



2020 ESG-CV FAQs

June 18, 2020

	QUESTION	ANSWER
1.	Are there guidelines for how each CoC distributes the funds among its members?	HUD has strongly recommended recipients focus on rapid re-housing and non-congregate emergency shelter for the populations most at risk for exposure to or contraction of COVID-19. HCD has provided additional suggested uses for the funding based on HUD's recommendations (see further detail in the ESG-CV NOFA issued June 1, 2020 and NOFA webinar & slides available on the HCD ESG website).
2.	Will separate resolutions be needed for each round of ESG funds? Example: 2020 ESG, Round 1 of ESG-CV and Round 2 of ESG-CV.	Likely, yes. It will depend on how the second round of ESG-CV funding is allocated and issued. HCD is still determining how this will be allocated. We would highly recommend to include an amount 2-3 times greater than your current ESG-CV allocation in your resolutions if possible to allow for flexibility.
3.	What is the timeline to spend the ESG-CV funds for Round 1?	All ESG-CV funds must be expended by August 31, 2022 and agreements will expire on September 30, 2022.
4.	How soon after the awards are announced can the Continuum of Care (CoC) or Administrative Entity (AE) expect a Standard Agreement?	Awards are rolling and will be announced as soon as the application and fully executed resolution is approved (1-2 weeks after submission). Standard Agreements will follow within a few weeks after the award.
5.	Will the AE be able to submit an application without having selected agencies who will be awarded the funds?	Yes. HCD will be contracting directly with the AE or CoC and not the selected providers. The AE or CoC can select their providers at a later date, but we encourage this to be done as soon as possible in order to get the funding out to communities as soon as possible.
6.	Is there still a 10% cap for Homelessness Prevention (HP) and is there any guidance on how to use HP funds?	No, the ESG-CV NOFA has no cap on HP. Guidance can be found the Homeless System Response regarding ESG-CV HP programs.



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7.	Is there any formal process for designating an Administrative Entity?	No, but you must complete the form within the eCivis application naming the AE (if an AE has not already been named and approved).
8.	Do these ESG-CV funds have minimums for Rapid Re-housing? Is there a maximum for Emergency Shelter and/or Outreach?	No, there are no minimum and no maximums on eligible activities except Admin. Admin is limited to the amounts listed in the NOFA, Appendix A.
9.	Can we hold our local selection process (NOFA) after submitting the application to HCD?	Yes, this is allowed.
10.	If we are giving rental assistance because of job loss due to COVID-19, can we use ESG-CV funding?	Yes, this is an allowable cost and highly encouraged. The CARES Act increases eligible participants up to 50% AMI from 30% AMI for regular issuances of ESG.
11.	Can we use the results of a previously issued NOFA/RFP to select providers, so long as the NOFA/RFP was for the same uses and activities as ESG-CV?	Yes, this is allowed.
12.	Will we need to document Rapid Re-housing connection to COVID-19?	Yes, you will need to document all expenses for the ESG-CV funding and demonstrate a direct connection to COVID-19 response and recovery.
13.	What happens if we are unable to expend all funds?	Funds not spent by the September 30, 2022 deadline will be disencumbered. Please reach out for technical assistance as early as possible if you are having trouble spending the full award.
14.	Can funds be used to pay for staff to do the data monitoring, evaluation, quality monitoring, etc.?	Yes, this is an allowable cost.
15.	Can you please elaborate on what shifting of costs between awards is?	You cannot take costs incurred from a prior date (pre-ESG-CV) and use these CV funds to pay those costs. All costs must be tied back to COVID-19 impacts.
16.	Is traveling to/from COVID-19 testing sites considered medical care and an eligible expense?	Yes, this is an allowable cost.
17.	Can these dollars be used to fund case management that is matched to rental assistance dollars/vouchers used to serve eligible populations?	Yes, this is an allowable cost.



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18.	Can you clarify allowable HMIS costs?	Please refer to 24 CFR 576.107. Allowable costs include: Hardware, Equipment, and Software Costs, Staffing Costs, and Training and Overhead Costs.
19.	Can reimburse funds spent between March and current?	Funds may be used to cover or reimburse allowable costs to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, including for costs incurred prior to the date of enactment of the CARES Act.
20.	Can ESG-CV be used for new construction if current shelter facilities do not allow for social distancing?	New construction is not allowed under the federal regulations. Per the ESG Regulations (24 CFR 576.102 & 403), these funds can be used for conversion, major rehabilitation, or other renovation.
21.	The NOFA states we must follow the procurement requirements. Please explain this in more detail.	Pursuant to the CARES Act, if the funding is used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance, a grantee may “deviate” from the standard procurement requirements. HCD recommends to either utilize your prior 2019 or 2020 procurement processes for the ESG-CV funding or to develop an alternate, expedient, fair method of provider selection. New, alternate methods of provider selection can be submitted to HCD for review and approval prior to application submission. HCD is requesting further clarification and guidance from HUD on this topic.
22.	Can you direct me to the HUD waivers?	HUD waiver released on 3/31/2020 , pages 8-10. HUD waiver released on 5/22/2020 , pages 2-3. Both waivers are now applicable to the ESG-CV funding.
23.	Can you discuss in more detail the duplication of benefits?	Applicants will need to track and ensure that end beneficiaries/clients are not receiving duplicative services. Accurate and timely reporting in HMIS will be important for tracking and monitoring purposes. There may be additional Duplication of Benefit implication and tracking required - HUD will be releasing



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		more information on this topic in the near future.
24.	Where can the eligible costs chart be found?	Eligible ESG Program Cost Chart.
25.	Can you develop guidance that specifically describes the criteria that a person must meet in order to be eligible to be served by these funds?	Per the CARES Act, the ESG-CV funding is intended to be used broadly to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts created by coronavirus. Some examples are as follows: 1) Support with back rent and rental assistance due to income loss during COVID 2) Support with past due utilities due to income loss during COVID 3) Transportation support with getting to/from doctors appointments, housing related appointments. 4) ID replacements/renewals for time that DMV was closed during COVID
26.	Can funds be used for capital projects?	Please refer to the ESG Regulations (24 CFR 576.102 & 403), regarding the use of funds for conversion, major rehabilitation, or other renovation. If you are planning to use these funds for major rehabilitation or renovation in excess of \$2,000, you must indicate so in the ESG-CV application and provide requested documentation to support the projected expenditures for these types of projects. Additional NEPA environmental requirements and federal procurement standards will apply for these types of major projects.
27.	Is it true that ESG-CV could be used as 25% match for FEMA claim?	HUD and FEMA are working to develop guidance addressing the use of ESG and ESG-CV funds as match or cost sharing for FEMA reimbursement purposes. Please stay tuned for guidance and ensure you have access to up-to-date information from HUD via the ESG listserv [hudexchange.info] .



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28.	What are some other examples of ways to use the ESG-CV funding?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leasing costs for hotels/motels• Partnering with an agency who can purchase a hotel/motel/property and use ESG-CV to renovate and rehabilitate the property
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