

Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated 2024 Action Plan For the ESG RUSH Funds

The Oklahoma Department of Commerce has submitted changes to their State Emergency Solutions Grant 2024 Action Plan. The following responses explain the changes to the methodology of distribution and criteria used to award the supplemental ESG RUSH funds.

Introduction

As authorized by 42 U.S.C. 11364a(c)(l), HUD has determined to make a special allocation of Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) funding to the State of Oklahoma. This funding, declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) on or after December 20, 2019, will address the needs of homeless individuals or families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in areas affected by a major disaster and whose needs are not otherwise served or fully met by existing Federal disaster relief programs. This allocation of "Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing" (RUSH) funding under the ESG Program is in response to the President's major disaster declaration dated April 30, 2024, DR-4776-OK, for severe storms, straight-line winds, tornadoes, and flooding. Specifically, HUD is making an initial allocation of \$205,382 in RUSH funding available to the State of Oklahoma. Eligible counties for RUSH funding include Craig, Lincoln, McClain, Nowata, Ottawa, and Pottawatomie.

AP-12 Participation 91.115, 91.300 (c)

Public Notice Process

Once the Substantial Amendment documents are compiled, a public notice will be released in emails to the Continuum of Care networks, Service Providers and through GovDelivery listserv. ODOC will place the Substantial Amendment on the Department of Commerce website okcommerce.gov.

AP 15 – Expected Resources 91.320 (c) (1,2)

Narrative Description

It is anticipated that 100% of the ESG RUSH Funding will be used for eligible services such as administration, shelter, services, housing, and prevention. Funds will be used for approved services to address the needs of individuals or families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness within the President's major disaster declaration area DR-4776-OK, dated April 30, 2024. No Match is required for the ESG RUSH Funding.

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied.

No Match is required for the ESG RUSH Funding.

AP 30 – Method of Distribution 91.320 (d) & (k)

Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.

Funds will be allocated by ODOC to each county designated eligible for FEMA Individual Assistance when a major disaster is declared under DR-4776-OK, based on FEMA-IA calculations. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce (ODOC) will accept applications exclusively from current Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) sub-recipients that serve the declared disaster areas in the following counties: Craig, Lincoln, McClain, Nowata, Ottawa, and Pottawatomie. These applications will be assessed for compliance with all ESG and Continuum of Care (CoC) threshold criteria. Following this review, ODOC will enter into contractual agreements with each sub-recipient to ensure adherence to the financial and programmatic requirements as mandated by law.

Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.

Applications will only be selected from current ODOC ESG sub-recipients that can serve the DR-4776-OK FEMA Individual Assistance counties. Using current ESG subrecipients will allow for the most rapid and effective deployment of RUSH funds.

Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)

ESG RUSH funds will be available to current ESG sub-recipients in the DR-4776-OK FEMA Individual Assistance counties, which includes non-profit and community and faith-based organizations.

Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.

Each ESG RUSH sub-recipient will be allowed 3.75% of their allocation for admin (ODOC will use the other 3.75%), must spend at least 40% of their allocation in housing, and will also be required to provide shelter.

Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.

ESG RUSH sub-recipients are required to meet all ESG threshold factors, which are outlined in the State Action Plan. The allocation of RUSH funds to the six counties (Craig, Lincoln, McClain, Nowata, Ottawa, and Pottawatomie) is based on the proportion of FEMA-IA disbursements each county received. Maximum grant amounts will be limited to the percentage calculation based on the FEMA-IA disbursement, ensuring no eligible area receives more than its proportional share of the \$205,382 in funding.

What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?

The same outcome measures for the regular Emergency Solutions Grant Program will be used for the ESG RUSH program. A list of the outcome measures can be found in the detailed State Action Plan.