

HOME-American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Supportive Services Funding Application Instructions

State of Wisconsin - Department of Administration
Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources

Overview

On September 13, 2021, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released a notice outlining a specialized version of the existing HOME housing development program. This new allocation, named HOME-American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP), dedicates federal funding to states and other participating jurisdictions to perform four activities that are required to primarily benefit qualifying individuals and families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or in other vulnerable populations. That funding establishes Supportive Services as a central activity. All projects utilizing any HOME-ARP funding must comply with requirements stated in HUD notice CPD-21-10: Requirements for the Use of Funds in the HOME-American Rescue Plan Program and as outlined in the State of Wisconsin HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and the HOME-ARP Supportive Services Program Manual. Funding will be administered by the Department of Administration (DOA), Division of Energy, Housing, and Community Resources (DEHCR). All HOME-ARP Supportive Services funds must be expended by September 30, 2030.

Eligibility

All agencies applying for HOME-ARP Supportive Services funding (Applicants) must have current, direct experience in delivering services to people who are homeless. All agencies applying for HOME-ARP Supportive Services funding must have a history administering housing and/or homeless programs and/or experience working with individuals or families who meet the definition of HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations (homeless, at-risk of homelessness, fleeing domestic/gender-based violence, or other populations at risk of housing stability as further defined on pages 3-8 of CPD-21-10.) Geographic eligibility is described in the HOME-ARP Supportive Services Program Manual.

Applicants must be one of the following:

- Elected governing body of a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band in the State of Wisconsin
- Governing body of a county, city, village, or town
- Housing authority
- Nonstock corporation that is organized under Chapter 181 of the Wisconsin Statutes and that is a nonprofit corporation, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 181.0103(17)
- Private, not-for-profit organization
- Religious society organized under Chapter 187 of the Wisconsin Statutes

Additionally, Applicants must have a subscription to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) or comparable database.



Eligible Services

Using the provided application, Applicants may apply for funding to provide the following services:

- Housing Stability Case Management
- Childcare
- Education Services
- · Employment Assistance and Job Training
- Housing Search and Counseling Services
- Legal Services
- Life Skills Training
- Outpatient Mental Health Services
- Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- Transportation
- Case Management
- Landlord/Tenant Liaison Services
- Mediation
- Credit Repair
- Financial Assistance Costs
 - Rental Application fees
 - Security Deposits
 - Utility Deposits
 - Utility Payments
 - Moving Costs
 - First and Last Month's Rent
 - Payment of Rental Arrears
 - Short-Term Financial Assistance for Rent
 - o Medium-Term Financial Assistance for Rent
- Housing Counseling Services through a HUD-Certified Agency

Descriptions and eligible costs related to these activities are available on pages 45 – 54 of the <u>CPD-21-10: The HOME-ARP Implementation Notice</u>.



Distinguishing between McKinney Vento, Homeless Prevention, and Housing Counseling Services

Services benefiting households who are homeless are identified as McKinney-Vento services. Supportive Services benefiting households who are currently housed but at-risk of homelessness must be labeled as Homeless Prevention Services. Housing Counseling Services provided by a HUD-certified housing counseling agency, regardless of the Qualifying Population, must be identified as Housing Counseling Services.

Applicants must determine funding requests for each category and enter that amount under the Total HOME-ARP Supportive Services Request section of the application.

Participant Selection

HOME-ARP Supportive Services may only be provided to households that meet the definition of Qualifying Populations.

HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations are defined as:

- "Homeless" as defined under 24 CFR § 91.5;
- "At-risk of homelessness" as defined under 24 CFR § 91.5;
- Those fleeing or attempting to flee "domestic violence", "dating violence", or "sexual assault", "stalking", or "human trafficking" as defined under 24 CFR § 5.2003 or the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000.
- "Other populations" where supportive services or assistance would prevent a family's homelessness or serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability (defined in Section IV of CPD 21-10)
- Veterans and families that include a veteran member that meet one of the preceding criteria.

All HOME-ARP Supportive Services programs must use the Continuum of Care's (CoC) Expanded Coordinated Entry system to screen and identify qualifying households in their service area.

A preference for specific Qualifying Populations may be identified, but this preference does not act as a limitation. Specific Qualifying Populations may be prioritized in a list of qualified applicants, but if there are no households from that population eligible for the unit, Qualifying Population units must be made available to the next qualifying household that submitted their completed application from the project waitlist, in chronological order.

The State of Wisconsin's HOME-ARP Allocation allows for the adoption of the following preferences for HOME-ARP Supportive Services activities:

• Preference #1: Individuals experiencing homelessness, as defined in 24 CFR § 91.5.;



- Preference #2: Individuals at risk of homelessness, as defined in 24 CFR § 91.5. or;
- Preference #3: Persons fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined by HUD.

More information on HOME-ARP Expanded Coordinated Entry is available in the HOME-ARP Supportive Services Program Manual, found on <u>DEHCR's HOME-ARP webpage</u>.

Funding

Available Funds

The State of Wisconsin's allocation of HOME-ARP Supportive Services Funding is \$10,214,891.00. HOME-ARP Supporting Services funding is a one-time allocation, with all funds to be expended by September 30, 2030. DEHCR will hold annual, competitive cycles for HOME-ARP Supportive Services funding.

Award Maximums and Minimums

HOME-ARP Supportive Services award maximums and minimums are as follows:

Minimum: \$50,000.00 per agency per application cycle

Maximum: There is no maximum. Applicants must demonstrate a need and direct impact of services in their

community.

Administrative Costs

Administrative costs are eligible under this program but are limited to no more than 15% of the total award.

Contract Renewal

All HOME-ARP Supportive Services Grant Agreements will have an initial period of one (1) year. Awards may be renewed for an additional year if the project demonstrates adequate compliance and impact. After two (2) years, all Grantees must reapply for funding.

Grant Agreement Period

The initial grant Agreement period for these funds will be 14 months, with a possibility of a renewal for another 12 months. Grants begin on May 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025. All succeeding grant cycles will consist of a 12-month grant period through 2030. Please note that DEHCR reserves the right to amend, modify, or withdraw the application and any of the grant program rules, instructions, or procedures contained herein and may exercise such right at any time and without notice and without liability to any Applicant or other parties for their expenses incurred in the preparation of a proposal or otherwise.



Attachments

For each application, the following attachments are required at the time of submission:

- SAM.gov documentation
 - All Applicants requesting funding must submit documentation of active registration and no active exclusions via <u>Sam.gov</u>.
 - o Instructions for capturing documentation here.
- Letter of Support from the HUD-recognized CoC for the service area or local homeless coalition
 - All Applicants must demonstrate support from local CoC or homeless coalition to be eligible for funding.
- If applicable, please include documentation of partnership/collaboration with other service providers to more fully assist the homeless and other Qualifying Populations in the Applicant service area.

Application Submission

SUBMIT: ONE ELECTRONIC COPY by 11:59 PM CSTon **March 8, 2024** to <u>DOASupportiveHousing@wisconsin.gov</u>. Completed HOME-ARP Supportive Services applications and attachments must be submitted in PDF format.