

POLICY & PROCEDURES IMPLEMENTATION MANUAL

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM



MISSISSIPPI HOME CORPORATION
735 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39201

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INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

On May 20, 2009, the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH) was enacted into law. The HEARTH Act consolidates three of the separate homeless assistance programs administered by HUD under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act into a single grant program and revises the Emergency Shelter Grants program and renames it the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program.

The change in the programs' name from Emergency Shelter Grants to Emergency Solutions Grants reflects the change in the programs' focus from addressing the needs of homeless people in emergency or transitional shelters to assisting people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness. There are two (2) major additions to the program: the Homelessness Prevention component and the Rapid Re-Housing program component. The homelessness prevention component includes various housing relocation and stabilization services with short-term rental assistance to help people avoid becoming homeless. Medium-term rental assistance may be provided for up to 24 months. The rapid re-housing assistance component includes similar services to help people who are homeless move quickly into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.

A third component of the ESG program includes the provision of street outreach. Street Outreach allows for ESG funds to be used for essential services including the utilization of case management activities and other services.

In accordance with 24 CFR 576.400(e)(ii) Written standards must developed by subrecipients. This manual will help guide standards required by subrecipients. Standards must include requirements listed in 24 CFR 576.400 (e)(ii) and follow requirements of all related federal regulations and this manual.

CARES Act

The Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) declared a public health emergency on January 31, 2020, under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d), in response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). On March 27, 2020, President Trump signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) in response to the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding from the CARES Act included direct appropriations to support federal departments and agencies and appropriations to disperse through grants, loans, and other mechanisms to combat the outbreak and support the economy during this turbulent time.

As the State's Housing Finance Agency, the Mississippi Home Corporation (MHC) is responsible for administering an \$18,594,331 allocation of Emergency Solutions Grant-Coronavirus (ESG-CV) program funds appropriated under the CARES Act.

RAMP ESG-CV

Utilizing CARES Act funding, MHC established the Rental Assistance for Mississippians Program (RAMP) to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. Specifically, RAMP provides rental assistance for individuals and families impacted by the coronavirus.

OVERVIEW

Purpose

This Policy and Procedures Implementation Manual applies to the implementation of the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program as authorized by subtitle B of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11371-11378). Mississippi Home Corporation allocates grants to non-profit organizations for reimbursement of eligible expenses related to operating shelters, for street outreach, homelessness prevention and rapid-rehousing assistance. This Policy and Procedures Implementation Manual can be used to provide guidance and recommendations for subrecipients when developing their agency's ESG Policy. However, agencies' program performance is monitored according to that agency's program policy as long as it is in accordance with 24CFR576.

The manual outlines the Federal and State requirements of the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program and incorporates the requirements of the Emergency Solutions Grant-COVID (ESG-CV) funding under the Rental Assistance for Mississippians Program (RAMP) established to prepare for, prevent the spread of and respond to the coronavirus. This manual is the primary resource for implementing projects, but it is not the only resource needed to successfully administer such projects. This manual is a living document and therefore, will include updates as necessary to reflect changes in MHC's policies and procedures as well as new HUD regulations, notices, and other guidance. This manual follows federal guidance provided by 24 CFR Part 576 and waivers implemented through CARES.

Program Administration

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awards ESG grants to the State of Mississippi through the Mississippi Home Corporation (MHC). MHC administers these funds for the State and delegates the implementation to subrecipients; however, as the HUD grantee (or "recipient"), MHC is responsible for ensuring that subrecipients carry out activities in compliance with all applicable requirements. Subrecipients are responsible for making sure that compliance with program requirements occurs at all applicable levels. ESG grant applications can be submitted for one to two-year grant cycle. First time ESG applicants are encouraged to apply for a one-year grant application. Two-year grant application is not allowable for the MHC's ESG-CV2 grant.

Controlling Statutes, Regulations and Authority

Agencies must comply with applicable laws and guidance including the requirements of:

- The Health Act of 2009;
- The ESG Interim Rule found at [24 CFR Part 576](#);
- OMB Uniform Guidance;
- The requirements of this Policy and Procedures Implementation Manual
- The terms and conditions of the sub-grant agreement; and
- Any subsequent HUD Regulations, Notices, and Guidance.

In addition to the above, the ESG-CV funds are administered by MHC under the provisions of:

- The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ([CARES Act](#)), Public Law 116-136, signed by President Trump on March 27, 2020.

Objectives

The objectives of the programs are to assist sub-recipients in accomplishing the following:

1. Providing financial assistance to homeless persons and/or those at risk of homelessness;
2. Meeting the needs of special groups within the homeless population;
3. Providing essential services; and
4. Shelter Operation and Maintenance.
5. Reducing the length of time spent in homelessness, preventing the experience of homelessness, and decreasing returns to homelessness.

The Emergency Solutions Grants, including the ESG-CV grant, continues to prioritize programs' focus from addressing the needs of homeless people in emergency shelters to assisting people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness. MHC's overall goal for ESG programs is to work with community agencies in ending and preventing the experience of homelessness in Mississippi.

National Strategic Goals/ Priorities/ Objectives

HOME together is focused on federal strategies that will support states and communities to make homelessness a rare, brief, and one-time experience—and that will sustain that success once achieved. That focus is reflected in its structure.

Ensure Homelessness is a Rare Experience

Objective 1.1: Collaboratively build lasting systems that end homelessness

- Build momentum behind a common vision
- Understand the size and scope of the problem
- Reduce fragmentation
- Drive cost-effective solutions

Objective 1.2: Increase capacity and strengthen practices to prevent housing crises and homelessness

- Reduces the prevalence of risk of housing crises
- Reduce the risk of homelessness while households are engaged with or transitioning from systems
- Target assistance to prevent housing crises

Ensure Homelessness is a Brief Experience	Objective 2.1:	Identify and engage all people experiencing homelessness as quickly as possible <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify every individual and family • Coordinate comprehensive strategies • Use HMIS and other data sources to build maintain active lists of people experiencing homelessness
	Objective 2.2:	Provide immediate access to low-barrier emergency shelter or other temporary accommodations to all who need it <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide access to low-barrier emergency shelter • Provide access to service-enriched, long-term temporary accommodations when needed and appropriate
	Objective 2.3:	Implement coordinated entry to standardize assessment and prioritization processes and streamline connections to housing and services
	Objective 2.4:	Assist people to move swiftly into permanent housing with appropriate and person-centered services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand access to new and existing affordable housing for people experiencing homelessness • Connect people to rapid re-housing • Connect people with the most intense needs to permanent supportive housing • Link people experiencing unsheltered homelessness to housing services
Ensure Homelessness is a One-Time Experience	Objective 3.1:	Prevent Returns to Homelessness through Connections to Adequate Services and Opportunities
Sustain an End to Homelessness	Objective 4.1:	Sustain Practices and Systems at a Scale Necessary to Respond to Future Needs

MHC Goals

MHC collaborates with Continuum of Care (CoC) agencies and develops strategic goals guiding the use of ESG funds. The goals and priorities are:

1. Achieve the federal goals stated in *Opening Doors: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness* and accomplish ambitious goals related to the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Olmstead vs L.C.*:
 - a. End and sustain an end to homelessness among veterans (funding sources have been defined by VA and SSVF but needs in this population may be addressed using HOME, CoC, and ESG, though could be eligible)
 - b. End and sustain an end to chronic homelessness (the partnerships between ESG, HOME, National Housing Trust Fund, CoC and CHOICE could help achieve this goal while also accomplishing *Olmstead* goals as the populations often overlap homeless persons living with mental illness)
 - c. End and sustain an end to homelessness among families and youth (CoC resources,

- HOME TBRA, HOME units, National Housing Trust Fund, ESG shelter operations for domestic violence shelters, shelters for women and children, runaway and homeless youth programs, and children's shelters willing to address trafficking, ESG rapid re-housing and prevention coupled with appropriate services)
- d. End homelessness among unaccompanied youth.
 - e. End homelessness among all other individuals including developing systems to prevent homelessness among high-risk populations.
2. Create standards within the CoCs to ensure that ESG and CoC programs align with the goals, utilize evidence-based practices, and promote coordination. Outcomes expectations will be defined and measured by HMIS reports and site visits. The CoCs will work together to create statewide CoC expectations and standards.
 3. In awarding ESG funding to applicants, MHC will consider measurable outcomes proposed, service delivery standards and models used, and clearly stated actions by a grantee to meaningfully collaborate with the CoC and other service organizations in local communities whether funded by ESG or other sources. Sub- recipients are required to participate in local Coordinated Entry, HMIS, or compatible database (Domestic Shelters only) PIT, and CoC committee work. MHC will also consider agencies impact on homelessness including serving those most in need (chronically homeless and the disabled population), the provision of case management to include the development of an individualized housing stability plan and returns to homelessness.
 4. The CoCs' HMIS systems will continue to coordinate efforts and provide data to the community, HUD, and MHC. The HMIS data over time coupled with the PIT counts will inform the goals and strategies to achieve those goals at a local level. Funding will align with data-driven goals.
 5. MHC, CoCs and ESG funded agencies will coordinate with the Department of Mental Health and Community Mental Health Centers regarding Assertive Community Treatment Teams (ACT Teams) and other community-based services with newly created housing options.
 6. Create a system to ensure that all homelessness is rare, brief, and non-reoccurring Prevent homelessness among individuals released from institutional settings (ESG outreach services and homeless prevention services coupled with CoC resources, CHOICE, and reentry programs can prevent this high-risk population from entering into homelessness upon discharge from institutionalization)

RAMP ESG-CV

To prevent, prepare for and respond to the spread of the coronavirus for people experiencing homelessness, Congress appropriated \$4 billion for the Emergency Solutions Grant program via the CARES Act (ESG-CV). This is an enormous investment (approximately 17 times the usual annual ESG appropriation) that has the potential to help countless people exit homelessness and stay safer and

healthier during the pandemic. The Rental Assistance for Mississippians Program (RAMP) was developed from this appropriation to prepare, prevent, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic by providing activities to reduce homelessness and to serve those individuals and families that have been adversely affected by COVID-19.

Program Staff

The staff involved in ESG and ESG-CV/RAMP program management may be contacted for assistance at the following:

ESG & ESG-CV/RAMP	Tamara Stewart- Assistant Vice President of Grant Management tamara.stewart@mshc.com 601-718-4654
ESG	Faye McCall - Federal Grant Program Coordinator faye.mccall@mshc.com (601) 718-4668

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PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Annual ESG

The ESG/ESG-CV program is designed to assist people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness. Sub-recipients are required to carry out projects in accordance with the regulations for the Emergency Solutions Grants Program, McKinney-Vento/HEARTH Act, Title IV (42 U.S.C. 11371) and [24 CFR 576](#). Projects funded with ESG/ESG-CV must be low barrier with a housing first orientation. Per HUD guidance, individuals and families assisted with these funds must not be required to receive treatment or perform any other prerequisite activities as a condition for receiving shelter, housing, or other services for which these funds are used. Programs may also not use health status to discriminate or restrict access to programs.

The ESG/ESG-CV programs provide funding to: (1) engage homeless individuals and families living on the street; (2) improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families; (3) help operate these shelters; (4) provide essential services to shelter residents, (5) rapidly rehouse homeless individuals and families, and (6) prevent families/individuals from becoming homeless.

ESG/ESG-CV funds may be used for five program components: street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing assistance, and HMIS; as well as administrative activities. Administrative activities are not an eligible charge for subrecipients. Subrecipients can charge staff and overhead costs directly to ESG/ESG-CV activities 24 CFR 576.108(a).

All ESG/ES-CV subrecipients are required to have internal program policies that are in line with this manual and CFR 576 standards. ESG-CV may be subject to special waivers.

RAMP ESG-CV

The program requirements for ESG-CV under RAMP are the same as the requirements for the annual ESG, with the exception that the ESG-CV funds must be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. The following definitions are used:

- *Prevent...coronavirus* means an activity designed to prevent the initial or further spread of the virus to people experiencing homelessness, people at risk of homelessness, recipient or subrecipient staff, or other shelter or housing residents.
- *Prepare for...coronavirus* means an activity carried out by a recipient or subrecipient prior to or

during a coronavirus outbreak in their jurisdiction to plan to keep people healthy and reduce the risk of exposure to coronavirus and avoid or slow the spread of disease. This includes updating standards to prioritize people at severe risk of contracting coronavirus consistent with fair housing and nondiscrimination requirements, updating Coordinated Entry policies, and recruiting landlords.

- *Respond to...coronavirus* means an activity carried out once coronavirus has spread to people experiencing homelessness, provider staff, or once individuals and families lose or are at-risk of losing their housing as a result of the economic downturn caused by the coronavirus.

All ESG-CV subrecipients must update their Written Standards to clarify how resources will be used in response to the coronavirus.

Exceptions to 24 CFR 576 are detailed in HUD Notice [CPD-20-08](#) and summarized under [CARES Act Waivers](#). ESG-CV appropriate waivers are listed in this manual.

Eligible Activities

ESG Eligible Activities

The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program is designed to end and prevent homelessness. Towards that end, it has four main components under which services and activities are provided to program participants: *Street Outreach*, *Emergency Shelter*, *Homelessness Prevention*, and *Rapid Re-housing*. Two other components, *Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)* and *Administration*, facilitate data collection and program management. Each component of ESG contains specific activities that may be paid for using ESG funds provided that certain requirements are met.

Component	Serving	
	Those who are Homeless	Those who are At-Risk of Homelessness
Street Outreach	✓	
Emergency Shelter	✓	
Homelessness Prevention		✓
Rapid Re-housing	✓	

For every component MHC requires sub-recipients to serve each participant and/or potential participant with the “total needs support”. This emphasizes case management as essential to assessing housing and service needs, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of program participants.

Services/Activities Components

24 CFR 576 – Subpart B details the allowable activities that may be funded with ESG. A summary of these components and the activities associated are as follow:

1. Street Outreach Component ([24 CFR 576.101](#))

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. Essential services are targeted towards unsheltered homeless individuals. Essential services includes case management, engagement, transportation, emergency health services, and transportation.

Case management is essential to assessing housing and service needs, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of program participants.

Additional eligible cost under ESG street outreach component include:

- Engagement which includes assessment, providing crisis counseling, addressing urgent physical needs (providing meals, blankets, clothes, or toiletries).
- Case management which includes the cost of assessing housing and service needs, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of the participant. Identification cards are an allowable expense under Street Outreach case management as long as it is needed to access shelter and other emergency services.
- Cost of program participant's travel on public transportation
- Emergency health services (physical health and mental health). Eligible cost is for direct outpatient treatment provided by licensed medical professionals operating in community-based settings. 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.

ESG-CV can provide all eligible activities under ESG Street Outreach Component in addition to CARES specific activities. Activities available under ESG-CV Street Outreach include:

- Training
- Hazard Pay
- Handwash Stations and Portable Bathroom
- Volunteer Incentives

Street Outreach activities funded with ESG and ESG-CV must be consistent with CDC guidance related to [street outreach](#) and engaging people at [increased risk](#) of severe illness when contracting coronavirus, as well as established best practices. Subrecipients should update their Written Standards to state whether their local standards/activities for providing street outreach have been updated or modified to prevent, prepare, or respond to the coronavirus. Changes to standards, activities include:

- Distribution of masks, hand sanitizer, or other PPE to households experiencing

- unsheltered homelessness;
- Outfitting staff with PPE
- Provision of handwashing stations and portable bathrooms
- Coordinating medical care, hazard pay for staff, and providing reasonable incentives to volunteers (e.g. cash or gift cards)
- Maintaining social distancing requirements during engagement

2. **Emergency Shelter Component** ([24 CFR 576.102](#))

Emergency shelter operations and services funded under this component provide access to emergency shelters and improve shelter quality. ESG funds may be used to provide essential services to homeless individuals and households in emergency shelters and fund shelter operations. All items purchased must be for the operation of the shelter.

For regular ESG, Emergency Shelter + Street Outreach cannot exceed 60% of the total ESG annual award. **Emergency Shelter Component activities used with ESG-CV funds are waived from caps.** Emergency shelter activities funded with ESG and ESG-CV must align with recommended guidance to effectively manage infectious disease within the shelter during coronavirus.

Eligible essential services cost under ESG shelter component include:

- Hotel or motel vouchers for families or individuals who are unable to access shelter.
- Cost of program participant's travel on public transportation
- Life skills training which includes but not limited to budgeting resources and managing money (which may include payee services).
- Mental health services for outpatient treatment by licensed professionals of mental health conditions. 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.
- Substance abuse treatment services designed to prevent, reduce, eliminate, or deter relapse to substance abuse or addictive behavior and are provided by licensed or certified professionals. 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.
 - Treatment cost consists of outpatient treatment for up to 30 days. Group and individual counseling are eligible cost; inpatient detoxification and other inpatient drug or alcohol treatment are NOT eligible costs.
- Outpatient health services may be provided through ESG only to the extent that other appropriate health services are unavailable within the community.
- Educational services are an eligible cost when necessary, for the program participant to obtain and maintain housing. Educational services include General Educational Development (GED) programs, and English as a Second Language program.
 - The State of Mississippi has many free GED classes, but limited resources that pay for GED testing. The Corporation recommends that subrecipients are interested in using the education resources to identify and partner

with existing GED programs in the community.

- Employment Assistance and Job Training programs are eligible including services that assist individuals in securing employment, acquiring learning skills, and/or increasing earning potential. Learning skills include those skills that can be used to secure and retain a job, including the acquisition of vocational licenses and/or certification.

Essential services are targeted and prioritized for individuals who are homeless (except for when the ESG-CV essential service waiver is applied) and are in need of essential services to secure housing. Agencies are encouraged to use essential services to help eligible individuals obtain self-sustainability.

If no appropriate emergency shelter is available, grantees may use ESG or ESG-CV funds to provide unsheltered homeless individuals with hotel/motel vouchers. Hotel/motel vouchers may be provided if shelter beds are unavailable, but it is not safe for them to use because of the need for social distancing.

Hotel or motel vouchers may be paid for a homeless family or individual when no appropriate shelter is available. Hotel or motel stays should be limited to no more than one week. If participants require longer than a 7 day stay, sub-recipients must get approval from MHC staff.

ESG eligible cost include:

- A hotel or motel voucher

ESG-CV eligible costs include:

- A hotel or motel room directly or through a hotel or motel voucher
- Cleaning of hotel or motel rooms used by program participants.
- Repairs for damage caused by program participants above normal wear and tear of the room.

ESG-CV can provide all eligible activities under ESG Emergency Shelter Component in addition to CARES specific activities. Activities available under the ESG-CV Emergency Shelter component include:

- Training
- Hazard Pay
- Temporary Emergency Shelter
- Volunteer Incentives
- Shelter rehab and conversion- Sub-recipients must work closely with MHC to ensure adherence to HUD requirements.

No household shall be denied access to safe housing, which may include alternative housing or a hotel room, even if they have been exposed or are symptomatic with coronavirus. Health-related questions should not determine admission, access to programs and should not be asked in order to screen people out of shelter.

If applicable, subrecipients must describe how their Emergency Shelter and Temporary Emergency Shelter programs prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus. This should include:

- Any changes to assessment or prioritization to accommodate for coronavirus vulnerabilities such as age, specific health conditions and/or medical frailty.

- Steps for assessing whether a household needs a hotel/motel room, emergency shelter, or should be transferred to a Temporary Emergency Shelter.
- Admission requirements for someone to be eligible for a hotel/motel room, emergency shelter and/or a Temporary Emergency Shelter
- For Emergency Shelter, length of stay limits, if any (note: if the subrecipient has standards regarding length of stay, the standards should also include the process for requesting extensions)
- Description of referral pathways to isolation and quarantine if a household needs such services.
- Safeguards to meet the safety and shelter needs of special populations, such as victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, etc.

Sub-recipients must provide low-barrier access to ESG funded shelters. Subrecipients are required to develop shelter standards that dictates the admission process, length of time and diversion. Length of time can be no longer than twelve months. Funded shelters must meet shelter and housing standards identified in 576.403, have accessibility to special needs populations, meet VAWA requirements, and have safeguards in place to meet safety and shelter needs of special populations.

3. **Homelessness Prevention Component** ([24 CFR 576.103](#))

ESG funds may be used to prevent an individual or a family from moving into an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition in §576.2. Allowable activities for services provided with homeless prevention is in accordance with the housing relocation and stabilization services requirements in § 576.105. Homeless prevention assistance 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 at or below 30% of median family income for the area as determined by HUD. Funds may be used as described by §576.103 to prevent homelessness which may include relocation and stabilization services as described by §576.105.

- Homeless prevention assistance may be provided for short-term assistance (up to 3 months), or a medium-term assistance (up to 24 months). Re-evaluation of need and eligibility must be conducted and documented every three months.
- The applicant and the program participant must be the same. A person who is listed as “in the household” cannot make an application for assistance unless that person is a party to the lease agreement and utility bills.

Homeless Prevention under ESG-CV

ESG-CV can provide all eligible activities under ESG Homeless Prevention Component however ESG-CV homeless prevention is subject to specific changes in the regulations.

- Eligible applicants who meet the “at risk of homelessness” definition, or meet the criteria in paragraph (2) (3) or (4) of the “homeless” definition, and have an annual income at or below **50% AMI**.
- The applicant and the program participant must be the same. A person who is listed as “in the household” cannot make an application for assistance unless that person is a party to the lease agreement and utility bills.

- ESG-CV homeless prevention assistance is **capped at 12 months**, not including arrears with a reevaluation every six months.
- Subrecipients are encouraged to prioritize ESG-CV homelessness prevention assistance for households earning less than the 50% of the Area Median Income who are determined to have no alternative resources and no other place to go.

4. **Rapid Re-housing Component** ([24 CFR 576.104](#))

ESG funds may be used to provide rapid re-housing services/activities in accordance with the housing relocation and stabilization services requirements in § 576.105 and the short- and medium-term rental assistance requirements in § 576.106. Housing relocation and stabilization services/activities must be provided as necessary to help homeless individuals and households (meeting Category 1 or 4 of the HUD Homeless Definition) to quickly move to permanent housing and achieve stability.

- Eligible participants must meet Categories 1 or 4 of the HUD Homeless Definition
- For Annual ESG, rental assistance may be short-term (up to three months) or medium-term (up to 24 months).

Rapid Rehousing under ESG-CV

RRH under ESG-CV is subject to the same eligible activities as ESG RRH and housing relocation and stabilization services requirements. ESG-CV sub-recipients are encouraged to prioritize rent assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services for households with the longest history of homelessness and for households with the most severe service needs including coronavirus related needs.

- RRH ESG-CV activities are capped at 12 months of assistance.

5. **Data Management and Program Management Components**

A. **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)** ([24 CFR 576.107](#))

- a. Funding to facilitate data collection through the participation in and contribution to the HMIS designated by the Continuum of Care for the area. The following guidelines must be adhered to:
 1. The sub-recipient must ensure, in accordance with HUD standards of participation that data on all persons served and all activities assisted under the ESG program are entered into the applicable community wide HMIS (or comparable database) in the area in which those persons and activities are located.
 2. The subrecipient must report and track all data collection and reporting under a local HMIS.
 3. If the sub-recipient is a victim services provider or a legal services

provider, it may use a comparable database that collects client-level data over time 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.

