CARES OF NY, INC
ENDING HOMELESSNESS

ESG-CV Regulations
FAQ's

The below are Frequently Asked Questions regarding ESG-CV Regulations & program implementation. The questions are broken-up into those that relate to: program, waivers, contracts, vouchers, and budget modifications. These answers are taken from HUD guidance and webinars. Please contact CARES with any additional questions. Please reference the ESG-CV regulations, HUD clarifications, and HUD AAQ for more and the most up-to-date information.

Program

Q: How do I document that funds are being used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Coronavirus?
A: It is not required that subrecipients document funds are being used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus on a client-by-client basis. Rather, the recipient (i.e. City or County) will document this by providing documentation of when the community began preventing, preparing for, and responding to Coronavirus per activity in IDIS.

Q: Am I allowed to utilize prevention funding during the eviction moratorium?
A: It depends:
- If someone would be at risk of eviction, but covered by a moratorium, then they are not at risk of homelessness and not eligible for ESG-CV prevention assistance.
- If someone is at risk of eviction even though covered by a moratorium (i.e. a landlord is trying to evict the tenant even though there's a moratorium), prevention funding can be utilized to provide legal assistance or case management services (i.e. landlord/tenant mediation or court advocacy). Agencies should document the circumstances that make the client at-risk of becoming homeless and eligible for prevention assistance funding.
- If someone is not covered by a moratorium/still at-risk of homelessness (i.e. evicted for reasons other than non-rent, not on lease, doubled-up, moved more than twice in the last 60 days, or any of the other scenarios in at-risk of homelessness definition), then they are eligible for homeless prevention assistance.
- For more information, review the HUD AAQ's here and here.

*This guidance is directly from HUD and is subject to change at any time; please check this page often, reach out to CARES with any questions, and submit an AAQ to HUD with any specific circumstances you believe should be allowable

Q: Is providing financial assistance through a diversion program during moratorium allowable (e.g., for persons doubling up, etc.)?
A: See the HUD AAQ answer here.

Q: If a staff member supporting a congregate setting needs to isolate, can we utilize ESG-CV funds to shelter the staff member in a hotel/motel?
A: Yes, through the shelter component of funding.

Waivers

Q: Am I allowed to utilize the waivers/flexibilities listed in the ESG-CV Regulations for my normal ESG projects?
A: It is allowable to apply ESG-CV Regulations to ESG projects for funds used to prevent, prepare for, or respond to coronavirus, subject to many conditions. Please reach out to CARES or your ESG Administrator if you are interested in utilizing ESG funds in this capacity.

Contracts

FAQ's Forthcoming

Vouchers

Q: What are the timelines for vouchering and reimbursement for both the Entitlement communities and OTDA/the County?
A: For cities, vouchers can be submitted to CARES on a rolling basis, but will be grouped into two batches per month for submission to the city. Vouchers received by CARES from the first day of the month until the 10th will be sent to the city by the 24th (ten business days later). Vouchers received from the 11th until the last day of each month will be sent to the city by ten days after month end. The Cities of Albany and Troy will send checks directly to the agencies, while the City of Schenectady and OTDA will send checks to CARES, and CARES will send funds to the agencies (by ACH or check).

For OTDA, vouchers can also be submitted to CARES on a rolling basis, but will be sent for reimbursement each quarter. The deadline to submit vouchers to CARES for each quarter is as follows:
  o January 5th
  o April 5th
  o July 5th
  o October 5th

Late voucher submissions will be sent with the next quarter.

Budget Modifications

FAQ's Forthcoming