



2024 – 2025 ESG RFA

Lisa Worth, Chris Battle, Alissa Pritchett
ESG Homeless Program Coordinators

2024 - 2025 ESG RFA Documents

**RFA Application Documents are found on the
NC DHHS, Aging and Adult Services Grant
Opportunity Website located at:**

[https://www.ncdhhs.gov/about/grant-
opportunities/aging-and-adult-services-grant-
opportunities](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/about/grant-opportunities/aging-and-adult-services-grant-opportunities)

RFA Estimated Timeline

June 11, 2024	Public Notice Release
June 14, 17, and 19, 2024	RFA Instructional Trainings
August 26, 2024	All Applications Due (this date will not change)
August 27 – October 3, 2024	NC ESG Application Review
October 4, 2024	Funding Decisions Announced
October 18, 2024	Agency's intent to appeal Due
October 25, 2024	Appeals & Special Consideration Materials Due
November 22, 2024	Appeal Responses
December 16, 2024	Contracts Sent Out

2024 – 2025 RFA Estimated Timeline

- **Your CoC has established its own timeline and process for project application submission**
- **Please know your CoC's deadline for submission; this is different than the deadline for submission to the ESG Office**
- **If you miss your CoC's deadline, you will not be able to submit an application to the ESG Office**

North Carolina ESG Overview

- 2024 ESG Funding: \$5,160,126
- State Admin: \$387,009 (7.5%)
- Available to allocate: \$4,773,117

Purpose of ESG Funding

NC ESG funds are intended to be used as part of a crisis response system using a low barrier, housing-focused approach to ensure that homelessness is rare, brief, and one time. Activities can include:

- Engaging homeless individuals and families living on the street;
- Improving the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families;
- Helping operate emergency shelters;
- Providing essential services to emergency shelter residents,
- Rapidly rehouse homeless individuals and families, and
- Preventing families and individuals from becoming homeless.

Eligible Program Components

Agencies participating in the ESG program and/or receiving ESG funds, are eligible to perform activities under the components outlined below:

- **Street Outreach:** Meet the immediate needs of unsheltered homeless people by connecting them with emergency shelter, housing, and/or critical health services.
- **Emergency Shelter:** Intended to increase the quantity and quality of temporary emergency shelters provided to homeless people by supporting the shelters operating expenses and essential services.
- **Rapid Re-housing:** Move homeless people individuals and families quickly into permanent housing through rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services.
- **Homelessness Prevention:** Prevent households from becoming homeless through rental assistance, and housing relocation and stabilization services.
- **HMIS / Domestic Violence / Victim Service Provider Comparable Database :** Support ESG Subrecipients participation in the NC HMIS / or DV comparable database collection system. Federal law requires that Domestic Violence / Victim Service Provider agencies use Systems Comparable to HMIS rather than the HMIS used by other homeless agencies

Emergency Response

Street Outreach

Services offered in to persons experiencing homelessness, living in unsheltered places (e.g. streets)



Engagement & Case Management



Transportation to shelter or service providers



Public Transit Tickets



Outpatient Emergency Health & Mental Health Services

Services must be provided in unsheltered situations

Emergency Shelter

Services offered to persons experiencing homelessness, staying in or visiting emergency shelters

ESSENTIAL SERVICES



Shelter



Case Management



Child Care Costs



Public Transit Tickets



Education Services



Employment Training



Life Skills Training



Outpatient Health & Mental Health Services
Substance Abuse Treatment Services



Legal Services to obtain & retain housing

Housing Stabilization

Rapid Re-Housing or Homelessness Prevention

Housing services offered to persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness

RENTAL ASSISTANCE

HOUSING RELOCATION & STABILIZATION SERVICES

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



Rental Application fees
Security Deposit
Last Month's Rent



Utility deposit & payment



Moving costs

HOUSING SERVICES



Housing Search & Placement
Housing Stability Case Management



Mediation services to keep housing
Legal services to obtain & retain housing



Credit Repair

Regional Application
Due by 5:00pm on August 26, 2024
must be received/time stamped via Smartsheet

Regional Applications

The NC ESG Office will accept one regional application per CoC. Project applications that are not recommended for funding in the regional application will not be reviewed. CoCs will recommend nonprofit and/or local government organizations to be subrecipients of ESG funds.

- Once approved, these recommended organizations will contract directly with the State or subcontract with the region's Fiscal Sponsor.

The following are eligible sub-recipients for ESG funding:

- Units of general local government, including metropolitan entitlement communities that receive direct ESG allocations from HUD
- Private 501 (c) 3 designated nonprofit organizations.

Note: Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) or non-profits established by PHAs are not eligible sub-recipients of NC ESG funds.

ESG Application Submission

Each CoC should submit the following via Smartsheet:

- One Regional Application
- One Regional Budget

Each Project Applicant will upload their own application, budget, and supporting documentation to Smartsheet.

Project Applications must be submitted by zip file. Smartsheet limits the number of uploaded documents to 10. However, if you add all documents to a zip file and upload the zip file, Smartsheet reads this as one document.

