIDS (81.2 cases per 100,000) in Oklahoma. Blacks are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS in Oklahoma, as the rate for Blacks living with HIV/AIDS was 3.4 times higher than the state rate and 4.1 times higher than the rate of Whites living with HIV/AIDS in Oklahoma. Of the 5,954 persons living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2016:
- 54.9% (3,271) were White,
- 25.4% (1,510) were Black,
- 8.9% (529) were Hispanic,
- 6.0% (357) were American Indian/Alaska Native,
- 1.2% (74) were Asian/Pacific Islander, and
- 3.6% (213) were Multi Race.

BY AGE

By age at time of diagnosis, the 20-29 years age group (2,175; 36.5%) and the 30-39 years age group (1,978; 33.2%) combined to account for nearly 70% of the living HIV/AIDS cases. The 40-49 years age group accounted for 17.3% (1,032) of the living cases and the 50-59 years age group accounted for 6.5% (385). Approximately 4% (231; 3.9%) of living cases were diagnosed as teenagers (13-19 years), while children 12 years and under (59) only accounted for 1.0% of living cases. Less than 2% (92; 1.5%) of the cases were diagnosed among persons aged 60 years and older.
By current age group, the 50-59 years age group (1,714; 28.8%) had the highest burden of living HIV/AIDS cases in Oklahoma, followed very closely by the 40-49 years age group (1,535; 25.8%). The 30-39 years age group (1,190; 20.0%) accounted for the third highest number of cases. The 20-29 years age group (740) accounted for 12.4% and the 60 years and over (723) accounted for 12.1%. Teenagers (29; 0.5%) and children 12 years and under (23 cases; 0.4%) combined to account for less than 1% of the living HIV/AIDS cases. The 50-59 years age group had the highest rate (340.7 cases per 100,000), followed by the 40-49 years age group (334.3 cases per 100,000).

**BY MODE OF TRANSMISSION**

Of the 5,954 HIV/AIDS cases living in Oklahoma:
- 55.7% (3,316) were men who have sex with men (MSM),
- 17.8% (1,062) were heterosexual contact,
- 8.5% (505) were MSM and injection drug use (IDU),
- 8.3% (496) were IDU,
- 0.8% (45) were perinatal,
- 0.4% (26) were blood recipients, and
- 8.5% (504) were no reported risk or no identified risk.

Among males, MSM was the most commonly reported risk factor accounting for 67.3% (3,316) of the cases. Heterosexual contact was the second most common risk factor among males accounting for 11.7% (575), followed by cases reporting both MSM and IDU (505; 10.3%) as risk factors. Among females, heterosexual contact (487; 47.3%) was the most commonly reported risk factor, followed by IDU (210; 20.4%).

**BY GEOGRAPHY**

Approximately 75% of the living HIV/AIDS cases reside in four counties: Oklahoma (2,266; 38.1%), Tulsa (1,582; 26.6%), Cleveland (388; 6.5%), and Comanche (212; 3.6%). Oklahoma County had the highest rate of cases living with HIV/AIDS (289.4 cases per 100,000). Tulsa County had the second highest rate of cases living with HIV/AIDS cases (246.1 cases per 100,000).

The Oklahoma City MSA accounted for nearly half of the living HIV/AIDS cases (2,922; 49.1%) and had the largest rate (212.8 cases per 100,000) among the MSAs. The Tulsa MSA accounted for 31.0% (1,848) of the living cases and had the second highest rate at 187.2 cases per 100,000. The Lawton MSA accounted for 3.6% (214) of the living cases. Approximately 17% (970; 16.3%) of the living HIV/AIDS cases resided in counties outside of these MSAs in Oklahoma.

Regardless of the location of HIV/AIDS cases as set forth above, Project Sponsors of eligible activities are required to ensure access to services throughout the state.

**Eligibility:**
Experience in other HIV-AIDS service delivery programs has proven how critical well-defined, concrete guidelines for eligibility are to the success of any plan. Criteria used to determine eligibility for services vary to some degree within the service areas. Basic considerations in determining eligibility for any program services will utilize the following criteria:

- HIV/AIDS Status
- Current Housing/Living Situations
- Income Levels

HIV/AIDS Status and Current Housing Living Situation:

Five levels of priority have been established to determine eligibility based on HIV/AIDS status and current housing/living situation:

**Five Levels of Priority:**

1) Homeless individuals (AIDS & HIV+)

2) Individuals who have received an AIDS diagnosis and are seeking to get new housing (they would go to Priority 1 if they are at eminent risk of becoming homeless).

3) Individuals who have received an AIDS diagnosis and are seeking assistance where they are living (they would go to Priority 1 if they are at eminent risk of becoming homeless).