HUD Notice: As permitted by [HUD Notice CPD-20-08](#), a recipient may use ESG-CV funds to pay the costs of upgrading or enhancing its local HMIS to incorporate data on ESG participants and activities related to COVID-19.

B. Administration ([24 CFR 576.108](#))

- a. Up to 7.5% of a recipient's fiscal year grant can be used for administrative activities, such as general management, oversight, coordination, and reporting on the program. State recipients must share administrative funds with their local government sub-recipients and may share administrative funds with their nonprofit sub-recipients.
- b. ***HUD Notice: As permitted by [HUD Notice CPD-20-08](#), a recipient may use up to 10% of its total ESG-CV grant for administrative costs specified in 24 CFR 576.108.***
- c. Administrative activities are not an eligible charge for subrecipients through annual ESG. Subrecipients can charge staff and overhead costs directly to ESG activities 24 CFR 576.108(a). **However, admin charges are allowable for ESG-CV.**

Allowable activities for RRH and HP

Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services (24 CFR 576.105)

Annual ESG funds can be used to pay housing owners, utility companies, and other third parties for the below listed costs. Qualified individuals who meets the homeless criteria under paragraph (1) or (4) of the “homeless” definition in §576.2 for RRH, or qualified individuals who meets the homeless criteria under paragraph (2), (3), or (4) and/or the “at risk of homelessness” definition for HP qualifies for assistance described the Housing Relocation and Stabilization category. All funds must be paid directly to the service provider. The following financial assistance activities are eligible expenses:

1. Rental application fees that are charged by the owner to all applicants.
2. Security deposits that are equal to no more than two (2) months’ rent.
3. Last months’ rent if it is necessary to obtain housing for a program participant. The last months’ rent may be paid to the housing owner at the time the owner is paid the security deposit and the first months’ rent. This assistance must be included in determining total rental assistance.
4. Prior rental arrears may be paid to a previous landlord if the arrears negatively impact the program participants’ ability to get new housing. To pay this service, the old lease must be provided, and the Affidavit of Arrears must be completed and signed by the prior landlord.
5. Utility deposits as required by the utility company for all customers. The only eligible utility services are gas, electric, water and sewage.
6. Utility payments may be paid for up to 24 months per program participant, per service, including up to 6 months of utility payments in arrears, per service.
7. Moving costs may be paid for truck rental or hiring a moving company. Temporary storage fees for up to 3 months are allowable provided the fees are accrued after the program participants begin receiving assistance and before he/she moves into permanent housing. Payment of temporary storage fees that are in arrears is not an eligible expense.

Short-term and medium-term rental assistance (24 CFR 576.106)

To qualify for short- and medium-term rental assistance, a program participant and a housing owner must have a typed and signed lease for the provision of rental assistance. Sub-recipients can provide program participants with up to 24 months of rental assistance during any 3-year period.

- Short-term rental assistance may be provided for up to three (3) months. The case manager must reassess the program participants’ circumstances at least monthly and update case notes into HMIS. The case manager must provide reasonable timelines for the program participant to submit information necessary to determine program eligibility.
- Medium-term rental assistance may be provided for up to twenty-four (24) months. The case manager must reassess the program participants’ circumstances at least monthly and must update case notes into HMIS.

HUD Notice: *The alternative requirement under HUD Notice: CPD-20-08 for ESG-CV changes the medium-term assistance to “more than 3 months but not more than 12 months”.*

Rental Assistance

1. Deposits and Move-In Assistance

The Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services section in this manual and CFR §576.105 describes allowable move-in cost and deposits. ESG/ESG-CV funds can be used to pay for activities directly related to obtaining stable housing. Qualified individuals who meets the homeless criteria under paragraph (1) or (4) of the “homeless” definition in §576.2 for RRH, or qualified individuals who meets the homeless criteria under paragraph (2), (3), or (4) and/or the “At Risk of Homelessness” definition for HP qualifies for deposits and other move-in assistance described the Housing Relocation and Stabilization category. Eligible activities include deposits, and eligible moving equipment. Program participants who receive rent payments from another financial assistance program (e.g. Section 8), are eligible for security deposits only.

2. Rental Arrears.

Under Annual ESG, the payment of rental arrears consists of a one-time payment for up to 6 months of rent in arrears (delinquent), including any late fees on arrears. Any subsequent payment of late fees must be paid with non-ESG funds. The costs of rental and utility arrears assistance are only eligible to the extent that the assistance is necessary to help the program participant regain stability in their housing or move into other permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. Rental assistance or arrears to pay for a lot on which a manufactured home is located will require prior MHC approval.

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 §576.106 (c).

3. Maximum Amount of Rent to be Paid.

Sub-recipient of ESG and ESG-CV funds must determine what percentage or amount of rent and utilities cost each program participant must pay while receiving homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance. Such standards must be included in the sub-recipient's Written Standards and must be applied consistently across all ESG and ESG-CV funded projects.

Additional rental activities that are only allowable for ESG-CV, including landlord incentives are found in the RAMP (ESG-CV) Specific Eligible Activities section of this manual.

Record Keeping

Documentation Order of Priority.

It is the subgrantees responsibility to collect the required documentation to determine eligibility and provide services. Documentation must be collected in order of preference:

- Third party verification
- Case management verification with appropriate forms
- Self-declaration with appropriate forms

*Agencies cannot withhold or deny services if third party documentation is not accessible.

Sub-recipients will be responsible for ensuring the following:

- Before financial services are provided, collect eligibility documentation and documentation to justify financial assistance.
- Emergency/Arrearage payments must be made to the provider (e.g. landlord, utility company) of such items or services on behalf of an individual or family, and not directly to an individual family, or debt collections agency.
- Proper documentation must be maintained to ensure that all costs incurred are eligible.
- Proper documentation must be maintained that shows how the amount of assistance provided was determined to be necessary and reasonable.
- Proper documentation and support must be uploaded into HMIS

Homeless Status §576.500.

Subrecipients must maintain and follow intake procedures to ensure compliance with the homeless definition in §576.2. The procedures must require documentation at intake of the evidence relied upon to establish and verify homeless status. Consider the documentation order of priority section of this manual for obtaining “homeless” or “at risk of homelessness” evidence. Lack of third-party documentation must not prevent an individual from accessing shelter, receiving street outreach, or from receiving services provided by victim service providers. Records contained in an HMIS or comparable database used by victim service or legal service providers are acceptable evidence of third-party documentation. Reference Mandatory Documentation in this manual for acceptable verification of “Homeless”.

At Risk of Homelessness Status §576.500.

For each individual or family who receives Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) homelessness prevention (HP) assistance, the records must include the evidence relied upon to establish and verify the individual or family's “at risk of homelessness” status. This evidence must include an intake and certification form that meets HUD specifications and is completed by the subrecipient. To qualify for HP under the “At Risk of Homelessness” the individual or family must meet one of the At Risk of Homelessness Status as described in §576.2 paragraph (1), (2), and (3). Reference Mandatory Documentation in this manual for acceptable verification of “At Risk of Homelessness”.

Rent Reasonableness.

Under ESG, rent must meet rent reasonableness standards and cannot exceed HUD's published FMRs

for the area. The rent for the unit assisted with ESG funds must not exceed the lesser of the FMR or the rent reasonableness standard. Rent reasonableness is determined by comparing the gross rent of three to four units in a set community to the Fair Market Rent (FMR updated annually) of that community.

A. To calculate the gross rent of a unit that is being tested for rent reasonableness and the FMR standard in a unit where the tenant is responsible for paying the utilities:

1. Total contract rent amount of the unit + Any fees required for occupancy under the lease (excluding late fees and pet fees) + Monthly **utility allowance*** (excluding telephone) = Gross Rent Amount

a) Utility Allowance is established by a local Public Housing Authority (PHA) and includes all utilities paid for by the tenant.

B. To calculate the gross rent of a unit that is being tested for rent reasonableness and the FMR standard in a unit where the tenant is NOT responsible for paying the utilities:

1. Total contract rent amount of the unit + Any fees required for occupancy under the lease (excluding late fees and pet fees) = Gross Rent Amount

Subrecipients must establish their own written policies and procedures for documenting comparable rents to establish transparency and consistency across all projects. Written policies and procedures should include:

- A methodology for documenting comparable rents
- Case file checklists and forms
- Standards for certifying comparable rents as reasonable
- Determination must be supported by documentation in the case file.

A grantee must determine, and document rent reasonableness for all units for which ESG rent assistance (including arrears) and/or security deposit assistance is being provided. The requirement applies whether homelessness prevention or rapid rehousing assistance is provided.

Fair Market Rent.

Rental assistance cannot be provided for a unit that exceeds the [Fair Market Rent](#) established by HUD. Fair Market Rent amounts are based on units that include utilities. Rent must follow HUD standard of rent reasonableness (comparable like units).

Rental Assistance Agreement.

Rental assistance payments may only be paid to the property owner with whom the sub-recipient has entered into a rental assistance agreement. The rental assistance agreement must be very specific and set forth the terms under which the assistance will be provided (i.e., when the assistance begins and ends). The agreement must also provide that during the term of the agreement, the owner must give the program participant a copy of any notice to vacate the housing unit. This shall also include any complaint used under state or local law to commence an eviction action against the program participant. Only ESG agreements provided by MHC are acceptable documents. All others may result in ineligible costs. The rental assistance agreement must contain the same cost, same payment due date, grace period, and late payment penalty requirements as the program participant's lease.

Late Fees.

Payment of late fees are allowable cost in connection to payments of rental/utility arrears. The subrecipient is solely responsible for paying late payment penalties that it incurs with non-ESG funds, and for late payment penalties incurred due to subrecipient internal policies.

- a. Annual ESG – The program pays for the initial late fees at the time of assessment. This will cover late fees related to arrangement to bring the rental payments current. No additional late fees will be paid once the rent is current.
- b. ESG-CV – The program pays for the initial late fees at the time of assessment. This will cover late fees related to arrangement to bring the rental payments current. No additional late fees will be paid once the rent is current.

Lease Agreement.

Each program participant must have a legally binding typewritten lease agreement for the rental unit. The lease must be between the property owner or landlord and the program participant (tenant). The lease must be signed by the landlord and the tenant(s). The lease must clearly provide a full and complete address for the rental property. If the lease agreement is between parent and child, siblings or other relatives, it is invalid, and not reimbursable. If an employee, spouse or other family members of the subrecipient program has rental property, that employee is not eligible for rental reimbursement through the ESG program.

If the property owner is renting a single-family unit, the lease must also be typewritten. Handwritten lease agreements or notices from the property/landlord are no longer acceptable.

Program Income

24 CFR 576.2, 576.407(c)(1). Allowable income generated from ESG program activities may be used for matching contributions, subject to the requirements in §576.201, 2 CFR 200.80, and this manual. ESG-CV is exempt from Match requirements.

Habitability Standards

The Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program interim rule, at 24 CFR 576.403, establishes minimum standards for safety, sanitation, and privacy in emergency shelters funded with ESG, and minimum habitability standards for permanent housing funded under the Rapid Re-housing and Homelessness Prevention components of ESG.

ESG and ESG-CV funds cannot be used to help a program participant remain in or move into housing that does not meet the minimum habitability standards under §576.403(c). This restriction applies to all activities under the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing components, including rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services.

ESG-CV HUD Notice: *As permitted by [HUD Notice CPD-20-08](#)*, where assistance is provided due to COVID-related activities, the habitability requirements at 24 CFR 576.403(b) do not apply to temporary

emergency shelters that have been determined by State or local health officials to be necessary to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. However, recipients and subrecipients must still comply with nondiscrimination and applicable accessibility requirements, including requirements under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Fair Housing Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and their implementing regulations.

Environmental Review

The environmental review is an examination of the potential environmental impacts of a project to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and all related laws and authorities. Sub-recipients must submit all available relevant information necessary for MHC's Environmental Impact Officer to perform an environmental review required by 24 CFR Part 50 and must carry out mitigating measures deemed necessary.

Sub-recipients may not expend any funds, regardless of source, on any project funded (except temporary emergency shelters) in whole or in part with an ESG sub-grant until the environmental review has been completed. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in cancellation of the sub-grant.

Coordination of Service & Systems

ESG funded programs must coordinate and integrate, to the maximum extent practicable, ESG-funded activities with other programs targeted to homeless people in the state of Mississippi.

sub-recipients must develop their ESG program with the [Federal Strategic Plan](#), MHC's Annual Action Plan, and the Consolidated Plan goals in mind. In working towards these goals, sub-recipients must:

- Work with their local Continuum of Care agencies to end homelessness
- Work with publicly funded institutions and systems to prevent homelessness (such as foster care and other youth facilities, mental health facilities, correctional programs or institutions, and health-care facilities)
- Work with local agencies that serve the most in need populations.

In coordinating services, subrecipients must also consider affordable permanent housing placements.

Sub-recipients are encouraged to coordinate with:

- Local Housing Authority
- Tax-credited housing
- Income-based housing

RAMP (ESG-CV) Specific Eligible Activities

ESG-CV. RAMP consists of funding provided for the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). These ESG-CV funds must be used 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. Requirements at 24 CFR Part 576 -Emergency Solutions Grant Program- will apply to the use of these funds, unless otherwise provided by the alternative requirements and flexibilities established under the CARES Act, or

subsequent waivers, amendments or additional changes made by HUD.

Funding Source	Income Limit	Assistance Type	Term of Assistance
ESG-HP	30% AMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One-time Rental and/or Utility Arrears• Relocation and Stabilization Services• On-going monthly payments	up to 24 months
ESG RRH		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relocation and Stabilization Services• On-going monthly payments	Up to 24 months
ESG-CV RRH & HP	50% AMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One-time Rental and/or Utility Arrears	Up to 12 months
ESG-CV Shelter		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eligible activities identified under the Emergency shelter component	No cap

Eligibility. Eligible RAMP participants utilizing ESG-CV must either be homeless or at-risk of homelessness. ESG and ESG-CV follow the same “Homeless” and “At Risk of Homelessness” defined found in this manual and in §576.2. ESG-CV can provide the same eligible activity as ESG (except for time and income waivers) along with additional activities eligible through CARES Waivers.

576 – Subpart B, ESG-CV funds may also be used for the following activities:

1. **Temporary emergency shelters.** Funds may be used to pay for temporary emergency shelters for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Eligible costs related to temporary emergency shelters include: leasing of real property, renovation, conversion, shelter operations, and services. Additional requirements for temporary emergency shelters are established in Section III.E.3.a of the Notice.

Temporary emergency shelters are exempt from:

- Minimum standards for emergency shelters at [24 CFR 403\(b\)](#) – however, lead-based paint requirements still apply
- Environmental review
- Minimum period of use requirement ([24 CFR 576.102\(a\)\(xi\)\(4\)\(c\)](#))

Sub-recipients must retain documentation that the shelter met the definition of [temporary shelter](#), and has written approval from a public health official that this temporary emergency shelter is needed for the community’s COVID response.

2. **Training.** Funds may be used for training on infectious disease prevention and mitigation for staff working directly to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The costs are eligible as a standalone activity, not an

administrative cost and is, therefore, not subject to the administrative cap on funding.

Training costs are allowable under all ESG components and can be provided to both homeless assistance providers and to those who do not receive funding through the CARES Act.

Sub-recipients must maintain meeting agendas and notes to support eligibility of this expense.

3. **Hazard Pay.** As permitted by the CARES Act, funds may be used to pay hazard pay for recipient- or subrecipient-staff working directly to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Examples of staff working directly in support of coronavirus response includes:

- Street outreach teams
- Emergency shelter staff
- Staff providing essential services (e.g. outpatient health or mental health, housing navigators)
- Staff in proximity to persons with coronavirus or working in locations with a high likelihood of contracting the coronavirus (e.g. security staff, kitchen staff)

Hazard pay may be billed under Homelessness Prevention, RRH, Emergency Shelter and Street Outreach program components. While sub-recipients have the authority to establish their own hazard pay amounts and their cap, all sub-recipients should ensure the following criteria are met:

- They are provided under the organization's established written [compensation policies](#).
- The costs are equally allocated to all related activities including federal awards; and,
- Grantees must maintain records that include job descriptions, policies and procedures or other program records that detail positions receiving hazard pay. Grantees also must have documentation indicating temporary pay increases that correspond with a period in which staff works directly to prevent, prepare and respond to the coronavirus.

4. **Handwashing Stations and Portable Bathrooms.** Funds may be used for portable hygiene services and the staffing, equipment, supplies and services to clean and maintain these facilities to support households experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Examples include portable handwashing stations, bathrooms and shower trucks in outdoor locations for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
5. **Landlord Incentives.** Funds may be used to pay for landlord incentives for households experiencing homelessness and at-risk of homelessness. All payments must be reasonable and necessary to assist households in obtaining housing and supported with proper documentation. Subrecipients may not use ESG-CV funds to pay the landlord incentives an amount that exceeds three times the rent charged for the unit (not the tenant portion of the rent). Security deposits, which are an eligible cost under 576.105(a)(2) of the ESG Program Interim Rule, are treated as separate and distinct types of assistance from landlord incentives and do not count against a program participant's months of landlord incentives or rental assistance.

Landlord incentives can include:

- Signing bonuses equal to up to 2 months of rent
- Security deposits equal to up to 3 months of rent
- Costs to repair damages incurred by the program participant not covered by the security deposit or that are incurred while the program participant is still residing in the unit.
- Extra cleaning fees or payment of additional maintenance for the unit or appliances.

Landlord incentives may be charged under the Rapid Re-Housing and Homelessness Prevention budget categories. Sub-recipients must maintain program records that document that:

- Costs are reasonable and appropriate
- Costs are allowable and necessary to obtain housing for households experiencing homelessness and at-risk of homelessness
- Total amount for all incentives combined does not exceed three times the rent charged for the unit.

6. **Volunteer Incentives.** Funds may be used to provide reasonable incentives to volunteers who are currently helping to provide necessary street outreach, emergency shelter, essential services, and housing relocation and stabilization services during the coronavirus outbreak.

Subrecipient must define what a volunteer is, who qualifies to receive volunteer services, the type of incentives provided and documentation that the amount/type of incentives provided are reasonable and appropriate. Before incurring related costs, subrecipients must request MHC approval.

CARES Act Waivers

Regulatory Waivers

On March 31, 2020, HUD issued a [memorandum](#) stating the availability of waivers for certain regulatory requirements associated with ESG to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to facilitate assistance to eligible communities economically impacted by COVID-19.

MHC officially requested and was approved for the below listed waivers. The effective date of these waivers is June 30, 2021, but may change pending federal approved extensions.

MHC's Approved Waivers

1. Citizen Participation Public Comment Period for Consolidated Plan Amendment
2. Citizen Participation Reasonable Notice and Opportunity to Comment
3. HMIS Lead Activities
4. Re-evaluations for Homelessness Prevention Assistance
5. Housing Stability Case Management
6. Restriction of Rental Assistance to Units with Rent at or Below FMR

7. Self-Certification of Income and Credible Information on HIV Status
8. FMR Rent Standard
9. Property Standards for TBRA
10. Space and Security

Waivers and Alternative Requirements for ESG

On September 1, 2020, HUD issued Notice [CPD-20-08](#), *Waivers and Alternative Requirements for the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program Under the CARES Act*, that detailed flexibilities authorized by the CARES Act. The waivers and additional eligible activities established in the Notice apply to ESG-CV funds and annual ESG funds as long as those funds are used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. The CARES Act and Notice do not apply to annual ESG funds used for purposes NOT related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to coronavirus. All approved waivers received are applicable to both ESG and ESG-CV funds, as long as the ESG funds are used to prevent, prepare and respond to the coronavirus. Internal agency policies must be updated to include the use of ESG-CV eligible activities and waivers.

These waivers and flexibilities are summarized as follow:

The requirements of 24 CFR 576 – Subpart B apply, **except** that:

1. Emergency Shelter and Street Outreach cap in section 576.100(b) does not apply. Recipients may expend as much of their funding on street outreach and emergency shelter activities as needed to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.
2. Pre-Award Costs incurred before the period of performance (after January 21, 2020) may be reimbursed provided that the costs were directly related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to the coronavirus.

MHC will reimburse for COVID-related costs that occurred from January 2020 through the end of the performance period (ESG-CV 1 and ESG-CV 2 in accordance with their respective grant cycle). Reimbursement is based on the date subrecipients began preparing, preventing, and providing COVID-19 related services.

3. Additional eligible activities are allowed for COVID-related activities as listed under [RAMP Eligible Activities](#).
4. Summary of Waivers, Alternative Requirements and Statutory Flexibilities for Existing Eligible Activities.
 - **Short-Term and Medium-Term Rental Assistance**—changed definition of medium-term assistance from “for more than 3 months but not more than 24 months of rent” to “**for more than 3 months but not more than 12 months**”.
 - **At Risk of Homelessness Definition**—Income limit raised from 30 percent to the Very Low-Income limit of the area.
 - Re-evaluations for Homelessness Prevention Assistance- Required frequency of re-

evaluations under section 576.401(b) is waived for up to two years beginning 06/23/2020(date of the memorandum) Re-evaluation are conducted once every 6-months.

- **Housing Stability Case Management** – The original order started 03/31/2020, lifting the 3-month limitation established May 22, 2020, and making the waiver of 24 CFR 576.401(e)(1) apply throughout the period the recipient or subrecipient uses funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.
- **Temporary Stays in Institutions of 90 Days or Less** – Waived -24 CFR 576.2 participants who are exiting an institutional stay of 120 days or less and were in shelter or a place not meant for human habitation immediately prior to entering the institution. To use this waiver, the justification must explain how the institutional stay was prolonged by the COVID-19 crisis.
- **Emergency Shelter & Street Outreach Cap**— Waived.
- **Administrative Cap**—Waived. Recipient may use up to 10 percent of total ESG-CV grant for administrative costs specified in 24 CFR 576.108.
- **Match Requirement**—Waived.
- **Fair Market Rent Limit**—Waived. Units must still meet Rent Reasonableness standards.
- **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead Activities**—Recipients may pay for HMIS Lead activities specified in 576.107(a)(2) even when not the HMIS Lead.
- **Consultation with the Continuum of Care (CoC)**—Waived.
- **Coordination with Other Targeted Homeless Services**—Waived.
- **System and Program Coordination with Mainstream Resources**—Waived.
- **Hotel/Motel Costs**—. Hotel/motel vouchers may be provided if shelter beds are available, but it is not safe for them to use because of the need for social distancing. Eligible costs include:
 - hotel or motel rooms, directly or through a voucher,
 - cleaning of hotel and motel rooms used by program participants,
 - repair damages caused by program participants above the normal wear and tear of the room.
- **Extension of RRH and HP Assistance**—Program participants who receive the maximum amount of assistance (24 months within 3 years) between January 21, 2020 and March 1, 2021 may receive an additional 6 months of rental assistance and services.
- **Coordinated Entry, Written Standards, and HMIS Requirements**— For new activities under the ESG-CV Notice Requirements to participate in coordinated entry, administer assistance in accordance with ESG written standards, and participate in HMIS are waived for costs incurred between the beginning of a community's coronavirus response (January 21, 2020 or later) and June 30, 2020. Coordinated entry, ESG written standards, and HMIS must be used going forward.
- **Procurement**—Recipient may deviate from applicable procurement standards when procuring goods to prevent, prepare for, or respond to coronavirus. Recipients must establish and maintain documentation on alternative procurement standards.

