

## 2018 State ESG NOFA - Questions and Answers

*This list of questions and answers will be updated regularly to add questions and responses from the Department as they are received.*

1. Q: Regarding the FY18/19 funding pool, now estimated at \$525,885, is this pool smaller, larger, or about the same as the FY17/18 State ESG funding pool?

**A: ~~Yes, the amount of funds available for FY18/19 State ESG is greater than FY17/18.~~**

**The amount of available funds is now \$412,114. Please refer to the FY2018-19 NOFA: State ESG Amendment posted on the DOH website.**

2. Q. Is this NOFA different than the most recent NOFA cycle that was just completed?

**A. Yes, funds being allocated in this NOFA are distinct from the funds in the HOME/CDBG/ESG NOFA cycle that was recently completed.**

3. Q. Can you confirm the grant period for this NOFA? In terms of predicting how many clients we will serve, what timeframe should we be using?

**A. The actual grant period (i.e. expenditure deadlines) will be determined by the State. For the purpose of this NOFA, please use a 12-month grant period to predict how many clients will be served.**

4. Q. Does the County ever allocate ESG funds to organizations that offer non-emergency shelter activities, like case-management, housing scholarship, or motel vouchers? Are these activities eligible under the ESG Program? Are any ESG funds currently allocated to rapid rehousing activities in Daly City?

**A. Yes. According to ESG Program Regulations, case management is considered an eligible activity under both the Street Outreach and Rapid Rehousing components. Where no appropriate emergency shelter is available for a homeless family or individuals, a hotel voucher is an eligible use under the Shelter Operations component. A housing scholarship may or may not be an eligible use depending on how funds are being used. Existing rapid rehousing programs that are funded by the County provide services countywide, including Daly City.**

5. Q. In the RFP, it says that we must accept referrals from the County's Coordinated Entry System. Is that the only way referrals can be made to this program if we secure these funds?

**A. It is the expectation in this NOFA that shelters funded by these ESG funds accept referrals only from the County Coordinated Entry System, unless there is a specified number of shelter beds that are dedicated contracted beds that have no specific referral process based on the contract (in which case those contracted beds should be noted as separate/contracted beds).**

6. Q. We are planning to start construction on our building during the summer but the NOFA says that funding will not be available until October. If we were approved for the NOFA, would it be a problem for us to begin in the summer and get reimbursed in October?

**A. Yes, it would be a problem. The grant terms are determined by the State. The County can only begin reimbursing for costs incurred *after*: 1) the State has contracted with the County for funds, and 2) the County has contracted with the grantee**

7. Q. Are there other NOFAs that the Department of Housing will be releasing soon for shelter operations or capital?

**A. The County usually releases its annual NOFA for CDBG/HOME/ESG in December, which includes funds available for shelter operations and capital improvements. We also anticipate the release of another NOFA for ESG-related activities later this year, although the exact timing and eligible uses have yet to be determined by the State.**

8. Q. Are there RRH funds only designated for existing shelter operations? Or can core agencies also request these funds? Can these RRH funds also be used for Homeless Prevention as in Goal #5 (i.e. rental assistance due to temporary loss of job, health issues, etc.?)

**A. RRH funds are not only designated for existing shelter operators. Any applicant is eligible to apply so long as they meet the Funding Requirements (Section V) as well as the**

**Funding Priorities (Section II). Regarding the use of RRH funds for Homeless Prevention, please refer to the Funding Priorities and Guiding Principles under Exhibit 1. Under Goal 1, the homeless system wants to expand Rapid Rehousing for single adults and families and will be aligned with a set of consistent policies and standards based on evidence and best practices, and will be available to households who have high barriers to housing. In addition, under the Program principles, all programs must accept referrals from the County's Coordinated Entry System (CES). Given these priorities, Rapid Rehousing funds cannot be used as homeless prevention but rather an intervention for homeless households referred through the Coordinated Entry System.**

9. Q. If we are only asking for funding for operational support, should we leave the Staff List section blank?

**A. Please complete the Staff List section even if you are not requesting funds for staffing in your proposed program budget. As shown in the NOFA, applicants must demonstrate adequate staffing and capacity to administer the program regardless of whether ESG funds will be used to support staffing costs.**