

At-Risk of Homelessness Definition Categories

Category	Definition	Required Documentation	ESG Eligibility
Category 1 – Individuals and Families At Risk	An individual or family who: Has an annual income below 30% of median family income for the area; <u>AND</u> Does not have sufficient resources or support networks immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place defined in Category 1 of the “homeless” definition; <u>AND</u> Meets <u>one</u> of the following conditions: Has moved because of economic reasons two (2) or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for assistance; OR Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship; OR Has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the dates of application for assistance; OR Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost is not paid for by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals; OR Lives in an SRO or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than 2 persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than one and a half persons per room; OR Is exiting a publicly funded institution or system of care; OR Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness	1. Income documentation 2. Self-certification, supported by other documentation when practical such as termination notice, unemployment compensation statement, bank statement, health care/utility bill showing arrears 3. Documenting one of the 7 conditions includes a. Self-certification AND b. Supporting documentation, as appropriate i. Third-Party – Source, Written, or Oral ii. Intake Observation OR iii. Documentation of Due Diligence	HP

At-Risk of Homelessness Definition Categories (Continued)

Category 2 – Unaccompanied Children and Youth Under Other Federal Statutes	A child or youth who do not qualify as homeless under the homeless definition, 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))	Income documentation <u>AND</u> Certification by the nonprofit or state or local government that the individual or head of household seeking assistance met the criteria of homelessness under another federal statute	HP²⁴
Category 3 – Homeless Children and Youth under §725(2) of McKinney- Vento	A child or youth who do not qualify as homeless under the homeless definition, 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.	1. Income Documentation <u>AND</u> 2. Certification by the nonprofit or state or local government that the individual or head of household seeking assistance met the criteria of homelessness under §725(2) of McKinney-Vento	HP

²⁴ ²³ Households that meet the definition of Category 2 or Category 3 are eligible for ESG Homelessness Prevention assistance if they have an annual income below 30 percent of family median income for the area

HUD Homeless Definition Categories and Documentation Requirements

Category	Definition	Required Documentation	ESG Eligibility
Category 1 – Literally Homeless	An individual or family who: Has 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; OR Is living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals); OR Is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution	Written observation by the outreach worker; OR Written referral by another housing or service provider; OR Certification by the individual or head of household seeking assistance stating that (s)he was living on the streets or in shelter; For individuals exiting an institution – one of the forms of evidence above; AND: Discharge paperwork or written/oral referral, OR Written record of intake worker's due diligence to obtain above evidence and certification by	SO²⁵ ES Rapid Re-Housing

²⁵ Only households who meet (1)(i) of the homeless definition are eligible for street outreach services.

Category 2 – Imminent Risk of Homelessness	Individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that: Residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance; <u>AND</u> No subsequent residence has been identified; <u>AND</u> The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing	A court order resulting from an eviction action that requires the individual or family to leave their residence within 14 days after the date of their application for homeless assistance; or the equivalent notice under applicable state law, a Notice to Quit, or a Notice to Terminate issued under state law; <u>OR</u> An oral statement by the individual or head of household that the owner or renter of the housing in which they currently reside will not allow them to stay for more than 14 days after the date of application for homeless assistance; <u>AND</u> Certification that no subsequent residence has been identified; <u>AND</u> Self-certification or other written documentation that the household lacks the financial resources and support necessary to obtain permanent housing For households leaving a hotel or motel: Evidence that they lack the financial resources to stay; <u>OR</u> A documented and verified oral statement; <u>AND</u> Certification that no subsequent residence has been identified; <u>AND</u> Self-certification or other written documentation that the household lacks the financial resources and support necessary to obtain permanent housing	HP²⁶ ES
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²⁶ Households that meet the definition of Category 2 are eligible for ESG Homelessness Prevention assistance if they have an annual income below 30 percent of family median income for the area

Category 4 – Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence	Any individual or family who: 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, including a child, 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; AND Has no other residence; AND Lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing.	For victim service providers: An oral statement by the individual or head of household seeking assistance which states: they are fleeing; they have no subsequent residence; and they lack resources. Statement must be documented by a self-certification or a certification by the intake worker For non-victim service providers: Oral statement by the individual or head of household seeking assistance that they are fleeing. This statement is documented by a self-certification or by the caseworker. Where safety is not jeopardized, the oral statement must be verified; AND Certification by the individual or head of household that no subsequent residence has been identified; AND Self-certification, or other written documentation, that the household lacks the financial resources and support to obtain other permanent housing.	HP²⁷ ES RRH²⁸ SO²⁹
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²⁷ Households that meet the definition of Category 4 are eligible for ESG Homelessness Prevention assistance if they have an annual income below 30 percent of family median income for the area and **are not** living in a place described in Category 1 of the homeless definition

²⁸ Households that meet the definition of Category 4 are eligible for ESG Rapid Re-Housing assistance only if they **are** living in a place described in Category 1 of the homeless definition

²⁹ Only if the participant also meets another eligible category of homelessness.