- **Program Income (PI)**—Waived. Defined at 2 CFR 200.80, PI includes: 1) any amount of a security or utility deposit returned to recipient/subrecipient, and 2) costs incidental to generating PI and not charged to the ESG-CV grant/subgrant may be deducted from gross income to determine PI. PI may be treated as an addition to the recipient's/subrecipient's grant/subgrant, provided PI is used in accordance with the purposes and conditions of that grant/subgrant. PI otherwise must be deducted from allowable costs as provided by 2 CFR 200.307(e)(1).
- **Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)**—Waived. Recipients have 180 days from their program year end date to submit their CAPER for annual ESG reporting.
- **Shelter Standards**—Waived for temporary emergency shelter activities used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.
- **Environmental Review Requirements**—Waived for temporary emergency shelter activities used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. An Environmental Review Exempt form must be submitted for each agency providing a temporary emergency shelter.

Highlighted changes in *Notice CPD-21-08* include As of July 26, 2021:

1. *Emergency Shelter Activities*. Removes the prior January 31, 2022 deadline for using ESG-CV for the costs of providing emergency shelter.
2. *Temporary Emergency Shelter Activities*. Removes the prior January 31, 2022 deadline for using ESG-CV for the costs of providing temporary emergency shelter. Also, jurisdictions ("recipients") may convert temporary emergency shelter acquired or improved with ESG-CV into emergency shelter without triggering disposition requirements.
3. *New Eligible Activities*. New eligible activities include:
 - Loaning cell phones with wireless plans to assisted people ("program participants") so that they can obtain and maintain housing
 - Providing personal protective equipment to assisted people
 - Providing laundry services to people living in unsheltered locations
 - Making vaccine incentive payments to people experiencing homelessness
 - Providing furniture and household furnishings to assisted people while they are receiving rapid re-housing or homelessness prevention assistance
 - Providing essential services to people receiving rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention assistance as well as those living in hotels and motels paid for with ESG-CV

- Paying for renters' insurance for people receiving rapid re-housing or homelessness prevention assistance
- Assuring that the coordinated entry system can quickly prioritize and connect people to appropriate housing and services to prevent and respond to coronavirus
- Providing sponsor-based rental assistance for people receiving rapid re-housing or homelessness prevention assistance

4. *Aligning Eligibility and Re-evaluation Income Limits.* The income limit to be eligible for homelessness prevention and to continue to receive homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance is raised from 30% of median family income to "very low-income" (in general, 50% of median family income).

5. *New Rental Assistance Allowances.* Jurisdiction or subrecipients providing project-based rental assistance may pay for rent for a maximum of 30 days from the end of the month in which a unit was vacated while a jurisdiction or subrecipient attempts to house another household in that unit. In addition, if a household moves into a unit in the middle of the month, the initial payment of a half month's rent does not count toward a household's total rental assistance. Also, jurisdictions and subrecipients may allow households to enter into subleases when receiving rapid re-housing or homelessness prevention assistance.

6. *Helping Current ESG Program Participants Maintain Housing.* Waives the prior 24 months in a 3-year period limit for receiving services or rental assistance. Also, if someone moves into a unit in the middle of the month, the initial payment of a half-month's rent does not count toward a household's total rental assistance. In addition, the Notice removes the 12-month limit on medium-term rental assistance.

7. *Permanent Housing - Habitability and Housing Quality Standards.* Jurisdictions and subrecipients must ensure that housing meets minimum habitability standards established in 24 CFR 576.403(c) or Housing Quality Standards (HQS) established under 24 CFR 982.401 before helping people remain or move into housing. In addition, jurisdictions may provide housing relocation and stabilization services for people receiving homelessness prevention assistance without conducting habitability or HQS inspections.

8. *Housing Stability Case Management.* Jurisdictions and subrecipients may pay for housing stability case management for up to 60 days (instead of 30 days) while people seek housing.
- 5.

ESG-CV Program Deadlines

ESG-CV Expenditure Deadlines:

All funds awarded (both first and second allocations), excluding funding for Temporary Emergency Shelters must be expended by September 30, 2023. Funding for Temporary Emergency Shelters January 31, 2022 date was waived and no longer applies. MHC will monitor grant spending to ensure that sub-recipients are on track to spend out funds. If sub-recipients are not spending down in a timely manner, funds may be recaptured.

Spending Milestone	Deadline Date
50% of Funds Expended	06/16/2022
All Funds Expended	09/30/2023

DETERMINING PROGRAM PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Program Participants

There are five eligible populations identified for ESG and ESG-CV:

1. Homeless Definition Category 1: Literally Homeless (Living on the Street or in Emergency Shelter)
2. Homeless Definition Category 2: Imminently Homeless (within 14 days)
3. Homeless Definition Category 3: Unaccompanied youth/families who meet other Federal homeless definitions and additional criteria required by HUD.
4. Homeless Definition Category 4: Fleeing/attempting to flee Domestic Violence
5. At Risk of Homelessness as defined by HUD

Note: MHC is not funded to serve Category 3.

Assessment

All applicants must be assessed to determine eligibility for receipt services. The type and length of assistance for which an eligible household qualifies is determined by their household income, stability of their current housing, and/or their homeless status. During the pandemic, ESG-CV subrecipients are

expected to change assessment or prioritization to include COVID vulnerabilities such as age, specific health conditions, and/or medical fragility. Prioritization policy must be aligned with CDC recommendations for people at-risk of severe illness if they contract COVID.

An initial evaluation to determine program eligibility of individuals and/or families will be conducted by the sub-recipients. Sub-recipients are expected to include documentation on the results of the eligibility assessment in the client's case file and identify which program source and program component the individuals or families are being assisted with, and the length of assistance needed. After the initial evaluation, the type and amount of assistance will be established to ensure the individual or family's needs are met to regain stability.

Eligible applicant must meet the homeless or at risk of homelessness definition and have no other resources available. Subrecipients must keep all supporting documents in applicants' file.

Coordinated Entry/Assessment System §576.400(d).

Each Continuum of Care in Mississippi has developed a coordinated entry system or a coordinated assessment system in accordance with requirements to be established by HUD. Each ESG and ESG-CV funded program within the Continuum of Care's area **MUST** use that assessment system. The recipient and subrecipient must work with the Continuum of Care to ensure the screening, assessment and referral of program participants are consistent with the written standards. Subrecipients may modify/expedite the assessment, scoring and eligibility determination to prioritize those at high-risk for severe illness from coronavirus.

Coordinated assessment systems must be low-barrier and may be utilized to prioritize households with zero/low income, disabilities, and long-term histories of homelessness.

A victim service provider may choose not to use the Continuum of Care's centralized or coordinated entry system for participants impacted by domestic violence.

Income Eligibility

Household Income	Eligible Program Funds
Household income at or below 30% AMI	Annual ESG, ESG-CV
Household income at or below 50% AMI	ESG-CV

When calculating income, temporary income (i.e. Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation Program payments, stimulus checks) should not be included in the calculations. A lack of income does not preclude any household from receiving services. Households without income are eligible to receive ESG and ESG-CV assistance in any of the following components:

- Street Outreach
- Emergency Shelter

- Homelessness Prevention
- Rapid Re-housing

Homeless or At-Risk of Homelessness

HUD's definition of Homeless or At-risk of Homelessness should be used to determine an applicant's eligibility.

But For

To establish eligibility, an initial consultation with a case manager is to be conducted and an assessment made as to whether the household will require emergency shelter or be literally homeless **"but for"** this financial assistance. The case manager should be able to make the determination that the household has no other available housing options or lacks financial resources that would prevent them from becoming homeless. This includes no family support and no other social support networks.

The initial consultation conducted by the case manager should make the necessary determination of the range of services that may be required for the program participant. The structure of the ESG program is designed to provide and promote comprehensive services to the program participant. This is an effort to assist the program participant with gaining and maintaining stability in all facets of life, not just housing. The case manager must be knowledgeable of all services that are available in a community to effectively service the program participant.

Additionally, each program participant receiving homelessness prevention or rapid rehousing assistance must be required to meet regularly with a case manager (except where prohibited by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), and the assistance provider must develop an individualized plan to help that program participant retain housing after the ESG assistance ends.

Rent Limitation and Duration

Subrecipients must use a rent limit policy that is used consistently for all units receiving a rent subsidy, including arrears and must be completed before the rent subsidy is paid. The rent limit is the maximum rent subsidy that can be paid for a unit of a given size.

Subrecipients are encouraged to extend/adjust the rent limit to address unemployment, loss of income, or benefits due to the coronavirus.

Determining Rent Subsidy

Subrecipients must have a standardized procedure for determining the amount of rent subsidy for each household. The procedure should include a consideration of the household's resources and expenses.

Although each household may receive a different amount of rent subsidy, the procedure for determining the subsidy must be standardized.

Client files must include documentation of the subsidy amount and determination process. Rent subsidy should be adjusted when there is a change in household circumstance, income, or need.

If utilities are not included in the rent but are the responsibility of the resident, a utility allowance for reasonable rent utility consumption must be subtracted from the rent. Subrecipients must use their local Public Housing Authority's (PHA) schedule of utility allowances per CPD Notice 17-11.

Duplication of Benefits (DOB)

Duplication of Benefits (DOB) occur when an individual or household receives financial assistance for the same service, during the same period, from multiple funding sources.

The goal of the RAMP regarding DOB:

The ESG-CV requires that the subrecipients completes the following analysis to avoid DOB

1. Assess the needs of the applicant.
2. Ask the applicant if they have received/receiving any additional support or any kind.
3. Calculate the unmet need
4. Document the calculation
5. Make sure all applicant subrogation forms are complete.

ESG and ESG-CV funds may not be used to cover costs that have already been paid for or that will be paid for by another federal program or other sources. Sub-recipients must determine and document if the household is receiving assistance from other sources (e.g. ERAP, FEMA costs for temporary shelter, Emergency Housing Vouchers, philanthropy, faith-based, CDBG-CV, etc.) to avoid duplication of benefits as well as verify that the other form of assistance does not disqualify the eligibility of the individual or household ([Section 312 \(42 U.S.C. 5155\)](#)).

To prevent a duplication of benefits, tenants and landlords are required to sign the Duplication of Benefits Certification which does the following:

- Provides a self-certification to the landlord and tenant indicating that they have not received a duplicative benefit;
- Request disclosure of any potentially duplicative assistance that they have already received, or reasonably anticipate receiving;
- Certifies that the landlord and applicant agrees to repay assistance that is determined to be duplicative.

Case Management

Case management is essential to assessing housing and service needs, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of program participants.

Determination of eligibility of a program participant for ESG, and ESG-CV, financial services must be conducted by the sub-recipient through an initial consultation with a case manager. The case manager should be able to determine the amount and types of assistance the individual or family needs to regain permanent housing stability.

Case management is an eligible activity with ESG and ESG-CV to ensure housing stability for participants. Case management time and eligible activities can be charged to the grant. The activity sheets and HMIS must detail the work and amount of time dedicated to ESG and ESG-CV. The activity worksheet is MANDATORY for ALL staff members carrying out duties that the organization is requesting reimbursement.

Requests for reimbursement for ALL staff MUST be accompanied by an activity sheet, detailing the work they have completed in the component pertaining to ESG and ESG-CV.

*Please refer to the appendix for a sample Activity Sheet.

Note: An Activity Sheet is applicable if you are requesting salary reimbursement and accompany each service/activity component that is listed on the Request for Cash. Please note a separate activity sheet is needed for each program that salary reimbursement is requested.

Case management activities provided through homeless prevention or rapid re-housing assistance to a program participant must:

- Require the program participant to meet with a case manager not less than once per month to assist the program participant in ensuring long-term housing stability; and
- Develop a plan to assist the program participant to retain permanent housing after the ESG assistance ends, taking into account all relevant considerations, such as the program participant's current or expected income and expenses; other public or private assistance for which the program participant will be eligible and likely to receive; and the relative affordability of available housing in the area.

*The subrecipient is exempt from the requirement to “meet with a case manager not less than once per month” if the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13701 et seq.) or the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.) prohibits that recipient or subrecipient from making its shelter or housing conditional on the participant's acceptance of services.

ESG-CV Case Management. Case management must be provided under ESG-CV to ensure housing stability; however, the requirement to meet with a case manager once a month is waived under ESG-CV. Subrecipients are still required to contact participants and create appropriate housing stability service plans.

- Participant contact and service plan activities must be reported in HMIS.

Housing Engagement & Case Management

Housing stability case management includes approved housing placement activities identified with §567.105 Housing Relocation and Stability Services section (2) *Housing Stability Case Management*. Housing placement 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 and seeking relocation. Component services and activities includes:

- Using Coordinated Entry System to evaluate participants for homeless prevention or rapid re-housing assistance
- Conducting the initial evaluation
- Counseling
- Developing, securing, and coordinating services
- Developing an initial housing and service plan.

Individual Service Plan

The individualized service plan is a plan developed by case managers and participants and serves as a path to permanent housing stability. The initial plan should start at initial intake and assessment and may evolve over time. At minimum, the service plan should address:

- Housing
- Employment/Income
- Identified barriers to stability

Case Management Best Practices

Services provided should be case management focus. Determining the best approach to case management can be difficult; however, there are several best practice case management models to consider when providing case management.

1. [Housing First](#)
2. [Critical Time Intervention](#)
3. [Motivational Intervention](#)
4. [Rapid Resolution](#)
5. [Trauma-Informed Care](#)
6. [Diversion](#)
7. [Rapid Rehousing: Housing Barriers Assessment](#)
8. Discharge planning
9. [Employment First](#)

ESG, ESG-CV and the Eviction Moratorium

The eviction moratorium was enacted in March 2020 by the Center of Disease Control as a way to combat the increase of homelessness and the spread of COVID-19 during a pandemic. The eviction moratorium does not prohibit a landlord for removing tenants; however, thanks to the moratorium, many individuals are allowed to stay in their homes.

- If someone would be at risk of eviction, but covered by the moratorium, then they are not at risk of homelessness and not eligible for ESG prevention assistance.

In response to the rental need due to COVID-19 impact and ESG restrictions, the ERA program was funded to fill the gap.

- [ERA](#) is provided by MHC to pay for rental and utility arrears for qualified applicants.

Subrecipients must provide and document whether “reasonable assistance” was provided to the household to prevent their eviction. Subrecipients are encouraged to use available community legal and rental services to prevent evictions of applicants.

Mandatory Documentation

Verification of Eligibility

Sub-recipients must obtain documentation to support a program participant’s eligibility. Documentation is required to provide the circumstances that resulted in he/she becoming homeless or at risk for homelessness. Documentation that supports the program participant’s eligibility must be obtained by either:

- A third-party (e.g. employer, landlord)
 - Not applicable to RAMP
- Case manager notes
- Certification from the person seeking assistance.

Although third party verification is preferable, lack of third-party documentation must not prevent an individual or family from being immediately admitted to emergency shelter, receiving street outreach services, or being immediately admitted to shelter or receiving services provided by a victim service provider.

Homeless Prevention documentation

Eligible participants must provide the following:

- An active, signed lease agreement between the program participant and the landlord or property owner. Leases with a month-to-month clause will also be accepted. *Verbal rental agreements are not eligible.*
- An eviction notice. The eviction notice can be a letter/notice from the landlord,

property owner or an official legal court document. At the minimum, the document must:

- Identify the ESG applicant and unit location where the applicant is the leaseholder,
 - Indicate that the applicant must leave their housing within a certain number of days,
 - Be signed and dated by the owner/landlord or court
 - List the total amount that must be paid to remain in the unit.
-
- A signed affidavit of arrears signed by the landlord, property manager or property owner.
 - A Rental Assistant Agreement is required in addition to a signed lease. The rental assistant agreement is a signed agreement between the grant subrecipient and the housing owner.
 - A verification of payment ledger/history provided by the landlord or applicant. The ledger is used as backup documentation to the affidavit and certifies the delinquent amount and additional charges.
 - Verification of current individual/household income is an eligibility requirement for homeless prevention services. See income eligibility section in this document for information regarding income restrictions with homeless prevention.
 - The ESG applicant and the program participant must be the same. A person who is listed as “in the household” cannot apply for ESG assistance unless that person is a party to the lease agreement and utility bills and that person qualifies for ESG assistance.

NOTE that if an eviction moratorium is in place, “reasonableness assistance” must also be provided for evictions due to non-payment of rent prior.

Client File Documentation

Program participants that are eligible for assistance must provide all applicable mandatory documentation to complete the application process. Sub-recipients are required to upload the following documents to the client file, as applicable:

1. **Homeless Status** §576.500. Required documentation for verification of homelessness as defined in the “homeless” definition under paragraph (1), (4) (eligible activities includes Outreach, Shelter, RRH) and under paragraph (2), (3), (4) (eligible activities if individual does not meet category (1) HP).
 - If individual or family qualifies as homeless under paragraph (1) (i) or (ii) of the homeless definition, allowable activities are Outreach, Shelter, RRH and acceptable evidence includes:
 - a written observation by outreach worker/case manager of conditions where the individual or family was living,
 - a written referral by another services provider, or

- a self-certification by the head of household seeking assistance.
- If the individual qualifies as homeless under paragraph (1)(iii) of the homeless definition, because he or she resided in a shelter or place not meant for human habitation and is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less allowable activities are Outreach Shelter, RRH and acceptable documentation includes appropriate homeless verification and one of the following:
 - Discharge paperwork or a written or oral referral from appropriate official of the institution. Discharge information must state the beginning and end dates of the time residing in the institution.
 - Written record of the intake worker's due diligence in attempting to obtain evidence.
- If the individual or family as homeless under paragraph (2) of the homeless definition because they will imminently lose their housing allowable activity is HP and appropriate evidence including:
 - A court order resulting from an eviction action that requires the individual or family to leave their residence in 14 days after the date of their application for assistance; or equivalent notice under Mississippi state law, or a Notice to Terminate.
 - For individuals and families whose primary nighttime residence is a hotel or motel room NOT PAID for by charitable organization, evidence that the individual or family lacks the resources necessary to reside there for more than 14 days after the date of application; or
 - An oral statement by the individual or head of household that the owner or renter of the housing they currently reside will not allow them to stay for more than 14 days after their application for assistance.
 - If documentation is not available, evidence of due diligence must be recorded.
 - Certification by the head of household that NO subsequent residence has been identified; and
 - Certification or other written documentation that the individual or family LACKS the resources and support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing.
- If the individual or family qualifies as homeless under paragraph (3) of the homeless definition in §576.2, because the individual or family does not otherwise qualify as homeless under the homeless definition but is an unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or homeless family with one or more children or youth, and is defined as homeless under other Federal statute or section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C 11434a(2)), allowable activity is HP and appropriate and documented evidence includes:
 - For paragraph (3)(i) of the homeless definition in § 576.2, certification of homeless status by the local private nonprofit organization or state or local governmental entity responsible for administering assistance under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.), the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.), subtitle N of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e et seq.), section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b), the Food and

Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), or subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.).

- For paragraph (3)(ii) of the homeless definition in § 576.2, referral by a housing or service provider, written observation by an outreach worker, or certification by the homeless individual or head of household seeking assistance;
- For paragraph (3)(iii) of the homeless definition in § 576.2, certification by the individual or head of household and any available supporting documentation that the individual or family moved two or more times during the 60-day period immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance.
- For paragraph (3)(iv) of the homeless definition in § 576.2, written diagnosis from a professional who is licensed by the state to diagnose and treat that condition (or intake staff-recorded observation of disability that within 45 days of date of the application for assistance is confirmed by a professional who is licensed by the state to diagnose and treat that condition); department of corrections records; literacy, or other reasonable documentation of the conditions required under paragraph (3)(iv) of the homeless definition.
- If the individual or family qualifies under paragraph (4) of the homeless definition in § 576.2, because the individual or family is fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions related to violence, then acceptable evidence includes an oral statement by the individual or head of household seeking assistance that they are fleeing that situation, that no subsequent residence has been identified and that they lack the resources or support networks.

2. ***At Risk of Homelessness Status*** §576.500. Required documentation for verification “At Risk of Homelessness” as defined in §576.2 (eligible activities include HP). Documentation must include an intake and certification form that meets HUD specifications and is completed by the recipient or subrecipient. The evidence must also include:

- If the program participant meets the criteria under paragraph (1) of the “at risk of homelessness” definition in § 576.2:
 - i. The documentation specified for determining annual income (ESG 30% AMI; ESG-CV 50% AMI);
 - ii. The program participant's certification that the program participant has insufficient financial resources and support networks; e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, immediately available to attain housing stability and meets one or more of the conditions under paragraph (1)(iii) of the definition of “at risk of homelessness” in § 576.2. Appropriate evidence:
 - 1. Source documents (e.g. termination notice, unemployment statement, bank statement, arrears);
 - 2. If the source documents are unobtainable: a written statement by a relevant third party (e.g. former employer...), or written certification by intake staff of the oral verification by a third party.

3. If documents and statements are unobtainable, a written statement by the intake staff describing the efforts taken to obtain evidence; and
 4. The most reliable evidence available to show that the participant meets the conditions of “at risk of homelessness”.
- If the program participant meets the “at risk of homelessness” definition due to exiting a public funded institution, documentation must be obtained to include lack of support to prevent homelessness.
3. **Application.** This document is to be completed by the case manager and signed by the program participant. The case manager must provide complete detail of how the program participant became homeless or has been put “at risk” of becoming homeless. All information provided in the application should be certified as true and correct to the best of the parties’ knowledge. Any application that is not signed by **both** the case manager and the program participant is not a valid document. The ESG, and ESG-CV application is mandatory for all program participants.
4. **Income verification.** HUD defines income as “any money that goes to, or on behalf of, the head of household or spouse (even if temporarily absent) or to any other household member”. Annual income includes the current gross income of all adult household members and unearned income attributable to a minor. The types of income to be counted include:
 - Earned Income
 - Self-Employment/Business Income
 - Interest & Dividend Income
 - Pension/Retirement Income
 - Unemployment & Disability Income
 - TANF/Public Assistance
 - Alimony, Child Support and Foster Care Income
 - Armed Forces Income

Annual income must be calculated using HUDs income calculation worksheet. The case manager must obtain verification of all income reported by the program participant. If the program participant has indicated previous employment but is not currently employed, the case manager must provide documentation from the previous employer or from unemployment compensation. **This documentation is mandatory for all program participants and adult household members.**

The following forms (as applicable) must be complete for income verification:

- Unemployment verification
- Self-Declaration
- Zero Income Certification (if the program participant was self-employed or without any income to report.)
- Income Calculation Worksheet

6. **Asset verification, if applicable.** Assets are defined as cash or material items that can be converted to cash quickly. They include real and/or personal property and investments that a household may possess, including assets that are owned by more than one person, but allow unrestricted access to the applicant. Assets include:

- Amounts in checking and saving bank accounts.
- Stocks, bonds, savings certificates, money market funds, and other investment accounts.
- The cash value of trusts that may be withdrawn by the household.
- IRA, Keogh and similar retirement savings accounts, even when early withdrawal will result in a penalty.
- Lump sum receipts of cash received and accessible by household, such as inheritances, capital gains, lottery winnings, insurance settlements, and other claims.