4) Individuals who have received an HIV+ diagnosis and are seeking to get new housing (they would go to Priority 1 if they are at eminent risk of becoming homeless).

5) Individuals who have received an HIV+ diagnosis and are seeking assistance where they are living (they would go to Priority 1 if they too were at eminent risk of becoming homeless).

Income Levels:

Recipients of HOPWA assistance must be low-income as defined by HUD. Households receiving HOPWA assistance must earn no more than 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) established by HUD for the county in which they reside. Out-of-pocket documented medical expenses are deducted from their gross monthly income.

The following are links to the HUD-established HOPWA Income Limits and the HUD 80% of AMI limits:

https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5332/hopwa-income-limits/

https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html#2020
Medical expenses do not include over-the-counter medications and/or supplies. Any allowable medical expenses must be documented through either paid receipt or check stub.

Mental health and case management services will use these same eligibility requirements to establish priority in service delivery to ensure those persons who are most in need receive the services that are available. Staff members providing these services will be allowed to extend services to other persons living with HIV disease as their workload permits.

The effectiveness of the established eligibility criteria will be evaluated throughout the year to ensure it continues to meet the needs of persons in need of program services. Adjustments will be made by the grant administrator if indicated.

**General Locations and Costs of Proposed Activities**

**Location:**

The purpose of this plan is to ensure the provision of resources and incentives to devise short and long-term comprehensive strategies for meeting the housing needs of low-income individuals and their families who are living with HIV disease. Given the rural nature of Oklahoma's population, these strategies must include a method of comprehensive service delivery throughout the state. ITB guidelines require successful contractors to submit plans that include service provision to Western Oklahoma, Eastern Oklahoma, or the entire state. Western and Eastern Oklahoma are defined by area code, Western being the 405 and 580-usage area and Eastern, the 918-usage area. This method of division is widely used within this state to assign service delivery responsibility. It also mirrors the current division of service responsibility assigned to the HIV CARE Consortia within the state. Oklahoma City, in the western half of the state, and Tulsa, in the eastern half of the state, will serve as "hubs" of service delivery.

**Cost:**

The State of Oklahoma has been awarded a total of **$416,750** HOPWA funds for use in **FY 2021**. Analysis of epidemiological data has been utilized to determine an equitable distribution of funds.

Western Oklahoma will be eligible to receive approximately 61% of State and City funding, which would include the funding available exclusively for the City of Oklahoma City while the City of Tulsa; and Eastern Oklahoma will be eligible to receive the remaining 39%. Funding awards are granted through a competitive bidding process whereby an ITB is developed by OHFA and distributed to potential bidders. The ability to provide specified services of sufficient quality and quantity have been evaluated and evidence has been provided demonstrating their abilities to cooperate with a network of public and private agencies providing complementary services concerning HIV disease.
**Urgent Housing Needs**

As the need for stable housing resources has become more pressing, it is evident that Oklahoma does not have adequate resources to meet these needs. HOPWA funds represent an opportunity to provide resources and incentives to devise long-term comprehensive strategies for meeting housing needs of persons with AIDS in our state. Initial responses to the AIDS epidemic focused on who, what, when, where and how of this devastating disease's evolution and its effect on individuals. Now the focus is on who, what, when, where, and how of providing a better quality of life for the same individuals. One emerging concern is how and where persons living with AIDS will find stable housing. We now know enough about this disease to recognize how critical stable living conditions are to the medical management of HIV/AIDS. Traditional resources available to homeless or marginally homeless individuals often are not a viable option for people with HIV/AIDS. For example, shelters often pose infection control problems that place persons with HIV disease at risk for other infections (e.g., tuberculosis). They also may not have safeguards on confidentiality sufficient to protect the rights of individuals living with HIV/AIDS or staff trained to deal with HIV-related problems. OHFA worked with a variety of agency representatives, community leaders, and individuals living with HIV disease to develop a comprehensive plan that would provide the most critically needed services to those least able to meet those needs without assistance.