Regional Application

Project Application - Eligible Subrecipients

- Organizations interested in being recommended for ESG funding, must apply through the CoC. Applications not approved by the CoC will not be reviewed by the NC ESG Office.
- Once approved, these recommended organizations will contract directly with the State or subcontract with the region's Fiscal Sponsor. The following are eligible sub-recipients for ESG funding:
 - Units of general local government, including metropolitan entitlement communities that receive direct ESG allocations from HUD
 - Private 501 (c) 3 designated nonprofit organizations.

Note: Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) or non-profits established by PHAs are not eligible sub-recipients of NC ESG funds.

Fair Share & Funding Priorities

- Funds will be awarded to CoCs based on the HUD CoC pro-rata formula, as explained in the NC ESG Fair Share Explainer, located in Appendix 1 of the application instructions.
- Applicants that request Emergency Response funds may allocate all dollars for Emergency Shelter Operations or allocates no less than 60% of the funding for Shelter Operations and no more than 40% for Shelter Services.
- The ESG Program prioritizes organizations that support the Housing First and low-barrier model. Your CoC written standards may require subrecipients to follow these models.
- The State strongly encourages use of emergency shelter funds to support facilities linked to rapid rehousing programs within a CoC.
- Rapid Rehousing Services and Rapid Rehousing Financial Assistance should be linked to an emergency shelter or street outreach program.

CoC Review of Project Applications

- The CoC must create and implement a fair local decision-making process for the distribution of funds that minimizes conflict of interest.
- The CoC is responsible for the Regional Application, including coordination and vetting of all project applicants.

Deficient project applications prolong the review process for the ESG Office, which results in delayed funding announcements, lost funding for CoCs, projects, and delays in funds to house and assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

CoC Review of Project Applications

The CoC should review each project application in its entirety for errors and pay close attention to the following:

- Responses to narrative questions
- Budget requests (60%/40% split)
- Required Attachments
- Operations Guidelines for **each ESG activity**
 - Policy Ex. – Program Rules, Intake, Fair Housing, non-discrimination of clients etc.
 - Procedure Ex. – Termination of Assistance, Grievance Process, Appeal process etc.
- Up-to-date documents and required signatures

CoC Review of Project Applications

During the project application review the, CoCs should also consider:

- **Capacity:** Does the agency have paid staff members with the capacity to administer an ESG activity? i.e. Executive Director, Case Manager, etc.
- **Financial Stability:** Does the agency have operating funds to pay eligible expenses and request reimbursement from the NC ESG Program 45 days after the last day of the billing month?
- **Expenditure History:** Does the agency have a history of timely, accurate, and appropriate spend down rates?
- **Data Collection:** Does the proposed agency utilize HMIS or a comparable database (for DV organizations)?

CoC Review of Project Applications

Key ESG requirements and elements the CoC must review during the vetting process include the following:

- **Coordinated Entry:** Does the agency actively participate in the coordinated entry process providing access to all demographic groups? If not, are there allowable exceptions?
- **Written Standards:** Does the agency follow the written standards established by the CoC and promote the CoC priorities and goals?
- **Planning/Coordination** - Has the agency participated in at least 75 percent of the community meetings contributing to the homeless discussion?
- **Housing First:** Is the agency committed to operating under a housing first model?
- **Low Barrier:** Is the agency committed to operating under a low barrier model?
- **VAWA:** Is the agency an active participant in the CoC established VAWA process?

Project Application

Application Forms

Question & Answer

Contact Information

NCESG@DHHS.NC.GOV

Alissa Pritchett

Homeless Programs Coordinator
Division of Aging and Adult Services
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
919-614-5777

Alissa.pritchett@dhhs.nc.gov

Chris Battle

Homeless Programs Coordinator
Division of Aging and Adult Services
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
919-675-3067

Chris.Battle@dhhs.nc.gov

Lisa Worth

Homeless Programs Coordinator
Division of Aging and Adult Services
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
919-605-0085

Lisa.worth@dhhs.nc.gov

Fiscal Sponsor Application

Fiscal Sponsor Information

- The State does not require that CoCs have a Fiscal Sponsor.
- Multiple regions may have the same Fiscal Sponsor.
- In CoC where a Fiscal Sponsor is not identified the State will continue to administer contracts directly with the local agencies.
- The CoC may choose the same agency to serve as the ESG Lead Agency and the Fiscal Sponsor or it may choose separate agencies for these roles.

Fiscal Sponsor's Role

A Fiscal Sponsor is a unit of local government or 501(c) 3 non-profit that:

- Contracts with the State
- Sub-contract with any other agencies receiving funds within its region
- Reimburses agencies
- Submits reimbursement requests to the State
- Acts as the central point of contact for all reporting requirements
- Is required to monitor sub-recipients

Note* CoCs are not required to have a fiscal sponsor and no additional points or funds will be provided to CoC that select a fiscal sponsor.

Fiscal Sponsor CoC Approval

- Organizations that elect to utilize a Fiscal Sponsor must get approval from the CoC.
- Fiscal Sponsors must:
 - Demonstrate financial solvency and resilience **and**
 - Demonstrate sound fiscal management **and**
 - Have demonstrated history of ability to meet Tier 1 spending if previously funded with State ESG

Fiscal Sponsor Application

- Applications must be submitted with the regional application
- All applications received by this deadline will be reviewed.
- Late applications will not be reviewed.
- Fiscal Sponsors will be notified of a decision by the NC ESG Office.