Household assets generally are not counted as income, except for interest and dividend income. However, household assets should be taken into consideration when determining whether a household has other financial resources to obtain or maintain housing.

7. **Lease Agreement.** This document must :

- Be typed and signed.
- Clearly list all the parties to the lease;
- Provide terms and conditions;
- Have a beginning and ending date; and
- Be signed by all involved parties (landlord and tenant)
- For arrearage rental assistance, the lease agreement must be signed by all involved parties (landlord and tenant) prior to the application date.

If the lease has expired, it must have a clause addressing the continuance of the agreement on a month- to- month arrangement unless State law dictates that the lease automatically continues under a month-to-month or annual arrangement until the lease is renewed or is otherwise terminated. In the event the lease is extended on a month- to- month agreement, the landlord must still provide a written statement which clearly indicates this is month- to- month. The written lease agreement is mandatory for all program participants applying for ESG and ESG-CV assistance.

8. **Eviction Notice, if applicable.** This document must be typewritten and indicate the amount of rent due, the amount of time tenant has failed to pay rent and the length of time he/she must pay the delinquent rent or vacate the property within a certain number of days. The eviction notice must be signed and dated by the landlord or provided in a court order. This document is required for those “at risk” of becoming homeless.
9. **Rental Assistance Agreement.** The rental assistance agreement must be very specific and set forth the terms under which the assistance will be provided (i.e., when the assistance

begins and ends). This document is mandatory for all program participants.

10. **Rent Reasonableness checklist.** Rent reasonableness should be determined by considering the following:

1. The reasonableness in relation to rents being charged for comparable unassisted units, taking into account the location, size, type, quality, amenities, management, and maintenance of each unit; and
2. The rent should not be in excess of the rent currently being charged by the same owner for properties (if comparable to the unit in which the participant will be leasing) as well as those actual rents charged.

Rent reasonableness must be determined for all units for which rental assistance, arrears and/or security deposit assistance is being provided. If the rent for the unit does not meet rent reasonableness, then ESG, or ESG-CV funds cannot be used to assist the household in that unit. Furthermore, these funds cannot be used to pay the rent up to the rent reasonableness standard, while the tenant pays the remainder. This document is mandatory for all program participants. All subrecipients must ensure their Written Standards include standards for how their agency will document rent reasonableness.

See the Record keeping section of this manual to determine how to calculate Rent Reasonableness.

11. **Habitability Standards.** These standards apply when a program participant is receiving financial assistance and moving into a new (different) unit, as well as homelessness prevention. Inspections must be conducted upon initial occupancy. This document is mandatory for all program participants.

12. **Lead-Based Paint, if applicable.** All grantees funded with ESG and ESG-CV funds must follow minimum standards for compliance with the lead-based paint remediation and disclosure requirements identified in 24 CFR 576.403 and 578.99(f), including the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act, the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 and implementing regulations in 24 CFR part 35, subparts A, B, H, J, K, M and R. All subrecipients must include in their Written Standards policies and procedures on how they will document need for and inspections for lead-based paint.

An example checklist (see Appendix) is included as a tool to guide grantees through the lead-based paint inspection process to ensure compliance. ESG and ESG-CV staff may use this checklist to document any exemptions that may apply, whether any potential hazards have been identified, and if safe work practices and clearances are required and used. This document should be kept in each program participants' file.

13. **Affidavit of Arrears, if applicable.** This document must be signed and dated by the landlord and provide the specific amounts and the number of months that the tenant has failed to pay rent. This document is required for those “at risk” of becoming homeless.
14. **Rental Payment Ledger, if applicable.** This document must come from the apartment management and must be in alignment with the affidavit of arrears. If the tenant is renting from a homeowner, this information may not be available, so the affidavit of arrears will be enough. This document is required for those “at risk” of becoming homeless.
15. **Termination of Assistance, if applicable.** If a program participant violates program requirements, the sub-recipient may terminate the assistance in accordance with a formal process established by the subrecipient that recognizes the rights of individuals affected. The agency must exercise judgment and examine all extenuating circumstances in determining when violations warrant termination so that a program participant’s assistance is terminated only in the most severe cases.

To terminate rental assistance or housing relocation and stabilization services to a program participant, the required formal process, at a minimum, must consist of:

- 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 other than the person who made or approved the termination decision; and
- Prompt written notice of the final decision to the program participant.

Subrecipients must provide in their Written Standards a description of their formal termination process.

16. **Check.** A copy of the check showing that the sub-recipients have paid the property owner/landlord. Sub-recipients must also provide bank statements with canceled checks paid to landlords and vendors on a quarterly basis.
17. **Confidentiality/ Privacy Statement.** This document must be uploaded in the HMIS file under the client number.

Re-Evaluation

Sub-recipients are required to re-evaluate the participant's eligibility and the types and amounts of assistance needed if they are to receive ongoing assistance.

Re-evaluation of the program participant’s continued eligibility must include:

- Detailed case notes showing the program case manager’s assessment of eligibility (i.e.

monthly rent payment).

- Case notes must be completed and uploaded to the program participant's file, prior to submitting the Request for Cash.

Income Re-evaluation timeline

Component	Funding Source	Income at Intake	Income at Re-evaluation	Frequency of Re-evaluation - not less than once
RRH	ESG-CV, Annual ESG for all purposes	N/A	at or below 30% AMI	annually
HP	Annual ESG (used for Non-COVID purposes)	Below 30% AMI	At or below 30% AMI	every 3 months
HP	ESG-CV and Annual ESG (used for COVID purposes)	At or below 50% AMI	At or below 50% AMI	every 6 months

ESG

For participants receiving rapid re-housing assistance, they must be re-evaluated not less than once **annually**, and for homelessness prevention participants, they must be re-evaluated not less than once every **three** months. At a minimum, each re-evaluation must establish that: (a) the program participant does not have an annual income that exceeds thirty percent (30%) of the median family income for the area for homeless prevention, as determined by HUD; and (b) the program participant lacks enough resources and support networks necessary to retain housing without ESG assistance.

The sub-recipient may also require each program participant receiving homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing assistance to provide notification of changes in income or other circumstances (household composition) that affect the program participant's need for assistance under ESG.

ESG-CV

For homeless prevention under ESG-CV, sub-recipients will be required to re-evaluate the program participant's eligibility at least once every 6 months (per HUD waiver expiring on 03/31/2022). These evaluations must, at a minimum, establish that:

- Program participant's household size and income has not changed;
- Program participant has not and is not receiving a duplication of benefits.
- The household lacks sufficient resources and support networks necessary to retain housing without ESG and ESG-CV assistance.

HMIS Evaluation

MHC relies on program information collected in HMIS to be up-to-date and correct. HMIS helps MHC verify that services are provided in accordance to ESG regulation including MHC ability to verify the following:

- Participant service dates
- Case management activities
- Service plan development
- Referrals from Coordinated Entry
- Returns to homelessness
- Participant income changes
- Required program documentation
- Discharge destination

MHC collects “active client” data from HMIS and reports for Domestic Violence agencies monthly to determine the number of participants served with program funds.

Agencies are required to discharge participants timely to prevent data discrepancies. MHC will provide subrecipients with a data discrepancy report as needed.

Program Participant Confidentiality and Privacy Policies

Each subrecipient must incorporate into their policies and procedures a process that will ensure the confidentiality of applicant's/program participant's identifying information; records pertaining to any individual or family provided family violence prevention; and treatment services offered under any project assisted with ESG or ESG-CV funds. Furthermore, the address or location of any shelter for victims of domestic violence assisted must be anonymous except upon written authorization from the person or persons responsible for the operation of the shelter for this information to be made public.

The subrecipient must provide the program participant with a confidentiality and privacy policy form, which is signed and dated in the participant file.

Grievance and Appeals Process

Sub-recipients are required to have an established process for addressing program participant's grievances for decisions, including termination or reduction of benefit, denial of benefit or other grievance. At a minimum, the process must include the following components:

- Informs the participant/applicant of the policy and documents participant/applicant acknowledgement of grievance and appeal procedure in client file;
- The grievance and appeal language will accompany all denial, reduction, and termination documentation.
- Informs the participant/applicant that they may contest and appeal any decision that denies (for

- any reason) or limits eligibility of participant/applicant and/or terminates or modifies any benefits;
- Allows any aggrieved person a minimum of thirty days within which to request an administrative review;
- Informs the applicant/participant of their right to present written or oral objections before a person other than the person (or a subordinate of that person) who made or approved the decision;
- Informs the applicant/participant and MHC in writing of the final determination and basis for the decision within ten days of the determination. Any person or persons designated by sub-recipient can complete the administrative review, other than the person who made or approved the decision under review or a subordinate of this person. MHC retains the right to require modification of any review or appeals process that in its determination does not meet basic principles for notification, instruction, time allowance, impartiality and access.
- Sub-recipients must make accommodations for clients who have language or disability barriers that would prevent them from participating in the appeals process.

Conflicts-of-Interest

HUD guidance states “no person who exercises or has exercised any functions or responsibilities with respect to activities under the ESG program, or who is in a position to participate in a decision-making process or gain inside information with regard to activities assisted under the program, may obtain a financial interest or benefit from an assisted activity; have any financial interest in any contract, subcontract, or agreement with respect to an assisted activity; or have a financial interest in the proceeds derived from an assisted activity, either for him or herself or for those with whom he or she has family or business ties, during his or her tenure or during the one-year period following his or her tenure”.

The state issued guidance which expanded the definition of relative to include a “spouse, child, parent or any person related by blood or marriage within the third degree”. This definition is based on the Ethics in Government Act and the state nepotism statute. It is the responsibility of the Grant Administrator to properly disclose the conflict-of-interest provision to interested participants. If it is found that a conflict-of-interest has occurred, the grant recipient may be required to repay program funds, using non-federal funds. Failure to repay the funds may result in termination of participation in any future HUD funded programs. There will be no exceptions to this guidance granted by MHC.

Written Standards

Sub-recipients are required to develop their own written standards for ESG and ESG-CV as described in [24 CFR 56.400\(e\)](#) of the ESG Interim Rule and adapt them for ESG-CV. These written policies and procedures will vary among sub-recipients; however, they must all be written in accordance with federal regulations as well as MHC requirements. ESG-CV policy must include:

- Summary of how ESG-CV funds are being used to prevent, prepare for and respond to coronavirus.

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation Process

Subrecipients should view the implementation of a project as a continuous learning process. All staff of subrecipients should be knowledgeable of program requirements. Communication with MHC Staff, review of policy statements and instructions, attending workshop events conducted by MHC and a thorough review of this manual should assist in developing a strong knowledge base of the program.

The following summarizes the implementation process:

- MHC provides contracts/agreements to subrecipients and conducts the implementation workshop to provide guidance and materials necessary to implement a project.
- Subrecipients should begin the environmental review process immediately to meet the necessary federal requirements and timelines. If the activity is exempt from Environmental Review due to ESG-CV waivers or other ESG eligible program exemptions, subrecipients must complete an Environmental Review exempt form.
- Subrecipients should begin the procurement process for all services required for the project. Instructions for this process are outlined in the [procurement](#) section of this manual.
- Subrecipients must submit to MHC the documentation necessary to allow Contract Special Conditions clearance.
- Subrecipients must submit to MHC a Signatory Authority Letter for future Requests for Cash and program reporting. There should be no more than two (2) authorized signatories.
- Subrecipients must establish a financial management system that identifies the activity and line item budgets contained in the contract. The amount of funds approved in the contract budget will be closely monitored to avoid exceeding the allocated limits.
- Subrecipients must establish a recordkeeping system for the project.

Implementation Workshop

MHC will host a mandatory implementation workshop following an award of funds. Subrecipients will be notified in writing of the date, time and location of the workshop.

Grant Agreement

Upon being awarded funds, a grant agreement is executed between Mississippi Home Corporation and

the subrecipient for the award amount and selected activity. The agreement is a very important document throughout the life of the project. It identifies the description of the activities funded, budgeted costs, general terms and conditions, and any special conditions which must be met before the MHC will release funds.

The agreement contains the following:

Signature Sheet	The Signature Sheet identifies the sub-recipient, effective dates of the contract, grant number, amount of funds awarded, and the attachments detailed below. This sheet is signed by senior management of Mississippi Home Corporation and requires the signature of the chief executive officer of the sub-recipient.
Special Conditions	The environmental regulation is the only special condition that requires written clearance.
General Terms and Conditions	The terms and conditions cite program authority, rules, and regulations pertinent to all ESG Grants.
Assurances	Compliance with the assurances is committed to by the signature of the chief executive officer of the subrecipient in the original project application. The sub-recipient contract signatory should carefully review all assurances prior to signing the contract, as that office is ensuring compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and other requirements of the ESG program.
Budget	This section of the contract reflects the funds allocated to each project activity area. Subrecipients not sure of an eligible expense should contact MHC Staff for clarification prior to making a commitment of funds. Although not intended to be exhaustive, the following list of allowable program activities is included in the contract.

The term of the agreement will be outlined under “Project Period Beginning and Ending Dates”. Extensions and budget modifications may be considered by MHC on a case by case basis. Subrecipients must submit to MHC a written request for program extension and/or budget modifications with an explanation of why an extension is needed. If a requested change is found to be advantageous to the project, MHC will prepare the necessary final documents for review. Once all parties have received copies of the executed revised agreement, the requested action may proceed. MHC must approve all changes prior to local action. Noncompliance may result in ineligible costs and may result in the repayment of grant funds.

Effective Date of Award

All Grant Agreements will require signature by MHC and the Executive Director of the subrecipient to become fully executed. When fully executed, the sub-grant awards are effective as of the date indicated with MHC’s signature.

Funds are available for use after:

- A budget has been approved by MHC;
- The contract/agreement has been fully executed;
- The start of the performance period; and
- The Environmental Review has been completed.

Expenses incurred prior to the completion of any of the above four milestones will not be reimbursed and may result in cancellation of the sub-grant, unless approved in writing by MHC.

Performance Period

Annual ESG

The performance period for each annual ESG sub-grant is twelve (12) months. Sub-recipients must provide services to homeless individuals and families for at least the period during which ESG funds are provided.

ESG-CV

All funds awarded to a recipient through the first and second allocations of ESG-CV funds must be expended for eligible activity costs by September 30, 2023.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Budget

ESG and ESG-CV sub-recipients must propose a budget based on the actual amount awarded. The budget must be approved by MHC prior to any reimbursable expenditure. **Reimbursement will not be made for activities that are not specified in an approved budget even though such activities may be classified as an eligible activity.**

MHC requires sub-recipients to receive MHC's written approval prior to making contract amendments, modifications, or extensions. For MHC to consider a contract change, the sub-recipient must submit an explanation of the need for the change with the executive director's signature. Some changes to original contracts may require the re-evaluation of an applicant's eligibility and could result in funding being withdrawn. The sub-recipient will be notified in writing when the State cannot approve a requested revision.

A request for budget modification must include the executive director's signature and a detailed allocation of funds. If approved, a modification of the contract budget will be prepared by MHC and submitted to the sub-recipient for signature. Budget modifications may include the creation of budgets for new activities/line items and/or the transfer of funds among existing budgeted activities/line items. All budget modifications require written MHC approval.

Administrative Costs

Administrative costs will be used for costs related to the planning and execution of the ESG activities. The total amount for administration will be 7.5 percent of the total allocation of ESG funding grant. Match funding for this activity will be provided under other ESG funded activities (i.e. Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Activities). Administrative dollars will be retained by the MHC, and match support for this activity will be provided by awarded agencies in conjunction with other homeless activities.

ESG-CV allows for up to 10% administrative charges. Administrative dollars related to ESG-CV are allowed by subrecipients of ESG-CV.

Matching Requirements

MHC ensures that 100 percent of the Emergency Solutions Grant received is matched with equal resources. Sub-recipients must submit match documentation to MHC quarterly and provide a description of the nature of the reported matching expenses and a certification that the match funds were used for ESG-eligible expenses. In addition, at the annual monitoring, MHC will pull samples of match documentation for verification purposes. The match may be cash or an in-kind amount but cannot be counted as satisfying the matching requirement of another federal grant.

Types of match that may be accepted include:

- Cash contributions expended for allowable costs including staff salaries and fringe benefits
- Noncash contributions
- Services provided by volunteers are matched at the current minimum wage salary unless the recipient can verify a higher rate of pay for current employees performing similar work
- Real property, equipment, goods or services that if the recipient had to pay for them with grant funds, the payments would have been indirect costs
- The value of donated goods and services such as clothing, food, diapers, haircuts, etc. The value placed should be consistent with 2 CFR 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Final Guidance.
- Costs paid by program income provided the costs are eligible ESG costs that supplement the recipient's ESG program. All sources listed as match must meet these criteria:
- The matching contribution must be made after the date that HUD signed the ESG Grant Agreement;
- Cash contributions must be expended within the expenditure deadline in 576.203;
- Non-cash contributions must be made within the expenditure deadline in 576.203.
- Contributions used to match a previous ESG grant may not be used to match a subsequent ESG grant;
- Contributions that have been or will be counted as satisfying a match requirement of other federal funds may not be used as match for ESG funding;
- The matching funds must be used for ESG eligible clients and activities; and

If ESG funds are used to satisfy matching requirements of another federal program, funding from that program cannot be used to satisfy the matching requirements of ESG.

ESG Match Exceptions

Applications will be accepted from subrecipients who have the capacity to provide ESG services in their community but are unable to meet the match requirements. Up to \$100,000 of a State's fiscal year grant is not required to be matched; therefore, MHC is passing this benefit to subrecipients that are least capable of providing the match contributions and to encourage new applications.

Requirements for match exceptions:

- Must be a new ESG applicant or an agency who has not received ESG funding in two or more years.
- The subrecipient does not have the required contributions to meet ESG Match Requirements listed above.
- The subrecipient can request 100% of its grant for consideration under this Match Exception. Grant requests will be capped as funds allowed/at \$33,000.

ESG-CV Match

Match requirements are waived for ESG-CV activities.

Subrecipient Financial Management Requirements

- Signatory Authorization Letter that identifies authorized parties responsible to sign Request for Cash and reporting documents;
- The subrecipient must submit the CoCs Financial Management policy to MHC;
- The subrecipient shall submit the internal control policy for the request for cash as a section of the Financial Management policy;
- The procedures submitted must correspond with the submission of each Request for Cash.

Requests for Cash

Funds are requested by using the Request for Cash form and the Consolidated Support Sheet which can be viewed on MHC's website at www.mshomecorp.com. These forms must be accurately completed or the request will be returned to the sub-recipient. All forms that require a signature must be signed for the Request for Cash to be reviewed and processed.

Prior to drawing down funds, the sub-recipient must have completed the following:

- Grant Agreement executed and returned to MHC;
- Environmental Review Record Clearance;
- Clearance of all contract special conditions;

- W9 Form submitted to MHC;

Submission Requirements

Annual ESG

- For annual ESG, requests for cash must be submitted on the 15th of every month for the previous month's activities. **IF YOU CHOOSE TO SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE ESG REQUEST A MONTH, ON REQUEST MUST BE SUBMITTED ON THE 15th AND THE SECOND ON THE 30th OF THE MONTH.**

Requests for reimbursements must be submitted within ninety (90) days of services provided. *Example: If you are submitting an RFC for 08/01/2021-08/15/2021, your request for reimbursement documentation must be dated between May 1, 2021 -July 31,2021.*

- Expenses incurred after June 30th must be on a separate RFC.
- Requests for Cash for annual ESG must be emailed to Faye McCall at faye.mccall@mshc.com and Raven Williams at ravin.willias@mshc.com.
- MHC is required to make timely payments to each of its subrecipients within 30 days after the date of receiving the subrecipient's complete payment request. If the sub-recipient submits an incomplete or incorrect request for payment, staff will make notification via email and return the request as necessary.
- Once the submitted RFC is approved, payment to a recipient will be made through automatic deposit.

ESG-CV (RAMP)

- Subrecipients requesting funds under RAMP (ESG-CV) may submit weekly draw requests. The RFC and its supporting documentation must be submitted by the close of business day on Tuesday to receive payment by the following week on Wednesday.
- MHC will conduct a cursory review of the supporting documentation. Subrecipients will receive monthly reports detailing any missing or incomplete documentation needing corrective action for RFCs submitted. Subrecipients must correct any deficiencies noted.
- RAMP (ESG-CV) requests for cash must be submitted by email to faye.mccall@mshc.com, vickie.palfrey@mshc.com, and tamra.stewart@mshc.com. Questions regarding RFC payments may be submitted to Faye McCall or Tamara Stewart.
- Once the submitted RFC is approved, payment to a recipient will be made through automatic deposit.

Request for Cash Form Instructions

The Request for Cash (RFC) form is used by subrecipients on a cost reimbursement basis to requisition funds. All applicable sections of the form must be complete.

Request for Cash Submission Process

- 1) Agencies are required to submit an RFC for the awarded grant at minimum of one a month.
- 2) Agencies must submit all RFC by 15th of each month. If the 15th falls on a weekend, the RFC must be submitted the following business day.
- 3) Agencies are required to submit verification of payment to vendors identified on the RFC.
 - a. For example, cancel checks (front & back) or bank statements.
- 4) Cost incurred on the RFC must be during the agency's contract period.

Section A: General Information

Recipient

Name of Sub-recipient (selected from the drop-down menu)

Mailing Address

Sub-recipient's mailing address is automatically populated based on the sub-recipient.

Street Address

Sub-recipient's street address is automatically populated based on the sub-recipient.

City, State Zip

Sub-recipient's City, State Zip is automatically populated based on the sub-recipient.

Section B: Project Information

Grant No.

Provided by MHC based on the Program Year

Contract No.

Provided by MHC based on the Program Year, Program and Sub-recipient.

Project No.

N/A

Services Rendered

This period must fall within the contract period and the timeframe in which costs occurred. The dates provided in this field are the dates that purchases were made or the dates that an action became known to the sub-recipient (i.e., mail date, invoice date). The Services Rendered period cannot overlap state or subrecipient fiscal years.

Request No.

The draw number for the contract

MHC Staff Initials

To be completed by MHC staff.

Section C: Request per Activity

Activity Description

ESG Activity Components are Shelter, Street Outreach, Rapid Rehousing, Homeless Prevention and HMIS. CDBG-CV Activity Component is Homeless Prevention.

Budget Amount

The budget amount for each activity will be based on the amounts approved in the Grant Agreement.

Total Prior Request to Date

Total amount of funds previously disbursed for each activity.

This Request

Total amount of funds being requested for each activity.

Remaining Balance

Total amount of funds remaining for each activity after the current request.

Activity Numbers

Number assigned in IDIS for each activity.

Required Accomplishment Narrative:

Total number of persons served during the service period.

Signatory Section

Is this your final request for cash on this contract?

Must check "Yes" if there will be no future requests on this contract.

Signature of Authorized Official

The authorized official who must sign the Request for Cash (RFC) must be the same official who signed the contract or the approved authorized signatory official.