OHFA met with representatives of the two HIV CARE consortia responsible for the continuum of care for individuals living with HIV disease within the state as well as other state agencies responsible for related care, to set priorities for program activities. Years of first-hand experience, results of the housing needs assessment, and a review of case history information, led to a decision to provide short-term rent, rental, and utility bill assistance program with a comprehensive and intensive mental health and case management component. The rental assistance and short-term rent and utility bill assistance programs were designed to meet the immediate housing needs of persons living with HIV disease and their families who are homeless or in eminent danger of becoming homeless. Individuals in immediate need (e.g., currently homeless or at risk of becoming homeless in the near future) will be eligible to utilize the short-term rental assistance program for up to 21 weeks. Case managers will work to ensure that Housing Quality Standards are met in all housing units in the event that rental assistance is needed for a longer period of time. Clients of the short-term rental assistance program will be able to access the longer-term rental assistance component. Case managers will also work to facilitate access to Section 8 Housing and other long term housing solutions when and where appropriate. Past state plans required payments for utility bills, short-term rent and/or long-term rental assistance could not exceed a cap of $4,848 per person per year. The total maximum for short term was $2,020 with the cap for long term set at $3,272. There is no longer a need to limit these resources. Additionally, even though the HOPWA Program has been successful over the past several years a housing consultant may be utilized to evaluate program efficiencies. And, although not anticipated, OHFA reserves the right to realign program funding in the event the pursuit of other eligible housing activities such as acquisition or rehab becomes a more appropriate approach to meeting the housing needs as outlined.
Other Points of Agreement:

- Need for collaborative efforts to achieve an integrated service delivery system statewide.
- Need to diminish barriers to access of care for persons with AIDS (e.g., bureaucratic red tape).
- Need for continuity of care; diminish fragmentation of service delivery.
- Need to address the reluctance of traditional health and service delivery systems to provide services to individuals living with HIV disease.

History of Assessment of Need:

The Housing Needs Assessment was utilized to assist in prioritizing program services to be offered with HOPWA funds.

The purpose of this assessment was to gather information regarding housing and supportive needs from individuals living with HIV/AIDS. The survey was conducted at the request of OHFA by the HIV/STD Service of the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH). The assessment, due to time constraints, was not scientific in its development or administration. Surveys used in other programs were used as models in the development of the survey. Specific survey questions requested information from the respondents in the following areas: employment status; financial resources; current living/housing situation; access/need for health care; supportive services utilization; and housing and support services preferences.

Community-based HIV/AIDS service delivery organizations were the primary vehicle for distribution and collection of surveys. A total of 110 surveys were returned. Surveyed results may be biased and are not necessarily representative of the needs of all persons living with HIV within our state. Despite this, the survey allowed input from at least a portion of individuals living with HIV disease.

An analysis of the survey results identified the following needs as priorities:

- Utility Bill Assistance
- Assistance with Rent and Mortgage Payments
- Advocacy/Assistance Accessing all types of supportive services
- Increased Knowledge About Services Available
- Daily Living Skills Assistance
- Options for Living Arrangements to Meet Individual Needs
Urgent housing and supportive services needed and proposed program activity to address needs are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urgent Housing Needs/Supportive Service</th>
<th>Proposed Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent Assistance</td>
<td>Short-term Rent and Utility Bill Assistance</td>
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<td>Emergency Housing</td>
<td>Project Based Assistance</td>
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<td>Utility Bill Assistance</td>
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<td>Supportive Services</td>
<td>Case Managers</td>
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<td>Easy Access to Resource; e.g., Local/State/Federal Benefits</td>
<td>Mental Health Services</td>
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<td>Crisis Intervention</td>
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<td>Alcohol and Drug Treatment</td>
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<td>Grief Counseling</td>
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<td>Mental Health Assessment</td>
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<td>Continuity of Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Variety of Housing Options to Meet the Varying Needs of Persons Living with</td>
<td>Funds for Additional Eligible Activities including, but not limited to: Acquisition,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV in our State</td>
<td>Rehabilitation, Conversion, Lease and Repair of Facilities to Provide Housing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Sponsors Selection/Process:**

Project Sponsors were selected in 2015 through an Invitation to Bid (ITB) process conducted by OHFA. Copies of the ITB are available by contacting OHFA. The ITB was used to select Project Sponsors to provide rental assistance, short-term rent and utility bill assistance and administer a supportive services program. Grant Agreements for Project Sponsors are renewable on an annual basis.

The ITB was developed based on:
- Prior experience with HIV service delivery programs within Oklahoma
- Needs assessment
- Models from housing programs in other areas of the country
- Community input

Eligibility requirements and the evaluation criteria to be used by reviewers in the selection process were outlined within the ITB. A review committee was established that consisted of representatives from agencies not eligible to apply for funds, but involved in the delivery of services to individuals living with HIV disease.

Successful applicants were required to ensure complete coverage of an entire services area (e.g., the 405 and 580 area codes and/or the 918 area code).