Overview of Eligible ESG Eligible Activities and Costs

Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) funds can be used to provide a wide range of services and supports under the five program components: SO, ES, RRH, HP, and HMIS.

Note: Administration is a not a component, it is considered an activity.* Always refer to the program regulations at 24 CFR Part 576 for complete information about all eligible costs and program requirements.

Component	Eligible Activities	Eligible Costs	
SO	Essential Services	- Engagement - Case Management - Emergency Health Services	- Emergency Mental Health Services - Transportation - Services for Special Populations
ES	Essential Services	- Case Management - Child Care - Education Services - Employment Assistance and Job Training - Legal Services - Life Skills Training	- Outpatient Health Services - Mental Health Services - Substance Abuse Treatment Services - Transportation - Services for Special Populations
	Shelter Operations	Maintenance Rent Security Fuel Equipment Insurance	Utilities Food Furnishings Supplies necessary for shelter operation Hotel/Motel Vouchers
	Assistance Required Under the Uniform Relocation and Real Property Acquisition Act of 1970 (URA)	Relocation Payments Other assistance to displaced persons	

Component	Eligible Activities	Eligible Costs
HP AND RRH	Rental Assistance	• Short-term rental assistance • Medium-term rental assistance • Rental arrears
	Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services – Financial Assistance	• Rental application fees • Security deposits • Last month's rent • Utility deposits • Utility payments • Moving costs
	Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services – Services Costs	• Housing search and placement • Housing stability case management • Mediation • Legal services • Credit repair
HMIS	HMIS	• Contributing data to the HMIS designated by the CoC for the area • HMIS Lead (as designated by the CoC) costs for managing the HMIS system • Victim services or legal services provider costs to establish and operate a comparable database
	Administrative Activities	Eligible costs are broadly categorized as follows: - General management, oversight, and coordination - Training on ESG requirements - Consolidated Plan - Environmental review

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Comparison

HP Services are intended to prevent persons who are housed from becoming homeless by helping them regain stability in their current housing or other permanent housing. Eligible participants must be at imminent risk of homelessness, homeless under other federal statutes, fleeing/attempting to flee domestic violence or meet the criteria for being at-risk of homelessness and have annual incomes at or below 30% of area median income.

Rapid Re-Housing Services are intended to help eligible participants who are literally homeless, including people who are literally homeless and fleeing/attempting to flee domestic violence, to transition from the streets or shelter as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve housing stability.

Eligible participants for either service component must lack the resources or support networks to help them retain or obtain other appropriate, stable housing. The chart below shows the differences between HP and RRH service components.

	HP	RRH
Eligible Participants	At-Risk of Homelessness OR Category 2 – Imminent Risk Category 4 – Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence	Category 1 – Literally Homeless OR Category 4 – Fleeing/Attempting to flee Domestic Violence <u>and</u> residing in an emergency shelter or other literal homeless situation³⁰
Purpose	- To <u>prevent</u> persons who are housed from becoming homeless; - To help such persons regain <u>stability</u> in their current housing or other permanent housing.	- To help homeless persons living on the streets or in an emergency shelter <u>transition</u> as quickly as possible into permanent housing; and - To help such persons <u>achieve stability</u> in that housing.
Initial Evaluation	- Initial evaluations required for all households seeking assistance. - Must have income <u>below 30% AMI</u>; AND - Lack resources and support network to retain housing.	Initial evaluations required for all households seeking assistance.

³⁰ 576.104: 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.

	HP	RRH
Re-evaluation	Every 3 months; Must have income <u>at or below 30% AMI</u>; AND Lack resources and support network to retain housing.	• Re-evaluation of eligibility required at least annually; • Must have income <u>at or below 30% AMI</u>; AND • Lack resources and support network to retain housing.
Eligible Activities	Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services and Financial Assistance	Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services and Financial Assistance
	Short- and Medium-Term Rental Assistance	Short- and Medium-Term Rental Assistance