In case of signatory designation, an authorization letter will be required to be on file with Mississippi Home Corporation. The authorized official responsible for signing the RFC should not be the same as the preparer of the document. There should be a clear separation of duties.

Typed Name and Title of Authorized Official:

Name and Title of authorized signer must be typed on form.

Date Signed

Date Request of Cash form signed by authorized officials.

Prepared by

Name of person preparing the Request for Cash form. This should be the person most familiar with the data reported, in case of questions. The preparer of the RFC should not be the same as the authorized official responsible for signing the RFC. There should be a clear separation of duties. This signature can be typed in.

Preparer's Telephone No.:

Telephone number of the person preparing the RFC form.

Date Prepared

Date Request of Cash form prepared by the Preparer.

Consolidated Support Sheet Form Instructions

The Consolidated Support Sheet is provided to the subrecipient for use in documenting the cost proposed for reimbursement in the Request for Cash. It allows the subrecipient to report individual cost incurred per each activity area and to tie that cost by invoice numbers to support documentation. This support sheet allows a sub-recipient to maintain budget balances of activity area costs, federal expenditures, matching contributions, and total expenditures. Completed Consolidated Support Sheets are to be submitted each time a Request for Cash is submitted to MHC. Cost reported must equal the amount requested and disbursed. **No Request for Cash will be processed if the Consolidated Support Sheet and the Cumulative Support Sheet is not attached, signed and completed correctly.** The Request for Cash will be returned to the sub-recipient and must be re-submitted when completed or corrected. A duplicate copy of each Request for Cash must be retained in the subrecipient's file.

General instructions are as follows:

Program

Name of Program funds are being requested

Recipient

Name of Sub-recipient

Request for Cash Number

Draw request number for this contract

Contract Number

Provided by MHC based on the Program Year, Program and Sub-recipient.

Total Amount Requested

Automatically calculated field based on data entered for each line item.

IDIS #

The activity number assigned based on the Request for Cash form.

Date

Date of activity.

Line Item

Description of the eligible cost for the activity.

CAPER Category

The sub-category for an activity.

Vendor Name / Invoice Number

Enter the individual vendor name, month of payment and corresponding vendor invoice numbers, ID

numbers or names of program participants to reference attached cost documentation.

For the RAMP (ESG-CV and CDBG-CV) participants, please submit only the HMIS ID number associated with the participant not the name.

Total Invoice

Total amount of the invoice.

Amount of This Request

Amount of funds being requested for reimbursement for each line item.

Match Amount

Enter the amount of match funds to be used towards the activity area based on the available documentation. Enter a line item which describes the type of match (cash donation, value of donated materials, lease value, rent value, staff salary, or volunteer time value), vendor name, and invoice number for each match amount. Federal share and match share must maintain a 1 to 1 ratio as the project progresses and must be at least 1 to 1 at project completion. **Match funds are not included in the last three columns of the Consolidated Support Sheet. Match funds and match documentation is not required for ESG-CV.**

Amount Budgeted

Total amount budgeted for each activity based on the contract.

Amount Requested to Date

This column contains previously approved and presently requested federal cost. This amount must match the amount showing in IDIS for this activity. If the prior amount requested is incorrect. The RFC will be returned to the subrecipient for correction. The changes must be initiated by the signer also. An entry is made of the previously approved federal reimbursement activity total on the same row as "Amount Budgeted" for requests other than the initial. Entries are made for each federal cost item in the same amount as was shown for that item under "Amount of This Request". These cost entries will automatically inhabit the Balance column and be deducted from the activity area balance.

Balance

Automatically calculated field based on the "Amount of This Request" column.

Grand Total

Activity Area Totals will automatically inhabit the "Total" row for respective activity areas. From these activity totals a grand total will automatically inhabit the "Grand Total" row for each column.

Service Rendered (Beginning and Thru)

Automatically populated from the Request for Cash form.

Cumulative: Program Expenditures

(Federal Share) The total amount of federal funds requested to date for all activities. This should equal the grand total for "Amount Requested to Date".

Cumulative: Matching Expenditures

(Match Share) The total amount of matching funds reported to date for all activities. This should equal

the grand total for the match column.

Total Expenditures

Enter the sum of the cumulative program expenditures and the cumulative matching expenditures reported to date.

Typed Name and Title of Authorized Official

Enter the name of the authorized official who must sign the Request for Cash. This is the same official who signed the contract or an approved authorized signatory official. In case of signatory designation, an authorization letter will be required to be on file with Mississippi Home Corporation.

Mississippi Home Corporation RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The program staff shall process Requests for Cash/Consolidated Support Sheets and forward the documents to the MHC Finance Department. The total process time for each RFC is within 30 days of a **correctly submitted** Request for Cash.

In the event of questions, errors, or discrepancies regarding submitted document(s), the MHC staff shall contact the designated subrecipient financial officer to discuss the issue. **The staff will not make any corrections or other changes to the Request for Cash and/or Consolidated Support Sheets. It is the subrecipient's responsibility to submit a true and correct documentation.**

2. All Requests for Cash/Consolidated Support Sheets submitted by the subrecipient shall be maintained by both the ESG and ESG-CV staff and the Finance Department of the MHC.

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Request for Cash shall always be accompanied by the Consolidated Support Sheet and invoices to support all costs.
2. At least one Request for Cash must be submitted monthly. You may submit more than one after approval, but you must submit AT LEAST one month.
3. For the ESG-CV (RAMP) Requests for Cash must be submitted at least bi-monthly. The Requests for Cash can be submitted weekly.
4. A Request for Cash must not include cost incurred during two of the subrecipient State's fiscal years. An individual cost falls into the fiscal year in which it is incurred based on the invoice date.
5. Costs eligible for reimbursement must be incurred during the contract period.
 - See ESG-CV waiver for COVID related activities dating to January 2020.
6. Requests for Cash MUST include documentation to support matching expenditures. When additional documentation or clarification is requested from the subrecipient, it must be submitted before the next request for cash will be processed. NO Additional Request for Cash Reimbursement will be processed, until outstanding items are resolved.

Request for Cash proper documentation must include

- Receipts for all purchases for which reimbursement is requested.
 - Proof of payment for all items for which reimbursement is being requested (i.e. payment check copies, credit card statement showing purchases, zero balance receipt showing the payment type.)
7. The subrecipient is responsible for providing a CAPER Summary Report monthly. This shall include beneficiary and financial reporting. Failure to submit these documents monthly will result in a delay of processing the Request for Cash.

8. Sub-recipients must comply with policies and procedures for submitting the annual CAPER (HMIS/Comparable Database). All ESG sub-recipients must submit the report to MHC by July 15th of each reporting year. Reporting periods run from July 1 through June 30th of the subsequent year.
9. Sub-recipients must comply with policies and procedures for HUD's [Section 3 Form #60002](#) for each open grant. All ESG sub-recipients must submit the form to MHC by July 15th of each reporting year. Reporting periods run from July 1 through June 30th of the subsequent year.

Review of RAMP's Subrecipient Grants Management:

An example of questions that will be presented in the review detailed below:

1. Does the subrecipient participate in a coordinate assessment system that meets HUD's requirements:
 - a. Does the subrecipient (unless it is a victim service provider) use an assessment system?
 - b. Are all initial evaluations conducted in accordance with the coordinated assessment system requirements?

NOTE: ESG and ESG-CV-funded victim service providers may choose not to use the CoC's coordinated assessment system. [24 CFR 576.400(d); 24 CFR 576.401(a); 24 CFR 576.500(g)]

2. Was the screening, assessment, and referral of the program participants consistent with ESG written standards required under 24 CFR 576.400(e) 24 CFR 576.400(d)

Internal Reviews for Requests for Cash

Purpose

The purpose of internal reviews is to examine request for cash requests received from subrecipients and to provide objective and independent assurance of the existence, accuracy, completeness, and eligibility of the items requested for reimbursement to all material respects.

Periodic Review

Reviews will initially be conducted quarterly. On-going reviews will be semi-annually or more frequently based on prior findings and/or risk assessment. Reports will be issued semi-annually and will cover two reviews.

Scope

Review procedures should be sufficient to establish the following to all material respects.

- 1) No duplicates in reimbursements based on the beneficiary or the subrecipient
- 2) Existence of the beneficiary and existence of the expenditure
- 3) Accuracy of the expenditure
- 4) Completeness of the supporting documents
- 5) Eligibility of the person and of the expenditure

Independence and Objectivity

The review will be conducted with independents and objectivity without regard to the subrecipient.

Method

- 1) Payment will be made based on Request for Cash (RFC) requests submitted by the subrecipients for reimbursement of eligible expenses.

Sample Selection

- 1) A random nonstatistical sample will be selected based on the assessed risk of the subrecipient and the results of past reviews.
- 2) The sample will be selected from the Consolidated Support Sheets submitted as support for the Request for Cash.

Review

- 1) All items are tested against required documentation and support sufficient to cover the scope described above.
- 2) After the completion of the quarterly review, all findings will be provided to the subrecipient's executive director for review. The subrecipient will then have 5 working days to provide a written response or to cure the findings.
- 3) Once all review responses have been received from the subrecipient, a final determination will be made on each finding and a semi-annual report will be issued after the completion of two quarterly reviews.

- 4) If the findings are deemed sufficient in severity and/or demonstrate a trend, after the issuance and approval of the final report, the amount of the findings will be projected over the population and funds will be recaptured. The formula used to calculate the amount of the recapture when projected over the populations is as follows: *Error Amount in Dollars / Sample Amount in Dollars X Total Dollars of the Request for Cash.*

Reporting

- 1) A draft report will be completed detailing the results of the review and the recapture of funds if any, will be detailed.
- 2) Any recapture of funds will be deducted from the subrecipient's next RFC.

REPORTING

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

A Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a client-level data collection and management system that allows for better coordination among agencies providing services to clients. It is not a national reporting system, and it is not designed to be a financial reporting/accounting system. Agencies providing ESG and ESG-CV assistance MUST enter client-level data into HMIS so the subrecipient can provide aggregate data to MHC.

Subrecipients must enter data on all persons served and all activities assisted under ESG and ESG-CV into HMIS or, in the case of victim service providers, a comparable database in accordance with HUD's standards on participation, data collection, and reporting under a local HMIS. Comparable systems must be able to export data suitable for Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) submission through the ESG-CAPER Annual Reporting Tool (eCart).

Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS)

IDIS is HUD's financial management system through which funds are drawn down and reports on performance data for HUD's Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

CAPER Reporting

The purpose of CAPER is to generate the Emergency Solutions Grant Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report. The CAPER needs to be COMPLETED ANNUALLY BY SUBRECIPIENTS of projects receiving Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) funding and is designed to provide an unduplicated count of persons served in ESG projects, as well as demographic breakdowns of those clients.

ESG-CV CARES Act Reporting

MHC will report on uses of the ESG-CV funds in the CAPER within 180 days from program year end.

In addition, the CARES Act requires quarterly reports to be submitted that includes the following information:

- Information regarding the amount of funds received;
- The amount of funds obligated or expended for each project or activity;
 - If a new activity is provided during the contract year, subrecipients must respond to:
 - “Briefly describe what you provided through this service, including how you used these services to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 response and recovery and why you believe it was necessary for your crisis response effort.”
- A detailed list of all such projects or activities, including a description of the project or activity; and
- Any detailed information on any subcontractor or subgrants awarded by the recipient.

MHC Reporting Requirements for ESG-CV RAMP

Sub-recipients receiving ESG-CV funds under RAMP must submit bi-weekly reports to MHC that contain the following project level data:

- The number of applications/calls received,
- The number of persons eligible for ESG, and ESG-CV and Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing,
- The number of person declined/rejected, and
- Health metrics.
- The number of cases of Duplication of Benefits captured by the subrecipients.

Quarterly submission of the SAGE required reporting.

- MHC will send a quarterly data request to ESG-CV subrecipients via SAGE.

MONITORING AND CLOSEOUT PROCEDURES

Compliance with regulatory and programmatic requirements of the ESG and ESG-CV subgrant is generally determined through on-site monitoring by MHC. Monitoring concentration will include, but is not limited to, financial management, eligible beneficiaries and Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)/Comparable Database. Monitoring will generally be conducted after advance notice and at a date and time convenient to both MHC and sub-grant recipients but may be conducted without notice and at any normal hour of business operation at the discretion of MHC.

When preparing for a monitoring visit, ensure that agencies policies, ESG/ESG-CV funded activities, and files are in line with [CPD ESG monitoring](#) guide Chapter 28 and this manual.

Responsibilities of the Subrecipient

Subrecipients who receive ESG, and ESG-CV assistance must understand it is their primary responsibility to enforce **ALL** obligations and regulations in complying with the intent of Congress as declared by the HEARTH Act Final Rule.

Subrecipients must ensure that activities undertaken meet the primary objectives of the Act, its regulations, and the State's ESG and ESG-CV program objectives.

If the State determines that a subrecipient of ESG and/or ESG-CV funds has failed to comply with any provision of this subpart, the State shall notify the non-profits' chief executive officer of the noncompliance and shall request the officer to ensure conformity in a timely manner.

Remedial actions and sanctions for failure to meet the ESG/ESG-CV:RAMP program requirements will be designed to prevent a continuation of the deficiency; mitigate, to the extent possible, its adverse effects or consequences; and prevent its recurrence.

Mississippi Home Corporation may instruct the subrecipient to submit and comply with proposals for actions to correct, mitigate, and prevent noncompliance with ESG, and ESG-CV requirements including but not limited to the following:

- Prepare and follow a schedule of actions for carrying out activities affected by the noncompliance, including schedules, timetables, and milestones necessary to implement the affected activities;
- Establish and follow a management plan that assigns responsibilities for carrying out the remedial actions;
- Cancel or revise activities likely to be affected by the noncompliance, before expending ESG/ESG-CV funds for the activities;
- Reprogram ESG/ESG-CV funds that have not yet been expended from affected activities to other eligible activities;
- Suspend disbursement of ESG/ESG-CV funds for some or all activities;

- Reduce or terminate the remaining grant of sub-recipient and reallocate those funds to other subrecipients.

In addition, MHC may impose the following Remedial Plan of action for the noncompliance of subrecipients:

- The MHC may suspend payments to the extent HUD deems it necessary to preclude the further expenditure of funds for affected activities.
- The MHC may remove the sub-recipient from participation in reallocations of funds.
- The MHC may deny matching credit for all or part of the cost of the affected activities and require the sub-recipient to make further matching contributions to make up for the contribution determined ineligible.
- The MHC may require the subrecipient to reimburse its line of credit in an amount equal to the funds used for the affected areas.
- The MHC may reduce or terminate the remaining grant of a subrecipient and reallocate those funds to other recipients;
- The MHC may condition a future grant.
- The MHC may take other remedies that are legally available.

Performance Standards and Outcomes

MHC consulted with each CoC to develop appropriate program outcomes and performance standards. ESG activities performance will be measured based on the CoC performance outcomes and the outcomes each subrecipients identified in their grant application.

Performance outcomes include:

1. Housing Measure
 - a. Emergency Shelter- persons, exiting to permanent housing during the operating year.
 - b. Emergency Shelter/Street Outreach- person's length of time remaining in homelessness
 - c. Street Outreach- successful placement of persons from street outreach to permanent housing
 - d. Permanent Housing- persons who remain in the permanent housing at the end of the operating year or were exited into permanent housing
 - e. Permanent Housing- persons who returned to homelessness within a year of receiving assistance
2. Income Measure
 - a. Persons age 18 and older who increased their total income
 - b. Persons age 18 and older who increased their earned income

Common Errors on Request for Cash Submissions

It is the responsibility of the State to ensure the activities of the ESG and ESG-CV projects are administered in accordance with the HEARTH Act. The sub-recipient must ensure that project activities are carried out to avoid problems which violate the intent of the Act. Although the duties may be delegated, the ultimate responsibility for compliance rests with the non-profit's executive officers, as a State sub-recipient of ESG and ESG-CV funding.

Listed below are some common problems that subrecipients of ESG and ESG-CV projects should be aware of and try to avoid:

Environmental (not applicable for the ESG-CV)

- Contracts were executed prior to MHC environmental clearance apart from contracts for administrative services.
- Failure to provide MHC with necessary documentation.

Financial Management

- Eligible Matching funds were not expended at a proportionate ratio with ESG funds. In-kind services were not properly documented. (Not applicable for the ESG-CV RAMP)
- Representatives of the subrecipient agency were not adequately bonded; if applicable.
- Financial records were not maintained on a current basis or not kept in accordance with standards contained in the State or federal regulations.
- All receipts are not recorded in Cash Receipts Ledger.
- Bank reconciliation and subsidiary ledgers are not maintained, such as payments and balances.
- Unsupported or insufficient support for payments.
 - Missing copies of checks/credit card statement showing payment of purchases requested for reimbursement.
 - New rental agreements uploaded in HMIS
 - Missing Activity sheets for staff costs.
- Expenditures made prior to the date of the contract or special conditions clearance.
- Inadequate procedures for verification of allowable costs.
- **Program modifications were implemented without prior MHC approval.** Any new activity not described in sub-recipients original budget or grant will require a modification.
- Inadequate separation of duties (i.e. person approving expenditures is also disbursing and recording; executive directors paid as case managers).

Administration

Currently, Administration fees are not eligible expenses under ESG. Therefore, attending conferences, conventions, membership fees are not allowed.

Procurement

- Solicitations for MBE/WBE participation were not obtained.
- The subrecipient fails to have written Procurement Procedures or fails to follow the procurement process.

Subrecipient Recordkeeping/ Record Retention

The subrecipient must provide a Record Retention policy. The subrecipient's review will follow the guide provided for accuracy and completeness.

File Organization and Maintenance

A subrecipient should structure its project/case files and other records to comply with the general requirements to facilitate preparation of progress and other reports, including all submissions necessary for input into the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) and the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

In setting up (or reviewing the adequacy of) its record-keeping system, a subrecipient should use this handbook to develop a list of all the items for which it must maintain documentation on a case/project basis and/or an activity basis.

The subrecipient must maintain records for the ESG, and ESG-CV programs for the greater of five (5) years or for the period specified below. Copies made by microfilming, photocopying, or similar methods may be substituted for the original records. This includes documentation of each programs participants' qualification as a family or individual at risk of homelessness or as a homeless family or individual and other program participant which must be retained for five (5) years after the expenditure of all funds from the grant under which the program participant was served.

MHC Record Retention

MHC shall retain records related to ESG and ESG-CV, including supporting documentation, for a period of not less than five years after the fiscal year of the grant or three years after the closeout of the grant from HUD, whichever is greater.

MHC will maintain files and records that relate to the overall administration of ESG, and ESG-CV as follows:

- Consolidated Plan submission to HUD
- Executed Grant Agreements
- Eligibility and national objective determinations for each activity under CDBG
- Citizen participation compliance documentation
- Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity records

Access to records

The HUD Office of the Inspector General, the Comptroller General of the United States, Mississippi Home

Corporation, or any of their authorized representatives, must have the right of access to all books, documents, papers, or other records of the sub-recipients that are pertinent to the ESG, and ESG-CV grants, to make audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcripts. These rights of access are not limited to the required retention period but last if the records are retained.

GENERAL COMPLIANCE

Compliance with regulatory and programmatic requirements of the ESG and ESG-CV, sub-grant is generally determined through on-site monitoring by MHC. Monitoring will be conducted annually at a minimum but may be conducted more frequently at the discretion of MHC. Monitoring will generally be conducted after advance notice and at a date and time convenient to both MHC and sub-recipients but may be conducted without notice and at any normal hour of business operation at the discretion of MHC.

Procurement Requirements

Procurement policy for programs administered by MHC is governed by Federal Regulation **2 CFR 200** and the policies are set forth in MHC Policy Statements and/or Instructions. The following procurement standards are currently in effect.

These policies and procedures are modified periodically in response to changing state laws or program conditions.

Small Purchases

Nonprofessional services or supplies which do not involve an expenditure of more than \$5,000 may be purchased without advertising. This method of procurement lends itself best to simple, informal purchases in which written price quotations (at least two) are obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources. If the purchase of one item is at least \$1,000 but not more than \$5,000, then certain documentation is necessary. Documentation of procurement would include a description of supplies or services needed, a list of vendors or suppliers called, and price quotes obtained. Selection would be based on the lowest and best supplier.

If the aggregate cost is more than \$5,000, but not more than \$50,000, supplies or nonprofessional services may be obtained from the lowest and best bidder without advertising for bids, provided at least two (2) competitive written bids have been obtained. Documentation of procurement would include description of supplies or service needed, list of vendors or suppliers called or notified, and written individual quotes from each contacted vendor or supplier. Selection would be based on the lowest and best supplier.

Written procurement policy should be available for review and all contracts should be in writing.

Procurement History Records

Procurement history records must include the rationale for the method of procurement used, selection of contract type, contractor selection/rejection, and basis for contract price.

Conflict of Interest

Recipients will maintain a written code of standards of conduct governing the performance of their employees engaged in the award and administration of contracts. Conflict of interest provisions listed at 2 CFR 200 is to be incorporated. Also see conflict of interest standards in this manual.

Fair Housing/ Equal Opportunity

The guarantee of civil rights has a constitutional as well as a statutory base. Several laws overlap in their coverage of certain actions and activities.

The authority for complaint investigation and compliance determination is retained within HUD.

Affirmative Outreach

Sub-recipient must communicate and make known that use of ESG, and ESG-CV, funded facilities, assistance and services are available to all on a nondiscriminatory basis. All individuals, including transgender individuals and other individuals who do not identify with the sex they were assigned at birth, must receive equal access to program, benefits, services and accommodations in accordance with their gender identity without being subjected to intrusive questioning or being asked to provide documentation, in accordance with the HUD final rule entitled “Equal Access in Accordance with an Individual’s Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs.” Subgrantee must develop and implement affirmative outreach written procedures and communication tools and materials to inform persons without regard to race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin, familial status, or disability, how to obtain access to facilities and services. If it appears the procedures subgrantee intends to use to accomplish this will not reach persons of any particular race, color, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin, familial status, or disability who may qualify for those activities and services, subgrantee must establish additional procedures to ensure those persons are made aware of assistance opportunities. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities must be available in order to ensure disabled participants have an equal opportunity to utilize housing, including shelters, and receive essential services. Greater levels of accessibility may be required for some shelters in compliance with The Americans with Disabilities Act.

Nondiscrimination

Subgrantee is required to comply with all state and federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination, including the Fair Housing Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Title III of the American with Disabilities Act. Subgrantee may not take any of the following actions based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, familial status, disability, marital status, source of income, sexual orientation, including gender identity, honorably

discharged veterans/military status, and survivors of domestic violence: • Refuse to rent housing or provide services • Make housing or services unavailable • Deny a dwelling or service • Set different terms, conditions or privileges for rental of a dwelling or obtaining services • Provide different housing services or facilities or different services • Falsely deny that housing is available for inspection or rental or that services are available • Deny anyone access to a facility or service.