**Project Promotion/Accessibility:**

Methods of informing eligible persons of the housing assistance and supportive services available are integrated into the service delivery plan. Project Sponsors will be required to develop and implement effective strategies to increase awareness of, and accessibility to, services for clients.
These strategies should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- media coverage (e.g., radio, television, newspapers)
- newsletters, journals or other publications that are widely read by persons living with HIV disease and their service providers
- inclusion in resource directories
- pamphlet describing program placed at HIV-related service provider sites (e.g., Social Security Offices, Food Stamp Offices)
- presentations at coalition and committee meetings attended by HIV service community and/or individuals living with HIV
- outreach
- referrals by service provider network

Accessibility to the programs will be enhanced by mobile case managers who will be working within the community on a full-time basis. For instance, case managers could complete the application process with any potential client at the site of convenience for the client rather than at a designated office. Sponsors will utilize existing HIV service delivery infrastructure to enhance statewide accessibility to clients. State agencies such as Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), the Department of Human Services (DHS), and the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS) who have facilities serving persons with HIV disease throughout the 77 counties may be used as points of access to services.
Coordination/Collaboration:

OHFA developed the state plan for HOPWA funds through the cooperation and collaborative efforts of other state agencies including continuum of care agencies, community-based organizations, and the Oklahoma HIV Treatment and Care Consortium (OHTCC).

Specific examples of these efforts include:

- Housing Needs Assessment developed by both the OSDH and the OHTCC and distributed to HIV-related service community-based organizations throughout the state.
- Program planning and development involving the state HIV CARE Consortia; DHS; Oklahoma Department of Corrections; OSDH; Oklahoma Department of Education; Oklahoma Department of Veteran's Affairs and DMHSAS.
- Technical assistance from OSDH and Department of Central Services (now the Office of Management and Enterprise Services) in preparation of the HOPWA ITB.
- Mutual agreement by planning group that letters of commitment will be provided to ensure integrated service delivery.

Other measures to ensure future coordination and collaboration:

- Requirement that Project Sponsors utilize existing HIV service delivery infrastructure in provision of housing services.
- Evaluation methods that require input from community (e.g., patient satisfaction survey, public comment meetings).
### EXHIBIT 3: PROGRAM SUMMARY BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible Activities</th>
<th>Short Term Facilities</th>
<th>SRO Dwellings</th>
<th>Community Residences</th>
<th>Other Housing Activities</th>
<th>Non-Housing Based Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HOPWA Funds</td>
<td>Other Funds</td>
<td>HOPWA Funds</td>
<td>Other Funds</td>
<td>HOPWA Funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acquisition</td>
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<td>Rehab/Conversion</td>
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<td>Lease</td>
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<td>Repairs</td>
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<td>New Construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating Costs</td>
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<td>Technical Assistance</td>
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<td>Supportive Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associated With Housing</td>
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<td>Supportive Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not Associated With Housing</td>
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<td>Housing Information</td>
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<td>Resources Identification</td>
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<td>Rental Assistance</td>
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<td>Short Term Rent,</td>
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<td>Mortgage, &amp; Utility</td>
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<td>Payments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grantee Administrative Expenses</td>
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<td>Project Sponsor Admin. Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>167,114</td>
<td>202,874</td>
<td>369,988</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Instructions: Enter the amount of funding proposed for each eligible activity in the appropriate column. For example, if a building will be acquired to be used for a community residence, the amount of funds involved should be entered in the “Community Residences” column across from “Acquisition.” If an eligible activity is not associated with a particular type of housing, the “Non-Housing Based Activities” column should be used. Shaded boxes indicate that HOPWA funds cannot be used for those purposes.

Total HOPWA Funds (should equal formula allocation): 369,988
Total Other Funds: 327,506
Total Program Funds: 327,506
EXHIBIT 4: DESCRIPTION/EVALUATION OF SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

Supportive Services Associated With Housing:

Supportive services associated with housing will be provided by case managers assigned to work throughout the State. The main objective will be to complete a housing plan that would include both long and short term housing goals. In addition, case managers will provide the following types of client services:

- assist in the completion of application for housing services
- determine eligibility
- assist with financial planning
- secure cooperation of applicant’s landlord and utility company representatives
- provide assistance to ensure housing program resources are more easily accessible and available
- evaluate rental units for Housing Quality Standards (HQS)
- assist with transportation
- assist with referrals and provide outreach

Supportive Services Not Associated With Housing:

Supportive services not associated with housing will be provided by the case managers assigned to work throughout the State and by the mental health therapists. Services will include a broad range of mental health services, as well as case management services unrelated to housing. These services would include, but not be limited to:

- crisis intervention
- support groups
- individual, couple and family counseling
- referrals to appropriate mental health resources including drug and alcohol treatment
- referrals for other supportive living resources
- transportation
- major health crisis intervention
- food, dietary, and nutrition services

Evaluation and Monitoring of Program Services Will Consist of:

- monthly reports of demographic characteristics of clients and types of services rendered
- service provider satisfaction surveys
- client satisfaction surveys
- programmatic review performed by outside technical assistance