Civil Rights Requirements

All recipients of Mississippi ESG and ESG-CV funds are required to comply with the Civil Rights requirements of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act and the Fair Housing Laws including the following:

- Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended
- Title VIII, Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended--or, the Fair Housing Act
- Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968
- Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
- Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended
- Executive Order 11063, as amended
- Executive Order 11246 as amended
- Executive Order 13279 as amended
- Section (3) Three, Housing and Urban Development Act of 1969, as amended

The Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity requirements affect every aspect of the Emergency Solutions Grant Program including the CARES component. . Civil rights laws are designed to protect individuals from discrimination based on the following:

- Race
- Color-ethnicity
- Sex
- National Origin
- Age
- Handicap
- Families with children

As Civil Rights apply to all MHC funded programs, they protect individuals from discrimination in the following categories:

- Housing
- Benefits and services created by ESG projects

Applicable Regulations

*24 CFR Part I
24 CFR Part 8 issued 6/2/88
24 CFR Parts 105, 107, 108,
109, 110, 115, 135
41 CFR Chapter 60
28 CFR Part 42
24 CFR Part 576*

- Employment
- Business opportunities
- Relocation resulting from ESG/ESG-CV funded activities

The following are individuals protected:

- Minorities
- Women
- Groups Distinguished by Age
- Handicapped Persons

The States by certifying their compliance with applicable civil rights laws, assure that methods of administration at the state and local level will be adequate to meet the requirements of the civil rights laws.

Sub-recipient records for fair housing requirements compliance must adhere to 24 CFR Parts 1 and 107.

To document compliance with fair housing requirements, sub-recipient's records must include the following:

- Documentation of any sub-recipient actions to affirmatively further fair housing (including providing funds, if applicable, for each action).
- For direct benefit activities, data must be maintained on the extent of participation and benefit by individuals involved in a program or activity funded totally or partially with ESG/ESG-CV funds. Such records must be kept by race, ethnicity, and gender of head of household, children, and handicap status. For area wide activities, documentation must include the following:
 - A description of geographic boundaries of the service area,
 - A description of the service being provided to the area, and
 - The race and ethnicity of the area
- Data on employment in each of the local government's operating units funded totally or partially with ESG funds. Data must be maintained for the categories prescribed in the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's EEO-4 form.
- Data on persons in households displaced because of ESG/ESG-CV activities, including the

following:

- The race and ethnicity of the households,
 - The handicap status of any displaced persons, and
 - The address to which each displaced household is relocated
- Where ESG activities cause a significant level of displacement of businesses, records must include data indicating the impact on businesses owned by minorities and women.

By signing the Certification of Assurance, the applicant is required to follow the bidding and negotiation requirements under Section 135.25 of the Section 3 Regulations (Title 24 CFR Part 135) and shall develop an affirmative action plan as specified in Section 135.70 for the use of businesses located in or owned in substantial part by persons residing in the area. Sub-recipients must document all efforts to meet these required actions and must report the progress made toward achieving these goals in the Contract and Subcontract Activity Report that is due every 6 months.

- Data must be submitted on each business entity that receives a contract or subcontract to be paid, with ESG funds, including data on the following:
 - The amount of the contract or subcontract
 - The racial/ethnic character
 - Any women's business enterprise as defined in Executive Order 12138.
- Documentation of the recipient's affirmative actions taken to overcome the effects of prior discrimination as determined through a formal compliance review or court proceeding, where the recipient has previously discriminated against persons on the ground of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or handicap in administering a program or activity funded in whole or in part with ESG/ESG-CV funds.
- Documentation indicating that the recipient has taken steps to affirmatively further fair housing.

Action to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing

Under the ESG, and ESG-CV grant agreement, the sub-recipient is required to provide assurance that the program will be conducted and administered in conformity with Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968. Therefore, all projects must be administered in a manner to affirmatively further fair housing. Sub-recipients must act to affirmatively further fair housing.

Examples of actions available to sub-recipients to fulfill this requirement include:

- Counseling Services
- Passage of a fair housing ordinance Creation of Human Rights Commission Education program
- Assistance to fair housing groups
- Assistance to minorities in locating in non-minority area Voluntary affirmative lending plans
- Voluntary affirmative realtor plans Voluntary affirmative home builder plans Local compliance and monitoring process
- Advertising the benefits of an open community
- Operation of a "New Horizons" program for providing fair housing Fair Housing Proclamation

The sub-recipient must indicate the type of action taken and the results of the efforts. For example, if a sub-recipient provides a counseling service to low and moderate-income persons, the sub-recipient must specify the type of counseling services provided and the number of beneficiaries by race and sex.

Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) Posters and Displays

FHEO posters, English, and Spanish versions, must be posted in all grant sub- recipients administration buildings and shelter locations. These posters should be in a **public** place and located in **plain view** to those entering and/or exiting the building in or near the common thoroughfare.

Participation of Businesses owned by Minorities or Women

The sub-recipient must also have a procedure to encourage and use minority/female businesses as a source of supplies, equipment, construction, and services.

Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988

(P.L. 100-430)

The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 provides stronger federal enforcement measures against discrimination in housing. It gives the Department of Housing and Urban Development authority to initiate enforcement actions and to penalize those who discriminate in the sale, rental, or financing of housing. In addition, the act adds persons with handicaps and families with children to those protected under Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968.

CIVIL RIGHTS REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MISSISSIPPI'S EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM

Communities funded under the ESG/ESG-CV Program should familiarize themselves with the following civil rights regulations and/or requirements concerning Fair Housing and Equal Employment Opportunity. These issues include the handbook, "Mississippi Minority Business Directory." The purpose of the directory is to "enable program participants to assure that small and minority businesses are utilized, when possible, as sources of supplies, equipment, construction and services."

Included in the packet of civil rights regulations are the Fair Housing and Equal Employment Opportunity posters. Sub-recipients are to display these posters where they will be visible around their offices and on or near job sites. Also included are the following regulations and requirements which communities are urged to familiarize themselves with:

1. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Pub. L. 88-352) and the regulations issued pursuant thereto (24 CFR Part 1) provide that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the applicant receives federal financial assistance and will immediately take any measures necessary to effectuate this assurance. If any real property or structure thereon is provided or improved with the aid of federal financial assistance extended to the applicant, this assurance shall obligate the applicant, or in the case of any transfer of such property, any transferee, for the period during which the real property or structure is used for a purpose for which the federal financial assistance is extended, or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits.
2. Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Pub. L. 90-284), as amended, administering all programs and activities relating to housing and community development in a manner to affirmatively further fair housing; and will act to affirmatively further fair housing in the sale or rental of housing, the financing of housing, and the provision of brokerage services.
3. Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701u) requiring that to the greatest extent feasible opportunities for training and employment be given to lower-income residents of the project area and contracts for work in connection with the project be awarded to eligible business concerns which are located in, or owned in substantial part by, persons residing in the area of the project.
4. Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, which requires that no person in the United States shall on the ground of race, color, national origin or sex be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activities funded in whole or in part with federal funds made available pursuant to the Act. Section 109 further provides that any prohibition against discrimination based on age under the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq) or with respect to an otherwise qualified handicapped individual as provided in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) shall also apply to any such program or activity.
5. Executive Order 11063, as amended by Executive Order 12259, on equal opportunity in housing and nondiscrimination in the sale or rental of housing built with federal assistance.
6. Executive Order 11246, and the regulations issued pursuant thereto (24 CFR Part 130 and 41 CFR Chapter 60), which provides that no person shall be discriminated against based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin in all phases of employment during the performance of federal or federally assisted construction contracts. Contractors and subcontractors on federal and

federally assisted construction contracts shall take affirmative action to ensure fair treatment in the following categories:

- employment
- upgrading
- demotion
- transfer
- recruitment or recruitment advertising
- layoff or termination
- rates of pay or other forms of compensation and
- selection for training and apprenticeship

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) protections

§ 5.2005 VAWA protections.

Subrecipients must provide **ALL** program participants with a notification of their VAWA rights. (See Appendix)

(a) Notification of occupancy rights under VAWA, and certification form.

(1) Subrecipients must provide to each of its applicants and to each of its tenants the notice of occupancy rights and the certification form as described in this section:

- (i) A "Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act," as prescribed and in accordance with directions provided by HUD, that explains the VAWA protections under this subpart, including the right to confidentiality, and any limitations on those protections; and
- (ii) A certification form, in a form approved by HUD, to be completed by the victim to document an incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, and that:
 - (A) States that the applicant or tenant is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
 - (B) States that the incident of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that is the ground for protection under this subpart meets the applicable definition for such incident under § 5.2003; and
 - (C) Includes the name of the individual who committed the domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, if the name is known and safe to provide.

(2) The notice required by paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section and certification form required by paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section must be provided to an applicant or tenant no later than at each of the following times:

- (i) At the time the applicant is denied assistance or admission under a covered housing program;
- (ii) At the time the individual is provided assistance or admission under the covered housing program;
- (iii) With any notification of eviction or notification of termination of assistance; and
- (iv) During the 12-month period following December 16, 2016, either during the annual recertification or lease renewal process, whichever is applicable, or, if there will be no recertification or lease renewal for a tenant during the first year after the rule takes

effect, through other means.

(3) The notice required by paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section and the certification form required by paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section must be made available in multiple languages, consistent with guidance issued by HUD in accordance with Executive Order 13166 (Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, signed August 11, 2000, and published in the Federal Register on August 16, 2000 (at 65 FR 50121).

(b) Prohibited basis for denial or termination of assistance or eviction -

(1) General. An applicant for assistance or tenant assisted under ESG/ESG-CV programs may not be denied admission to, denied assistance under, terminated from participation in, or evicted from the housing on the basis or as a direct result of the fact that the applicant or tenant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, if the applicant or tenant otherwise qualifies for admission, assistance, participation, or occupancy.

(2) Termination on the basis of criminal activity. An applicant in ESG/ESG-CV housing programs must not be denied tenancy or occupancy rights solely on the basis of criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking if:

- (i) The criminal activity is engaged in by a member of the household of the tenant or any guest or other person under the control of the tenant, and
- (ii) The tenant or an affiliated individual of the tenant is the victim or threatened victim of such domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking.

(c) Construction of lease terms and terms of assistance. An incident of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking shall not be construed as:

- (1) A serious or repeated violation of a lease executed under a covered housing program by the victim or threatened victim of such incident; or
- (2) Good cause for terminating the assistance, tenancy, or occupancy rights under a covered housing program of the victim or threatened victim of such incident.

(d) Limitations of VAWA protections.

- (1) Nothing in this section limits the authority of an ESG/ESG-CV subrecipient, when notified of a court order, to comply with a court order with respect to:
 - (i) The rights of access or control of property, including civil protection orders issued to protect a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; or
 - (ii) The distribution or possession of property among members of a household.
- (2) Nothing in this section limits any available authority of a covered housing provider to evict or terminate assistance to a tenant for any violation not premised on an act of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that is in question against the tenant or an affiliated individual of the tenant. However, the covered housing provider must not subject the tenant, who is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or is affiliated with an individual who is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, to a more demanding standard than other tenants in determining whether to evict or terminate assistance.
- (3) Nothing in this section limits the authority of a covered housing provider to terminate assistance to or evict a tenant under a covered housing program if the covered housing provider can demonstrate an actual and imminent threat to other tenants or those employed at or providing service to property of the covered housing provider would be present if that tenant or lawful occupant is not evicted or terminated from assistance. In this context,

words, gestures, actions, or other indicators will be considered an “actual and imminent threat” if they meet the standards provided in the definition of “actual and imminent threat” in § 5.2003.

(4) Any eviction or termination of assistance, as provided in paragraph (d)(3) of this section should be utilized by a covered housing provider only when there are no other actions that could be taken to reduce or eliminate the threat, including, but not limited to, transferring the victim to a different unit, barring the perpetrator from the property, contacting law enforcement to increase police presence or develop other plans to keep the property safe, or seeking other legal remedies to prevent the perpetrator from acting on a threat. Restrictions predicated on public safety cannot be based on stereotypes, but must be tailored to particularized concerns about individual residents.

(e) Emergency transfer plan. Each subrecipient, as identified in the program-specific regulations for the covered housing program, shall adopt an emergency transfer plan, no later than June 14, 2017 based on HUD's model emergency transfer plan, in accordance with the following:

(1) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

- (i) Internal emergency transfer refers to an emergency relocation of a tenant to another unit where the tenant would not be categorized as a new applicant; that is, the tenant may reside in the new unit without having to undergo an application process.
- (ii) External emergency transfer refers to an emergency relocation of a tenant to another unit where the tenant would be categorized as a new applicant; that is the tenant must undergo an application process in order to reside in the new unit.
- (iii) Safe unit refers to a unit that the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking believes is safe.

(2) The emergency transfer plan must provide that a tenant receiving rental assistance through, or residing in a unit subsidized under, a covered housing program who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking qualifies for an emergency transfer if:

- (i) The tenant expressly requests the transfer; and
- (ii)
 - (A) The tenant reasonably believes there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains within the same dwelling unit that the tenant is currently occupying; or
 - (B) In the case of a tenant who is a victim of sexual assault, either the tenant reasonably believes there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains within the same dwelling unit that the tenant is currently occupying, or the sexual assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period preceding the date of the request for transfer.

(3) The emergency transfer plan must detail the measure of any priority given to tenants who qualify for an emergency transfer under VAWA in relation to other categories of tenants seeking transfers and individuals seeking placement on waiting lists.

(4) The emergency transfer plan must incorporate strict confidentiality measures to ensure that the covered housing provider does not disclose the location of the dwelling unit of the tenant to a person who committed or threatened to commit an act of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against the tenant.

(5) The emergency transfer plan must allow a tenant to make an internal emergency transfer under VAWA when a safe unit is immediately available.

(6) The emergency transfer plan must describe policies for assisting a tenant in making an internal emergency transfer under VAWA when a safe unit is not immediately available, and

these policies must ensure that requests for internal emergency transfers under VAWA receive, at a minimum, any applicable additional priority that housing providers may already provide to other types of emergency transfer requests.

(7) The emergency transfer plan must describe reasonable efforts the covered housing provider will take to assist a tenant who wishes to make an external emergency transfer when a safe unit is not immediately available. The plan must include policies for assisting a tenant who is seeking an external emergency transfer under VAWA out of the covered housing provider's program or project, and a tenant who is seeking an external emergency transfer under VAWA into the covered housing provider's program or project. These policies may include:

- (i) Arrangements, including memoranda of understanding, with other covered housing providers to facilitate moves; and
- (ii) Outreach activities to organizations that assist or provide resources to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

(8) Nothing may preclude a tenant from seeking an internal emergency transfer and an external emergency transfer concurrently if a safe unit is not immediately available.

(9) Where applicable, the emergency transfer plan must describe policies for a tenant who has tenant-based rental assistance and who meets the requirements of paragraph (e)(2) of this section to move quickly with that assistance.

(10) The emergency transfer plan may require documentation from a tenant seeking an emergency transfer, provided that:

- (i) The tenant's submission of a written request to the covered housing provider, where the tenant certifies that they meet the criteria in paragraph (e)(2)(ii) of this section, shall be sufficient documentation of the requirements in paragraph (e)(2) of this section;
- (ii) The covered housing provider may, at its discretion, ask an individual seeking an emergency transfer to document the occurrence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, in accordance with § 5.2007, for which the individual is seeking the emergency transfer, if the individual has not already provided documentation of that occurrence; and
- (iii) No other documentation is required to qualify the tenant for an emergency transfer.

(11) The covered housing provider must make its emergency transfer plan available upon request and, when feasible, must make its plan publicly available.

(12) The covered housing provider must keep a record of all emergency transfers requested under its emergency transfer plan, and the outcomes of such requests, and retain these records for a period of three years, or for a period of time as specified in program regulations. Requests and outcomes of such requests must be reported to HUD annually.

(13) Nothing in this paragraph (e) may be construed to supersede any eligibility or other occupancy requirements that may apply under a covered housing program.

HUD Section 3

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) invests billions of federal dollars into distressed communities for urban planning, community development and projects that build and rehabilitate housing to help families achieve the American Dream. Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 recognizes that federal financial assistance can also become a tool to expand economic opportunities for low- and very low-income families and businesses of the neighborhoods and

communities where HUD invests public resources.

As a recipient of federal funds, MHC shall comply with Section 3 requirements set forth at 24 CFR Part 135 of the federal regulation which states that, to the greatest extent possible, businesses and employers working on HUD-funded projects must make a good faith effort to train and employ low-income individuals (Section 3 residents) living in the local area and also to contract with businesses owned by or that employ Section 3 residents. The regulatory threshold of Section 3 applicability to HUD-assisted projects is \$200,000 for Sub-Recipients and \$100,000 for Contractors and Sub-Contractors.

MHC has determined that all projects, regardless of the dollar amount, will be subject to compliance with Section 3 Requirements. This means that all sub-recipients, contractors, and/or subcontractors of MHC funded HUD projects will be obligated to comply with Section 3 requirements as set forth at 24 CFR 135 and MHC Section 3 Policy and Procedures. MHC believes that eliminating the regulatory threshold for Section 3 compliance will allow more residents of low- income communities generally – and more people who live in assisted housing in particular – to build work histories and obtain the work experience and skills they need to succeed in the labor market.

Therefore, strengthening Section 3 will make job training available to those who need it most and create a path of economic opportunity for Mississippians struggling with unemployment and low incomes.

Audits

The Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. 2 CFR 200 requires that a state, local government or non-profit organization expending \$750,000 or more a year in total cumulative Federal funds must have a Single Audit made in accordance with the Single Audit Act. This audit report must be submitted and received by the Federal clearinghouse designated by OMB and the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity, **no later than nine months following the end of the grant recipient's fiscal year in which the Federal funds were expended.**

If a Single Audit is required, and any of the funds expended were received through MHC requires that a copy of the Single Audit report must be submitted and received by the ESG/ESG-CV staff **no later than nine months following the end of the grant recipient's fiscal year in which the Federal funds were expended.**

If a Single Audit **is not** required, (and any of the funds expended were received through MHC), MHC requires that an acceptable Funding Certification Form (for that year only) be submitted and received by the ESG/ESG-CV staff. It must be received **no later than nine months following the end of the grant recipient's fiscal year in which the Federal funds were expended**, but no sooner than the end of the same fiscal year.

While a qualified Funding Certification Form will exempt the grant recipient from submitting a Single Audit to the ESG staff for the specified fiscal year, it does not exclude the grant recipient from any other requirements of audits or financial statements as requested by MHC or any other Agency or Authority.

Within six months after receipt of the grant recipient's Single Audit report or Funding Certification Form, the ESG staff will send a written management decision regarding the review of the submitted reports.

Audits should be mailed to:

Mississippi Home Corporation
ESG Department
735 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 39202

DEFINITIONS

Homeless means:

1. An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:
 - (i) 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;
 - (ii) An individual or family 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
 - (iii) An individual who 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;
2. An individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:
 - i. The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
 - ii. No subsequent residence has been identified; and
 - iii. The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks, **e.g.**, family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, needed to obtain other permanent housing;
3. Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:
 - i. Are defined as homeless under section 387 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a), section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832), section 41403 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e-2), section 330(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(h)), section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012), section 17(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b)) or section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a);
 - ii. Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing at any time during the 60 days immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance;
 - iii. Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during the 60-day period immediately preceding the date of applying for homeless assistance; and

- iv. 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 (including neglect), 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 or detention for criminal activity, and a history of unstable employment; or
4. Any individual or family who:
- i. 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;
 - ii. Has no other residence; and
 - iii. Lacks the resources or support networks, **e.g.**, family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing.

Definitions from 24 CFR 576.2. For purposes of ESG-CV funds, the definitions at 24 CFR 576.2 apply, except that:

At Risk of Homelessness. The CARES Act raised the income limit in paragraph (1)(i) of the “at risk of homelessness” definition at 24 CFR 576.2 from 30 percent of area median income to the Very Low-Income limit of the area, as determined by the Secretary. The entire definition of “at risk of homelessness,” incorporating the higher income limit for ESG-CV activities, is included below for reference.

At Risk of Homelessness means an individual or family who:

- Has an annual income that does not exceed the Very Low-Income Limit of the area, as established for HUD’s Section 8 and Public Housing programs at www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html;
- 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 24 CFR 576.2; and
- Meets one of the following conditions:
 - Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for homelessness prevention assistance;
 - Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;
 - Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance;
 - 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;

- 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;
- 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
- 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.

A child or youth who does not qualify as “homeless” under 24 CFR 576.2, 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

A child or youth who does not qualify as “homeless” under 24 CFR 576.2, 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.

Local government and unit of general purpose local government mean a “unit of general purpose local government,” as defined in 24 CFR 576.2 (i.e., any city, county, town, township, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State) and, as established by section 100261(1) of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21 Act), Public Law 112–141, includes:

- an instrumentality of a unit of general purpose local government, provided that the instrumentality is not a public housing agency, is established pursuant to legislation, and is designated by the chief executive of the general purpose local government to act on that government’s behalf with regard to activities funded under title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; and
- a combination of general-purpose local governments, such as an association of governments that is recognized by HUD.

State means a “State” as defined in 24 CFR 576.2 (i.e., each of the several States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico); and, as provided by section 100261(2) of the MAP-21 Act, includes any instrumentality of any of the several States designated by the Governor to act on behalf of the State and does not include the District of Columbia;

Definitions not in 24 CFR 576.2.

The McKinney-Vento Act means the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11371 et seq.).

Coronavirus means SARS–CoV–2 or another coronavirus with pandemic potential, as defined by section 23005 of the CARES Act.

Annual ESG means, unless otherwise specified, the Emergency Solutions Grants Program whether funded through annual fiscal year (FY) appropriations or CARES Act funding. For example, a program participant assisted using only FY2021 ESG funding and a program participant assisted using only ESG-CV funding are both ESG program participants.

ESG-CV means the Emergency Solutions Grants Program as funded by the CARES Act and governed by requirements HUD established in accordance with that Act. ESG-CV funds do not include annual ESG funds (e.g., FY 2020 ESG grant funds), although annual ESG funds may be used in accordance with the requirements established for purposes of ESG-CV funds as further described in Section IV of this Notice.

Temporary Emergency Shelter means any structure or portion of a structure, which is used for a limited period of time because of a crisis, such as a natural disaster or public health emergency, to provide shelter for individuals and families displaced from their normal place of residence or sheltered or unsheltered locations. Examples of temporary emergency shelters include:

- an overnight, daytime, or 24-hour shelter in which program participants are only provided a safe place to sleep, rest, bathe, and eat;
- a shelter where one or more services are made available on-site, whether by shelter staff or contractors or through a memorandum of understanding with another subrecipient or service provider; and
- a shelter designed to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families into permanent housing within a fixed period of time (e.g., within 12 months) and employs or contracts with one or more case managers or service providers to provide services as specified under sections III.E.3.a.(i)(e) and III.E.3.a.(ii)(e) through (h).

Prevent, Prepare for, and Respond to Coronavirus. To assist recipients in ensuring that an activity being paid for with ESG-CV funds is eligible, or determining whether annual ESG funding may follow the waivers and alternative requirements established in this Notice, recipients and subrecipients should consider the following:

Prevent...coronavirus means an activity designed to prevent the initial or further spread of the virus to people experiencing homelessness, people at risk of homelessness, recipient or subrecipient staff, or other shelter or housing residents. This includes providing Personal Protective Equipment to staff and program participants, paying for non-congregate shelter options such as hotels and motels, paying for handwashing stations and portable toilets for use by people living in unsheltered situations, and providing rapid re-housing or homelessness prevention assistance to individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness (as applicable) to reduce their risk of contracting or further spreading the virus.

Prepare for...coronavirus means an activity carried out by a recipient or subrecipient prior to or during a coronavirus outbreak in their jurisdiction to plan to keep people healthy and reduce the risk of exposure to coronavirus and avoid or slow the spread of disease. This includes updating written standards to prioritize people at severe risk of contracting coronavirus for shelter and housing consistent with fair housing and nondiscrimination requirements, adapting coordinated entry policies and procedures to account for social distancing measures or increased demand, developing a strategy and recruiting landlords to provide housing to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, training homeless providers on infectious disease prevention and mitigation, and implementing a non-congregate shelter strategy to reduce the spread of coronavirus.

Respond to coronavirus means an activity carried out once coronavirus has spread to people experiencing homelessness, provider staff, or once individuals and families lose or are at risk of losing their housing as a result of the economic downturn caused by coronavirus. This includes transporting individuals and families experiencing homelessness to medical appointments, paying for shelter to isolate individuals who have contracted coronavirus from other program participants and people experiencing homelessness, providing rental assistance to those who are at risk of losing their housing, have already become homeless, or continue to experience homelessness due to the economic downturn caused by coronavirus, and providing hazard pay to recipient or subrecipient staff who put their own health at risk to continue to provide necessary services to individuals and families experiencing and risk of homelessness.

APPENDIX



Homeless Definition

ELIGIBILITY BY COMPONENT (Emergency Solutions Grants Program)	Street Outreach	<p>Individuals defined as Homeless under the following categories are eligible for assistance in SO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category 1 – Literally Homeless Category 4 – Fleeing/Attempting to Flee DV (where the individual or family also meets the criteria for Category 1) <p>SO projects have the following additional limitations on eligibility within Category 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals and families must be living on the streets (or other places not meant for human habitation) and be unwilling or unable to access services in emergency shelter
	Emergency Shelter	<p>Individuals and Families defined as Homeless under the following categories are eligible for assistance in ES projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category 1 – Literally Homeless Category 2 – Imminent Risk of Homeless Category 3 – Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes Category 4 – Fleeing/Attempting to Flee DV
	Rapid Re-housing	<p>Individuals defined as Homeless under the following categories are eligible for assistance in RRH projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category 1 – Literally Homeless Category 4 – Fleeing/Attempting to Flee DV (where the individual or family also meets the criteria for Category 1)
	Homelessness Prevention	<p>Individuals and Families defined as Homeless under the following categories are eligible for assistance in HP projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category 2 –Imminent Risk of Homeless Category 3 – Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes Category 4 – Fleeing/Attempting to Flee DV <p>Individuals and Families who are defined as At Risk of Homelessness are eligible for assistance in HP projects.</p> <p>HP projects have the following additional limitations on eligibility with homeless and at risk of homeless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must only serve individuals and families that have an annual income <u>below</u> 30% of AMI



At Risk of Homelessness

CRITERIA FOR DEFINING AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS	Category 1	Individuals and Families	<p>An individual or family who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Has an annual income below <u>30%</u> of median family income for the area; <u>AND</u> (ii) 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> (iii) Meets one of the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Has moved because of economic reasons 2 or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for assistance; <u>OR</u> (B) Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship; <u>OR</u> (C) Has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance; <u>OR</u> (D) 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; <u>OR</u> (E) 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; <u>OR</u> (F) Is exiting a publicly funded institution or system of care; <u>OR</u> (G) Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the recipient's approved Con Plan
	Category 2	Unaccompanied Children and Youth	A child or youth who does not qualify as homeless under the homeless definition, but qualifies as homeless under another Federal statute
	Category 3	Families with Children and Youth	An unaccompanied youth who does not qualify as homeless under the homeless definition, but qualifies as homeless under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and the parent(s) or guardian(s) or that child or youth if living with him or her.

Mississippi Home Corporation

Request for Cash Form

Program: Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Section A: General Information		Section B: Project Information		
Recipient		Grant No.	Contract No.	Project No.
Mailing Address	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	
Street Address	#N/A	Services Rendered		
City, State Zip	#N/A			
Telephone No.	#N/A	From	To	Request No.
		Thru		MHC Staff Initials

Section C: Request Per Activity

	Activity Description	Budget Amount	Total Prior Request to Date	This Request	Remaining Balance	Activity Numbers
1	Shelter	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -	15078
2	Street Outreach	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -	15079
3	Rapid Rehousing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -	15080
4	Homeless Prevention	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -	15081
5	HMIS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ -	15082
Total:		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

Required Accomplishment Narrative

I Herby Certify That (a) the services covered by this request have not been received from the Federal Government/State Government or expended for such services under any other contract agreement or grant; (b) the amount requested will be expended for allowable costs / expenditures under the terms of the contract agreement or grant; (c) the amount requested herein does not exceed the total funds obligated by contract; and (d) the funds are requested for only immediate disbursements.

By signing this report, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the report is true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and objectives set forth in the terms and conditions of the Federal award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject me to criminal, civil or administrative penalties for fraud, false statements, false claims or otherwise (U.S. Code Title 18, Section 1001 and Title 31, Sections 3729-3730 and 3801-3812).

I Herby Certify That the goods sold and/or services rendered have been delivered and/or performed in good order within the time listed above and are in compliance with all statutory requirements and regulations. I certify that this request does not include any advances or funds for future obligations.

Is this your final request for cash on this contract?

YES

X

NO

Signature of Authorized Official

Date Signed

Prepared By

Date Prepared

Typed Name and Title of Authorized Official

Preparer's Telephone No.

To be completed by MHC Authorized Official

APPROVED BY: _____		DATE: _____	
Signature, Authorized MHC Representative			
AUTHORIZED BY: _____		DATE: _____	
Signature, Authorized MHC Representative			
IDIS APPROVED BY: _____		DATE: _____	
Signature, Authorized MHC Representative			
IDIS Voucher Number	Vendor Number	Issue/Series	Fund/Sub-Fund

Consolidated Support Sheet

[illegible]

ESG Allowable Program Activities Chart

Shelter	Rapid Rehousing and Prevention	Street Outreach
Shelter and Office Rent	Rental Arrears	Engagement
Shelter Food	Utility Arrears	Case Management
Supplies	Security Deposits	Emergency Health Services
Postage	Utility Deposits	Emergency Mental Health Services
Buildings/Grounds Maintenance and Repair	Rent Payments	Transportation
Pest Control	Moving Costs	
Vehicle Maintenance	Case Management	
Utilities (Electricity, Telephone, Gas [Fuel], Water/Sewer, and Internet Service)		
Equipment (Purchase and Maintenance/Repair)		
Furnishings		
Travel to support operations		
Insurance (Liability, Fiduciary, Building, and Vehicle)		
Storage Cost		
Security Workers - (Not counted as "Staff Cost")		
Janitorial Workers - (Not counted as "Staff Cost")		
Maintenance Workers - (Not counted as "Staff Cost")		
Professional Services such as Accounting		
Case Management		
Transportation/Mileage		
Hotel Voucher		

Staff Activity Report Sample

EXAMPLE: MONTHLY TIME ACTIVITY REPORT FOR PROJECT STAFF

Agency: _____

Month: May				Name
DATE	TIME IN	TIME OUT	TOTAL HOURS	PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES
5/1/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, grant reimbursements, payables
5/2/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, grant reimbursements, review resumes
5/3/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, grant reimbursements, match documentation
5/4/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, grant reimbursements
5/7/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Payroll Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, Grant reimbursement
5/8/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, review resumes
5/9/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Answer calls during Treatment Team Meeting, case management, work with Accountant
5/10/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, payables
5/11/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, donation documentation
5/14/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	case management, financials, DAIP & 2nd Chance Reconciliation
5/15/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, Board Meeting Prep
5/16/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, match documents
5/17/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, donations
5/18/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, payables
5/21/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Payroll Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, interviews
5/22/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, grant reimbursements
5/23/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Answer calls during Treatment Team Meeting, case management, grant reimbursements
5/24/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, financial reconciliation
5/25/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, budgets
5/28/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Holiday
5/29/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, purchasing
5/30/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, review resumes
5/31/18	7:00am	3:30pm	8	Assist with Crisis Calls, case management, grant reimbursements, payables

EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Timesheet

Printed on: 08/09/2018

Jun 17 to Jun 23, 2018

Name:

Customer/Job	Service Item	Notes	Class	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Total	Bill*
ESG 2018	Case Conferencing	10432, 10440, 10376, 10139				2:45					2:45	N
ESG 2018	Case Conferencing	10460, 10455, 10432, 10392, 10376			2:00		2:45	2:30			7:15	N
ESG 2018	Case Management Activity	10152, 10375, 10363						1:00			1:00	N
ESG 2018	Data Entry and Program Support	10335, 10152, 10194,			2:15						2:15	N
ESG 2018	File Processing, non client							3:30			3:30	N
ESG 2018	Intake	10432, 10440, 10460				1:00	0:45	1:30			3:15	N
ESG 2018	Program reporting	staff meeting			1:00						1:00	N
ESG 2018	Rental Counseling	10152, 10375, 10363			1:15	1:30		0:30			3:15	N
ESG 2018	Staff Training	Training			2:30	2:15	5:30				10:15	N
ESG 2018	Activities											
ESG 2018	Staff Training					1:30					1:30	N
ESG 2018	Activities											
Totals				0:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	0:00	0:00	36:00	

Signature

CAPER Summary Report

Sub recipient	<u>Mountain of Faith Ministries</u>	
Contract Number	<u>1726-ESG-MOFM-16</u>	
Request for Cash Number	<u>0</u>	
Reporting Period From	<u>January 0, 1900</u>	
To	<u>January 0, 1900</u>	
		Emergency Solutions Grant Expenditures by Categories July 1, 2016 thru June 30, 2017
ESG Expenditures for Emergency Shelter		
Essential Services		
Operations		
Subtotal		\$0.00
ESG Expenditures for Rapid Rehousing		
Expenditures for Rental Assistance		
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance		
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Services		
Subtotal Rapid Rehousing		\$0.00
ESG Expenditures for Homelessness Prevention		
Expenditures for Rental Assistance		
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance		
Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Services		
Subtotal Homelessness Prevention		\$0.00
Other Grant Expenditures		
Street Outreach		
HMIS		
Administration		
Total ESG Grant Funds		\$0.00
Match Source		
Other Non-ESG HUD funds		
Other Federal Funds		
State Government		
Local Government		
Private Funds		
Other		
Total Match Amount		\$0.00
Total ESG Funds Expended		\$0.00

Caper Instructions

The purpose of CAPER is to generate the Emergency Solutions Grant Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report. The CAPER needs to be COMPLETED ANNUALLY BY SUB-RECIPIENTS of projects receiving Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) funding and is designed to provide an unduplicated count of persons served in ESG projects, as well as demographic breakdowns of those clients.

The CAPER generated in AWARDS includes only data-related questions. Please follow the steps below in submitting your CAPER report:

Please follow the steps below in submitting your CAPER report:

1. From the AWARDS Home screen, click Administration from the left-hand menu, and then click Fiscal/Program. The Fiscal/Program Reports Menu page is displayed.



2. Click ESG CAPER. The Emergency Solutions Grant Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (ESG CAPER) page is displayed.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Emergency Solutions Grant Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (ESG CAPER)". The form has two main sections: "Project" and "Date Range". The "Project" section has a dropdown menu with "Emergency Shelter One" selected. The "Date Range" section has "From:" and "To:" fields with dates "07/01/2015" and "06/30/2016" respectively. Below these fields, there is a checkbox labeled "Show Individual Detail?" which is unchecked. At the bottom of the form, there is a button labeled "Send in AWARDS Message" with a checkmark icon, and a "CONTINUE" button at the very bottom.

3. Click the Project drop-down arrow and select your organization for which the report is to be viewed.
4. By default, the report's Date Range is July 1st of the previous year, through June 30th of the current year. If necessary, make changes to this default date range using mm/dd/yyyy format, or

by selecting the correct dates using the available date picker icons.

5. If necessary, click the Show Individual Detail? box to include a table of individual client-level detail at the bottom of the report page.
 - a. When individual detail is included, each client in the report (for any question) is listed on a separate row in the detail table, and each data element needed for the report is shown in a separate column. The table also includes which project (program) each client was active in, and the HMIS Project Type associated with that project. Inclusion of these client details can be particularly useful if it's necessary to troubleshoot report content; however, keep in mind that not every client listed there is counted in every question, as some questions only apply to certain project types.
6. The Send in AWARDS Messages check box is selected by default and cannot be un-checked. As a result, you need not wait for the report to generate, and can navigate away from the ESG CAPER feature after finishing the configuration process. Once the report is ready for viewing, it is sent to you in the body of a message accessed via your Messages module inbox.
 - a. The report will remain in your messages for one month, after which time it will be deleted. (The exact date of deletion will be displayed in red at the top of the report message for your reference.) If you know you will need the report content after that time, be sure to download the Excel file (Excel File.zip) or HTML content (Report Content.html) attached to the report message. If you don't download one of these attachments before the message is deleted, you will need to manually re-generate the report if you need access to it in the future.
7. Clicks CONTINUE. The report is displayed on the Emergency Solutions Grant Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (ESG CAPER) page.
 - a. Because the Send in AWARDS Messages option is automatically used by this report, a notice is first displayed on the page to let you know that report generation is in process and that the report will be sent to your Messages module upon completion. You can then navigate away from the page or wait for the report to complete and display.

Download the CSV file versions of the report content for the purposes of submission to HUD; click the CSV Export Files link at the bottom of the report. A zip file containing a CSV for each report question is downloaded to your computer and can then be used by providers to submit data into eCART.

8. Shelter Utilization
 - Number of Beds- Rehabbed
 - Number of Beds- Conversion

- Total Number of bed- nights available
- Total Number of bed- nights provided
- Capacity Utilization

Recordkeeping Checklist

The State requires that a recordkeeping system be maintained by all ESG sub- recipients receiving funds administered by MHC. The system must be at least the equivalent of the files as listed below.

Failure to maintain an adequate system as determined by MHC staff could result in a finding. Records must be maintained for a period of five (5) years after the project closes out.

The following file system checklist has been established to help maintain your records:

Project Name

Project Number

APPLICATION FILE

_____ Full application as submitted to State

_____ Additional information submitted

CONTRACT FILE

_____ Award letter

_____ Executed contract

_____ Correspondence concerning contract conditions

_____ Contract modifications and letters of approval

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

_____ General correspondence

_____ State general correspondence/memorandums

ESG/ESG-CV REPORT

_____	Certification of Match (N/A for ESG-CV)
_____	Confidentiality Procedures
_____	Monthly Statistical Reports

STATE MONITORING FILE

_____	State reports of results of monitoring reviews/ recommendations
_____	Sub-recipient's response to State monitoring reports
_____	Other correspondence related to State monitoring visits

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW RECORD FILE

_____	Copy of "Environmental Review Record" as submitted to MHC
_____	Notice of "Removal of Contract Conditions and Release of Funds"
_____	Letter of Clearance from the Department of Archives and History (only for renovations)
_____	Finding of Exemption

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FILE

_____	"Authorized Signature Letter"
_____	"Requests for Cash" and Support Sheets
_____	General ledger and disbursements journal (Example included in Exhibits)
_____	Invoices, pay estimates, receipts of payments of program costs
_____	Documentation of "In-Kind" expenditures (if applicable)
_____	Documentation to support cash contributions or any match funds (if applicable)

PROCUREMENT FILE (if applicable)

_____	Proof of Publication of Requests for proposals/bids
_____	Written Selection Procedures

_____	Proof of Solicitations for proposals/bids
_____	Proposals/bids received
_____	Evaluations of proposals/bids received
_____	Written statements of acceptance of proposals/bids
_____	Executed contracts for each service required; NOTE: All contracts must contain the provisions listed in 24 CFR Part 85 or 24 CFR Part 84, whichever applies.
_____	Copies of written notification of procurement Requests for Proposals to the Mississippi Contract Procurement Center

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/FAIR HOUSING FILE/VAWA REQUIREMENTS

_____	Documentation of total number of female heads of households, minorities, handicapped, elderly and children who are beneficiaries
_____	Documentation of affirmatively promoting fair housing or of making known availability of services
_____	Employment information of the administrative agency
_____	Community population (if applicable)
_____	Contractor/Subcontractor Activity Reports (if applicable)
_____	Documentation of attempts to solicit minority/female businesses
_____	Documentation of compliance with VAWA regulations

AUDITS

_____	Audit for each year included in grant period
_____	Evidence clearing all audit exceptions

SECTION 3

_____	HUD Form 60002
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Economic Opportunities for Low – and Very Low-Income Persons

OMB Approval No: 2529-0043
(exp. 8/31/2007)

Hud Field Office:

1. Recipient Name & Address: (street, city, state, zip)	2. Federal Identification: (contract/award no.)	3. Dollar Amount of Award:
	4. Contact Person	5. Phone: (include area code)
	6. Reporting Period:	7. Date Report Submitted:
8. Program Code *	9. Program Name:	

A Job Category	B Number of New Hires	C Number of New Hires that are Sec. 3 Residents	D % of Aggregate Number of Staff Hours of New Hires that are Sec. 3 Residents	E** % of Total Staff Hours for Section 3 Employees and Trainees	F** Number of Section 3 Employees and Trainees
Professionals					
Technicians					
Office/Clerical					
Construction by Trade (List)					
Trade					
Trade					
Trade					
Trade					
Other (List)					
Total					

8 = CDBG State Administered
9 = Other CD Programs
10 = Other Housing Programs

Part II: Contracts Awarded**1. Construction Contracts:**

A. Total dollar amount of all contracts awarded on the project	\$
B. Total dollar amount of contracts awarded to Section 3 businesses	\$
C. Percentage of the total dollar amount that was awarded to Section 3 businesses	%
D. Total number of Section 3 businesses receiving contracts	

2. Non-Construction Contracts:

A. Total dollar amount all non-construction contracts awarded on the project/activity	\$
B. Total dollar amount of non-construction contracts awarded to Section 3 businesses	\$
C. Percentage of the total dollar amount that was awarded to Section 3 businesses	%
D. Total number of Section 3 businesses receiving non-construction contracts	

Part III: Summary

Indicate the efforts made to direct the employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD financial assistance for housing and community development programs, to the greatest extent feasible, toward low- and very low-income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing. (Check all that apply.)

- ☐ Attempted to recruit low-income residents through: local advertising media, signs prominently displayed at the project site, contracts with community organizations and public or private agencies operating within the metropolitan area (or nonmetropolitan county) in which the Section 3 covered program or project is located, or similar methods.
- ☐ Participated in a HUD program or other program which promotes the training or employment of Section 3 residents.
- ☐ Participated in a HUD program or other program which promotes the award of contracts to business concerns which meet the definition of Section 3 business concerns.
- ☐ Coordinated with Youthbuild Programs administered in the metropolitan area in which the Section 3 covered project is located.
- ☐ Other; describe below.

I hereby certify that the above information is correct, accurate and in compliance with Section 3 regulations and statutes.

Signature of Authorized Official**Date Signed****Prepared By****Date Prepared****Typed the Name and Title of Authorized Official****Preparer's Telephone No.**

Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u, mandates that the Department ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by its housing and community development assistance programs as directed toward low- and very-low income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance housing. The regulations are found at 24 CFR Part 135. The information will be used by the Department to monitor program recipients' compliance with Section 3, to assess the results of the Department's efforts to meet the statutory objectives of Section 3, to prepare reports to Congress, and by recipients as self-monitoring tool. The data is entered into a database and will be analyzed and distributed. The collection of information involves recipients receiving Federal financial assistance for housing and community development programs covered by Section 3. The information will be collected annually to assist HUD in meeting its reporting requirements under Section 808(e)(6) of the Fair Housing Act and Section 916 of the HCDA of 1992. An assurance of confidentiality is not applicable to this form. The Privacy Act of 1974 and OMB Circular A-108 are not applicable. The reporting requirements do not contain sensitive questions. Data is cumulative; personal identifying information is not included.

Form HUD-60002, **Section 3 Summary Report, Economic Opportunities for Low- and Very Low-Income Persons.**

Instructions: This form is to be used to report annual accomplishments regarding employment and other economic opportunities provided to low- and very low-income persons under Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968. The Section 3 regulations apply to any **Public and Indian Housing programs** that receive: (1) development assistance pursuant to Section 5 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937; (2) operating assistance pursuant to Section 9 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937; or (3) modernization grants pursuant to Section 14 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 and to **recipients of housing and community development assistance in excess of \$200,000** expended for: (1) housing rehabilitation (including reduction and abatement of lead-based paint hazards); (2) housing construction; or (3) other public construction projects; and to **contracts and subcontracts in excess of \$100,000** awarded in connection with the Section-3-covered activity.

Form HUD-60002 has three parts which are to be completed for all programs covered by Section 3. Part I relates to **employment and training**. The recipient has the option to determine numerical employment/training goals either on the basis of the number of hours worked by new hires (columns B, D, E and F). Part II of the form relates to **contracting**, and Part III summarizes recipients' **efforts** to comply with Section 3.

Recipients or contractors subject to Section 3 requirements must maintain appropriate documentation to establish that HUD financial assistance for housing and community development programs were directed toward low- and very low-income persons.* A recipient of Section 3 covered assistance shall submit two copies of this report to the local HUD Field Office. Where the program providing assistance requires an annual performance report, this Section 3 report is to be submitted at the same time the program performance report is submitted. Where an annual performance report is not required, this Section 3 report is to be submitted by January 10 and, if the project ends before December 31, within 10 days of project completion. **Only Prime Recipients are required to report to HUD. The report must include accomplishments of all recipients and their Section 3 covered contractors and subcontractors.**

HUD Field Office: Enter the Field Office name forwarding the Section 3 report.

1. Recipient: Enter the name and address of the recipient submitting this report.
2. Federal Identification: Enter the number that appears on the award form (with dashes). The award may be a grant, cooperative agreement or contract.
3. Dollar Amount of Award: Enter the dollar amount, rounded to the nearest dollar, received by the recipient.
- 4 & 5. Contact Person/Phone: Enter the name and telephone number of the person with knowledge of the award and the recipient's implementation of Section 3.
6. Reporting Period: Indicate the time period (months and year) this report covers.
7. Date Report Submitted: Enter the appropriate date.

8. Program Code: Enter the appropriate program code as listed at the bottom of the page.
9. Program Name: Enter the name of HUD Program corresponding with the "Program Code" in number 8.

Part I: Employment and Training Opportunities

Column A: Contains various job categories. Professionals are defined as people who have special knowledge of an occupation (i.e. supervisors, architects, surveyors, planners, and computer programmers). For construction positions, list each trade and provide data in columns B through F for each trade where persons were employed. The category of "Other" includes occupations such as service workers.

Column B: Enter the number of new hires for each category of workers identified in **Column A** in connection with this award. New Hire refers to a person who is not on the contractor's or recipient's payroll for employment at the time of selection for the Section 3 covered award or at the time of receipt of Section 3 covered assistance.

Column C: Enter the number of Section 3 new hires for each category of workers identified in **Column A** in connection with this award. Section 3 new hire refers to a Section 3 resident who is not on the contractor's or recipient's payroll for employment at the time of selection for the Section 3 covered award or at the time of receipt of Section 3 covered assistance.

Column D: Enter the percentage of all the staff hours of new hires (Section 3 residents) in connection with this award.

Column E: Enter the percentage of the total staff hours worked for Section 3 employees and trainees (including new hires) connected with this award. Include staff hours for part-time and full-time positions.

Column F: Enter the numbers of Section 3 residents that were employed and trained in connection with this award.

Part II: Contract Opportunities

Block 1: Construction Contracts

Item A: Enter the total dollar amount of all contracts awarded on the project/program.

Item B: Enter the total dollar amount of contracts connected with this project/program that were awarded to Section 3 businesses.

Item C: Enter the percentage of the total dollar amount of contracts connected with this project/program awarded to Section 3 businesses.

Item D: Enter the number of Section 3 businesses receiving awards.

Block 2: Non-Construction Contracts

Item A: Enter the total dollar amount of all contracts awarded on the project/program.

Item B: Enter the total dollar amount of contracts connected with this project awarded to Section 3 businesses.

Item C: Enter the percentage of the total dollar amount of contracts connected with this project/program awarded to Section 3 businesses.

Item D: Enter the number of Section 3 businesses receiving awards.

Part III: Summary of Efforts – Self-explanatory

Submit one (1) copy of this report to the HUD Headquarters Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, at the same time the performance report is submitted to the program office. The Section 3 report is submitted by January 10. Include only contracts executed during the period specified in item 8. PHAs/IHAs are to report all contracts/subcontracts.

* The terms "low-income persons" and very low-income persons" have the same meanings given the terms in section 3 (b) (2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937. **Low-income persons** mean families (including single persons) whose incomes do not exceed 80 per centum of the median income for the area, as determined by the Secretary, with adjustments for smaller and larger families, except that

The Secretary may establish income ceiling higher or lower than 80 per centum of the median for the area on the basis of the Secretary's findings such that variations are necessary because of prevailing levels of construction costs or unusually high- or low-income families. **Very low-income persons** mean low-income families (including single persons) whose incomes do not exceed 50 per centum of the median family income area, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments or smaller and larger families, except that the Secretary may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 50 per cent of the median for the area on the basis of the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes.

AUDIT REQUIREMENTS OF MISSISSIPPI HOME CORPORATION

Funding Certification Form

Organization: _____ Fiscal Year End: _____ / _____ / _____
Month Day Year

- ☐ We **have exceeded** the federal expenditure threshold of \$750,000. We will have our Single Audit or Program Specific Audit completed and will submit by _____, which is no later than nine (9) months after the end of the audited fiscal year.
- ☐ We **have exceeded** the federal expenditure threshold of \$750,000 but **did not receive** any of these funds from Mississippi Home Corporation.
- ☐ We **did not exceed** the \$750,000 federal expenditure threshold required for a Single Audit or a Program Specific Audit to be performed this fiscal year. **(Fill out schedule below)**

Must be filled out if Single Audit or Program Audit is not required:

Federal Funds				
<u>Federal Grantor</u>	<u>Pass-through Grantor</u>	<u>Program Name & CFDA Number</u>	<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total Federal Expenditures for this Fiscal Year				\$ _____

Authorized Signature (<i>Executive Director, Mayor, Board President</i>)	Printed Name	Title
Mailing Address:	City, State	Zip Code
Email Address:	Phone Number	Fax Number
Chief Financial Officer / Comptroller	Phone Number	Fax Number

Failure to submit this completed form or a completed Single Audit package as described in the audit requirements by the required due date will affect eligibility for future funding.

Submit this form to:
Mississippi Home Corporation
ESG Department
735 Riverside Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39202

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program Application

To be completed by case manager only:

Organization:	
Case Manager:	Phone Number:

Name:			
Address:			
Phone Number:		County:	
SSN:	DOB:	Race:	
Age:	Sex:	Marital:	

<p>Why is participant requesting housing assistance? What incident/circumstances caused the participant to become homeless or to be "at risk of homelessness"? Be specific and provide documentation:</p>
--

Household Size: Number of Bedrooms:
List all household members:

Name	SS (last 4 digits)	Age	Relationship
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

*Copy of the full social security number should be maintained in participants' file.

Does participant report any other source of income?

☐ Yes ☐

If yes, list all sources and amount of income (SS, SSI, unemployment, child support, etc.):

Is participant currently employed?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, please provide unemployment documentation.

Does participant have any of the following assets?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Checking ☐ Savings ☐ IRAs ☐ CDs ☐ Interest/Dividends from checking/savings

If yes to any resources listed above, verification **must** be provided.

Provide estimated value of each asset.

\$ _____

Provide participant's average household monthly income amount.

\$

Provide participant's average household monthly expenses (rent & utilities). \$ __

Has participant attempted to identify other resources to secure housing assistance? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide names of agency(s):

Type of assistance:

Amount of assistance received: \$ _____

If assistance is from another ESG Funded Agency, participant is not eligible.

Is a signed lease agreement in participants' name provided?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Is participants' rent subsidized?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, then participant is not eligible for ESG rental assistance.

If participant is responsible for utilities, are they in the participants' name?

☐ Yes ☐ No

*If no, participant is **not** eligible for utility assistance.*

Was participant evicted from previous housing?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, date of eviction.

Was participant previously residing in a shelter, car, tent, woods, etc.?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If participant resided in a shelter, documentation is needed.

I understand that any assistance received is temporary and I will continue to be responsible for maintaining my living expenses. Also, I agree not to sublease the rental unit as long as ESG assistance is received.

I certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Title 18, Section 1001 of the U.S. Code states that a person is guilty of a felony for knowingly and willingly making false or fraudulent statements to any department of the United States Government.

Participant Signature: _____ Date: __

To be completed by ESG Case Manager Only:

"But For" Does participant qualify for ESG Assistance Yes___ No___
If yes, short term rental assistance may be provided for up to three (3) months.

Type of Assistance: RRH___ HP___ Date Approved: _____

Does participant's file adequately document household income at or below 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI)? Yes___ No___

To be completed by ESG Case Manager Only if participant is approved.

Has rent reasonableness requirement been met? Yes___ No___

Have habitability standards been met? Yes___ No___

Has a lead-based paint inspection been conducted? Yes___ No___ N/A___

Has all information been entered in HMIS/Comparable Database? Yes___ No___

I certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Title 18, Section 1001 of the U.S. Code states that a person is guilty of a felony for knowingly and willingly making false or fraudulent statements to any department of the United States Government.

Case Manager: _____ Date: _____
Signature

Affidavit of Rental Arrears

I, _____, herein referred to as the "landlord" or "property manager", acknowledge that the lessee whose name and address listed below is currently in arrears:

Lessee Name

Physical Address

Mailing Address

City, State, Zip

The lessee has not paid rent on the property since _____ and therefore, is delinquent in the amount of \$ _____. The lessee is obligated to pay _____/month by the 1st or no later than the _____ of each month and late fees of \$ _____/month. As of this date, lessee has failed to pay rent and/or late fees (**court costs are not eligible for payment**) for the following months:

I understand if the lessee has applied for and been approved for Section 8 housing assistance, at any time during this lease period, as landlord, I am responsible for returning funds received. Rental assistance cannot be made on behalf of eligible individuals or families for the same period of time and for the same cost types that are being provided through another federal, state or local subsidy program. Return funds to:

I further understand that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Title 18, Section 1001 of the U. S. Code states that a person is guilty of a felony for knowingly and willingly making false or fraudulent statements to any department of the United States Government.

Lessor Signature and date

Title

Printed Name

Telephone Number

A copy of the lease agreement must be attached.

Employment Verification

The individual named below is an applicant of a housing program that requires verification of income. The information provided will remain confidential and will be used for housing purposes only. Your prompt response is crucial and greatly appreciated.

THIS SECTION TO BE

TO: (Name & address of employer)

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

RE: _____

Applicant Name /Social Security Number (last 4 digits only)

I hereby authorize release of my employment information:

Signature of Applicant

Date

Return to:

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY EMPLOYER

Employee Name:

Job Title:

Presently Employed: Please select one Date first employed:

If no, last date of employment:

Employee paid (circle one): hourly wages or salaried

a) If hourly wage, what is rate of pay \$____per hour? Average # of hours per week?

b) If salaried employee, what is monthly or yearly pay? \$_(indicate per month or year)

What is the frequency of pay (circle one): Please select one

Year-to-date earnings: \$_____through _____

List any anticipated change in the employee's rate of pay within the next 12 months:_____Effective date: _ If the employee's work is seasonal or sporadic, please indicate the layoff period(s): _

Additional remarks: _____

Employee's Signature

Employee's Printed Name/Title

Date

Employer's Signature/Title

Employer (Company) Name and Address

Phone #:_____

Fax #:_____

E-Mail _____

Note: Section 1001 of Title 18 of the U.S. Code makes it a criminal offense to make willful false statements or misrepresentations to

any department or Agency of the United States as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Rental Assistance Agreement



Mississippi Home Corporation has received funding from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the specific purpose of providing rapid rehousing and homelessness prevention rental assistance to program participant(s). MHC has sub- awarded ESG funds to the following non-profit service agency to disburse the assistance.

This rental assistance agreement is being provided on behalf of the following individual or head of household:

Program Participant: ____
Address: _____

Unit number: _____
Name of apartment complex: _____ Name of landlord: _____

Monthly rent for this unit is: _____. Payment is due on the _____ day of the month every month. Payments received after the _____ day of the month will be assessed a late fee in the amount of _____. ***Agency receiving ESG funds is solely responsible for paying late fees incurred with non-ESG funds.**

Term of Agreement (dates): From _____ To _____, during this initial term the landlord/owner may not raise tenant rent.

During the term of the agreement, the owner/landlord must provide the agency a copy of any notice to the program participant (tenant) to vacate the housing unit, or any complaint used under state or local law to commence an eviction action against the program participant. 24 CFR 576.106(e).

Typed/Printed Name of landlord/owner: _____

Landlord/owner signature: _____

Typed/Printed Name of agency representative: _____

Representative signature: _____

This rental assistance agreement does not take the place



Rent Reasonableness Checklist and Certification

	Proposed Unit	UNIT #1	UNIT #2	UNIT #3
ADDRESS				
NUMBER OF BEDROOMS				
SQUARE FEET				
TYPE OF UNIT/CONSTRUCTION				
HOUSING CONDITION				
LOCATION/ACCESSIBILITY				
AMENITIES UNIT: SITE: NEIGHBORHOOD:				
AGE IN YEARS				
UTILITIES (TYPE)				
UNIT RENT UTILITY ALLOWANCE GROSS RENT				
HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE?				

CERTIFICATION:

A. COMPLIANCE WITH PAYMENT STANDARD

PROPOSED CONTRACT RENT + UTILITY ALLOWANCE = PROPOSED GROSS RENT

APPROVED RENT DOES NOT EXCEED APPLICABLE PAYMENT STANDARD OF FMR

\$_____.

B. RENT REASONABLENESS

Based upon a comparison with rents for comparable units, I have determined that the proposed rent for the unit [] is [] is not reasonable.

NAME:	SIGNATURE:	DATE:
--------------	-------------------	--------------

Emergency Solutions Grant



Housing Habitability Standards Inspection Checklist

About this Tool

The standards for housing unit inspections under ESG are the housing habitability standards described in the HUD ESG Interim Rule. These standards apply when a program participant is receiving financial assistance and moving into a new (different) unit or remaining in a current unit. Inspections must be conducted upon initial occupancy and then on an annual basis for the term of ESG assistance.

The habitability standards are different from the Housing Quality Standards (HQS) used for other HUD programs. Because the HQS criteria are more stringent than the habitability standards, a grantee could use either standard. In contrast to HQS inspections, the habitability standards do not require a certified inspector. As such, ESG program staff could conduct the inspections, using a form such as this one to document compliance.

Instructions: Mark each statement as 'A' for approved or 'D' for deficiency. The property must meet all standards in order to be approved. A copy of this checklist should be placed in the client file.

Approved or Deficient	Element
	1. <i>Structure and materials:</i> 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 hazards.
	2. <i>Access:</i> 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. <i>Space and security:</i> Each resident must be afforded adequate space and security for themselves and their belongings. Each resident must be provided with an acceptable place to sleep.
	4. <i>Interior air quality:</i> 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. <i>Water Supply:</i> The water supply must be free from contamination.
	6. <i>Sanitary Facilities:</i> 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. <i>Thermal environment</i> : The housing must have adequate heating and/or cooling facilities in proper operating condition.
	8. <i>Illumination and electricity</i> : 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. <i>Food preparation and refuse disposal</i> : All food preparation areas must contain suitable space and equipment to store, prepare, and serve food in a sanitary manner.
	10. <i>Sanitary condition</i> : The housing and any equipment must be maintained in sanitary condition.
	<p>11. <i>Fire safety</i>: Both conditions below must be met to meet this standard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 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. b. 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, day care centers, hallways, stairwells, and other common areas.

(Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Docket No. FR-5307-N-01,)

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

I certify that I am not a HUD certified inspector and I have evaluated the property located at the address below to the best of my ability and find the following:

- ☐ Property meets all of the above standards.
- ☐ Property does not meet all of the above standards.

Therefore, I make the following determination:

- ☐ Property is approved.



☐ Property is not approved.

Case Name:

Street Address:

Apartment: City: State: Zip:

Evaluator's Signature: Date:

Please Print. Name: _____

Exec. Dir. Initial:

ESG Lead Screening Worksheet

A

about this Tool

The *ESG Lead Screening Worksheet* is intended to guide grantees through the lead-based paint inspection process to ensure compliance with the rule. ESG staff can use this worksheet to document any exemptions that may apply, whether any potential hazards have been identified, and if safe work practices and clearance are required and used. A copy of the completed worksheet along with any additional documentation should be kept in each program participant's case file.

INSTRUCTIONS

To prevent lead-poisoning in young children, ESG grantees must comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act of 1973 and its applicable regulations found at 24 CFR 35, Parts A, B, M, and R. Under certain circumstances, a visual assessment of the unit is not required. This screening worksheet will help program staff determine whether a unit is subject to a visual assessment, and if so, how to proceed. A copy of the completed worksheet along with any related documentation should be kept in each grantee or program participant's file.

Note: ALL pre-1978 properties are subject to the disclosure requirements outlined in 24 CFR 35, Part A, regardless of whether they are exempt from the visual assessment requirements.

PART 1: DETERMINE WHETHER THE UNIT IS SUBJECT TO A VISUAL ASSESSMENT

If the answer to one or both of the following questions is 'no,' a visual assessment is not triggered for this unit and no further action is required at this time. Place this screening worksheet and related documentation in the program participant's file.

If the answer to both of these questions is 'yes,' then a visual assessment is triggered for this unit and program staff should continue to Part 2.

1. Was the leased property constructed before 1978?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. Will a child under the age of six be living in the unit occupied by the household receiving ESG assistance?

☐ Yes

☐ No

PART 2: DOCUMENT ADDITIONAL EXEMPTIONS

If the answer to any of the following questions is 'yes,' the property is exempt from the visual assessment requirement and no further action is needed at this point. Place this screening sheet and supporting documentation for each exemption in the program participant's file.

If the answer to all of these questions is 'no,' then continue to Part 3 to determine whether deteriorated paint is present.

1. Is it a zero-bedroom or SRO-sized unit?

☐ Yes
☐ No

2. Has X-ray or laboratory testing of all painted surfaces by certified personnel been conducted in accordance with HUD regulations and the unit is officially certified to not contain lead-based paint?

☐ Yes
☐ No

3. Has this property had all lead-based paint identified and removed in accordance with HUD regulations?

☐ Yes
☐ No

4. Is the client receiving Federal assistance from another program, where the unit has already undergone (and passed) a visual assessment within the past 12 months (e.g., if the client has a Section 8 voucher and is receiving ESG assistance for a security deposit or arrears)?

☐ Yes (Obtain documentation for the case file.) No

5. Does the property meet any of the other exemptions described in 24 CFR Part 35.115(a).

☐ Yes
☐ No

Please describe the exemption and provide appropriate documentation of the exemption.

PART 3: DETERMINE THE PRESENCE OF DETERIORATED PAINT

To determine whether there are any identified problems with paint surfaces, program staff should conduct a visual assessment prior to providing HPRP financial assistance to the unit as outlined in the following training on HUD's website at:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/training/visualassessment/h00101.htm>.

If no problems with paint surfaces are identified during the visual assessment, then no further action is required at this time. Place this screening sheet and certification form (Attachment A) in the program participant's file.

If any problems with paint surfaces are identified during the visual assessment, then continue to Part 4 to determine whether safe work practices and clearance are required.

1. Has a visual assessment of the unit been conducted?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. Were any problems with paint surfaces identified in the unit during the visual assessment?

☐ Yes

☐ No (Complete Attachment A – Lead-Based Paint Visual Assessment Certification Form)

PART 4: DOCUMENT THE LEVEL OF IDENTIFIED PROBLEMS

All deteriorated paint identified during the visual assessment must be repaired prior to clearing the unit for assistance. However, if the area of paint to be stabilized exceeds the de minimus levels (defined below), the use of lead safe work practices and clearance is required.

If deteriorating paint exists but the area of paint to be stabilized does not exceed these levels, then the paint must be repaired prior to clearing the unit for assistance, but safe work practices and clearance are not required.

1. Does the area of paint to be stabilized exceed any of the de minimus levels below?

• 20 square feet on exterior surfaces ☐ Yes ☐ No

• 2 square feet in any one interior ☐ room or space Yes No

• 10 percent of the total surface area on an interior or exterior component with a small surface area, like windowsills, baseboards, ☐ and ☐ trim Yes No

If *any* of the above are 'yes,' then safe work practices and clearance are required prior to clearing the unit for assistance.

PART 5: CONFIRM ALL IDENTIFIED DETERIORATED PAINT HAS BEEN STABILIZED

Program staff should work with property owners/managers to ensure that all deteriorated paint identified during the visual assessment has been stabilized. If the area of paint to be stabilized does not exceed the de minimus level, safe work practices and a clearance exam are not required (though safe work practices are always recommended). In these cases, the ESG program staff should confirm that the identified deteriorated paint has been repaired by conducting a follow-up assessment.

If the area of paint to be stabilized exceeds the de minimus level, program staff should ensure that the clearance inspection is conducted by an independent certified lead professional. A certified lead professional may go by various titles, including a certified paint inspector, risk assessor, or sampling/clearance technician. Note, the clearance inspection cannot be conducted by the same firm that is repairing the deteriorated paint.

1. Has a follow-up visual assessment of the unit been conducted?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. Have all identified problems with the paint surfaces been repaired?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3. Were all identified problems with paint surfaces repaired using safe work practices?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not Applicable – The area of paint to be stabilized did not exceed the de minimus levels.

4. Was a clearance exam conducted by an independent, certified lead professional?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not Applicable – The area of paint to be stabilized did not exceed the de minimus levels.

5. Did the unit pass the clearance exam?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not Applicable – The area of paint to be stabilized did not exceed the de minimus levels.

Note: A copy of the clearance report should be placed in the program participant's file.

ATTACHMENT 1: LEAD-BASED PAINT VISUAL ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATION TEMPLATE

I, _____, certify the following:

(Print name)

- I have completed HUD's online visual assessment training and am a HUD-certified visual assessor.

- I conducted a visual assessment at _____ on

(Property address and unit number)

_____.

(Date of Assessment)

- No problems with paint surfaces were identified in the unit or in the building's common areas.

(Signature)

(Date)

Client Name: _____

Case Number: _____

Emergency Solutions Grant
Termination of Assistance Notice

1. Your application for financial assistance for the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) has been denied. Eligibility to participate in this program cannot be determined because of your failure to provide the following document(s): _____
2. Your participation in ESG has been terminated, because the following reason(s):

State Reason for Termination

Your assistance is terminated as of _____.
Date

Program Applicant/Participant Responsibility

You have the right to an appeal if you feel this decision was made in error. To appeal you must follow the process as indicated below:

1. Present the reason(s) why you feel the decision was in error, either verbally or in writing, to the assigned case manager within three (3) business days of the notice of termination. If the case manager cannot or will not reassess the decision, then
2. Present the reason why you feel the decision was in error, either verbally or in writing, to the manager in charge within five (5) business days. The decision of the manager in charge will be the final decision.

ESG Agency Responsibility

1. Document the specific reason that the program applicant/participant has been denied or terminated from participation in ESG.
2. Notify Mississippi Home Corporation (MHC), in writing, of the termination and program applicant/participant's request for an appeal and the eventual outcome of the appeal process.

Applicant/Participant Date

Case Manager Date

Emergency Solutions Grant Assistance Checklist

Participant Name: _____

Contract Number: _____

To be completed for each Program Participant

	YES	NO	N/A
1. Is Rapid Rehousing Assistance provided?			
2. Is Homeless Prevention Assistance provided?			
3. Has "But For" documentation been obtained?			
4. Provide an explanation of "But For":			
5. Has ESG application been completed and signed by applicant and case manager?			
6. Does the client have documented source of income?			
7. For Homeless Prevention Assistance is the income at or below 30% AMI?			
8. Does the client have a valid lease agreement signed between landlord and tenant?			
9. Is the rent current? If not, how many months in arrears?_____How much?			
10. Is there an eviction notice signed by the landlord provided?			
11. Has the Affidavit of Arrears signed by the landlord been provided?			
12. Has the case manager completed the entrance interview?			
13. Have Habitability Standards been determined?			
14. Has Rent Reasonableness been documented appropriately?			
15. Has Lead Based Paint been documented?			
16. Has the Rental Assistance Agreement been signed by the landlord and provider?			

Signatures: Case Manager/Executive Director	Date
Case Manager _____	
Contact Number: Executive Director _____	
Contact Number:	

***If assistance has been provided and all documentation not obtained, then your agency may be responsible for repayment of funds.**

NOTICE OF OCCUPANCY RIGHTS UNDER
THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

[Insert Name of Housing Provider¹]

Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act²

To all Tenants and Applicants

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) provides protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. VAWA protections are not only available to women, but are available equally to all individuals regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.³ The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the Federal agency that oversees that **[insert name of program or rental assistance]** is in compliance with VAWA. This notice explains your rights under VAWA. A HUD-approved certification form is attached to this notice. You can fill out this form to show that you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and that you wish to use your rights under VAWA.”

Protections for Applicants

If you otherwise qualify for assistance under **[insert name of program or rental assistance]**, you cannot be denied admission or denied assistance because you are or have been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Protections for Tenants

¹ The notice uses HP for housing provider but the housing provider should insert its name where HP is used. HUD’s program-specific regulations identify the individual or entity responsible for providing the notice of occupancy rights.

² Despite the name of this law, VAWA protection is available regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

³ Housing providers cannot discriminate on the basis of any protected characteristic, including race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability, or age. HUD-assisted and HUD-insured housing must be made available to all otherwise eligible individuals regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

