



**Missouri Housing**  
Development Commission

# Application Training

2025 Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG-25)

[MHDC.com](https://www.mhdc.com)

# Agenda

- ESG Program Guidance

- ESG Program Overview
- ESG Program Timeline
- Program Requirements
- Program Design

## ESG Application Guidance

- Application Overview
- Application Workflow
- Application Evaluation
- Application Submission
- Contact Information



**Missouri Housing**  
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# ESG Program Guidance

Part 1

MHDC.com

# Program Overview

- The ESG-25 program is solely administered by the Missouri Housing Development Commission
- The HEARTH Act of 2009 amended the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, revising the Emergency Shelter Grant program, which is now called the Emergency Solutions Grant program. The ESG Interim Rule took effect January 4, 2012
- The change in name reflected the change in focus to: assisting people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness

# Program Overview

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 re-house homeless individuals and families
6. Prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless

# Program Overview

- Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA): \$2,800,000.00
- Allocation Plan:

Missouri Continua of Care	Distribution Percentage
Missouri Balance of State	49.50%
Joplin	7.50%
Kansas City/Independence/Lee's Summit/Jackson County	8.00%
Springfield	8.50%
St. Charles	7.00%
St. Joseph	7.00%
St. Louis City	7.50%
St. Louis County	5.00%
<b>Total Amount to be Funded by Geographic Allocation</b>	<b>\$2,800,000.00</b>

# Program Timeline

2025 ESG Timeline	Relevant Dates
Application Available on Grant Interface:	April 30, 2024
Application Deadline:	May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2024 at 11:59 PM
Staff Recommendations to Board:	July 2024
Awards Notification:	August 2024
Funded Training Released:	November 2024
Grant Term Begins:	November 1, 2024
Grant Term Ends:	October 31, 2025
Closeout Due:	December 1st, 2025 at 11:59 PM

# Program Requirements

## Eligible Beneficiaries

- HEARTH Definition of Homelessness
  - Category One
    - Literally homeless
  - Category Two
    - Imminent risk of homelessness
  - Category Three
    - Homeless under other federal statutes
  - Category Four
    - Fleeing/Attempting to flee domestic violence



# Program Requirements

## Eligible Funding Components

### Street Outreach

- Intended to meet the immediate needs of unsheltered homeless individuals and families by connecting them with emergency shelter, housing, and/or critical health services

### Emergency Shelter

- Intended to increase the quantity and quality of temporary shelter provided to homeless individuals and families by paying for operating and essential services expenses

### Homelessness Prevention

- Intended to prevent households from becoming homeless through rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services

# Program Requirements

## Eligible Funding Components

### Rapid Rehousing

- Intended to quickly move homeless individuals and families to permanent housing through rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services

### HMIS/Comparable Database

- Intended to support ESG recipients' participation in the HMIS collection and data analysis of households that are homeless or at risk of homelessness

### Administration

- Intended to support ESG Grantees' costs incurred to meet the grant requirements

*\*Review the ESG-24 Desk Guide for more thorough eligibility details*

# Program Requirements

## Match

- All ESG recipients must provide a 100% match to supplement the ESG funds awarded
  - Cash or in-kind
  - Matching contributions must meet all HUD ESG requirements
  - Must be expended within the ESG grant period
  - 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 matching requirement of another federal grant or award may not count as satisfying the match of the ESG award

# Program Requirements

## Participation in HMIS System

*\*Or Comparable Database*

- Data on all persons served and all activities assisted under ESG must be entered into the HMIS system designated by the CoC for the area in which ESG activities will take place
- Victim service providers or legal services providers may use a **comparable database**
  - Comparable databases must be approved by the HMIS-lead agency for the CoC and meet all requirements listed in the [Comparable Database Manual](#)

# Program Requirements

## Continuum of Care

- Participation in the local Continuum of Care
  - Required attendance at a minimum of 75% of the Continuum of Care meetings held in the CoC where the majority of funding is received
- Participation in the Coordinated Entry system as developed by the CoC for the area
  - Continuums are required by HUD to be in compliance with Coordinated Entry as of January, 2018

# Program Requirements

## Homelessness Participation

- ESG Grantees must provide for the participation of not less than one homeless individual or formerly homeless individual on their board of directors or other equivalent policy-making entity.
  - To the extent that the entity considers and makes policies and decisions regarding any facilities, services, or other assistance that receive funding under Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).
- To the maximum extent practicable, ESG grantees must involve homeless individuals and families in maintaining and operating facilities assisted under ESG, in providing services assisted under ESG, and in providing services for occupants of facilities assisted under ESG.
  - This involvement may include employment or volunteer services.

# Program Design

## Coordinated Projects

- Projects should be coordinated within the community with the goal of ending homelessness
- Coordinated Entry
  - Transforming homeless services into crisis response systems that prevent homelessness and rapidly return people who experience homelessness to stable housing
- Mainstream Resources
  - Increase program access to mainstream benefits and services through agency partnerships

# Program Design

## Targeted Projects

- Projects should be targeted to practices that make homelessness rare, brief, and non-reoccurring
- Prioritization
  - Households with the greatest need receive priority for housing interventions
  - Prioritize based on vulnerability and severity of service needs
  - Decision making method for determining who receives assistance and services
- Diversion
  - Strategy to help households determine if it is possible for them to safely stay somewhere other than shelter



# Program Design

## Housing First

- Spend more time on housing and less on integrating into shelter
- Everyone is ready for housing, regardless of the complexity or severity of their needs
- People should be returned to or stabilized in permanent housing as quickly as possible
- People should be connected to resources necessary to maintain permanent housing
- Issues that may have contributed to a household's homelessness can best be addressed once they are housed

# Program Design

## Street Outreach

- The initial and most critical step in connecting or reconnecting a homeless individual to necessary health, mental health, recovery, social services, and housing services
- Use harm reduction approach to promote safety and relationship building
- Collaboration with law enforcement and other outreach providers, such as the Veteran's Administration, health care providers, and mental health workers

# Program Design

## Emergency Shelter

- Temporary, short-term shelter with services to alleviate people's immediate housing crisis as a first step to being quickly and permanently rehoused
- Immediate and easy access to safe and decent shelter to anyone who needs it
- Aims to rehouse people as quickly as possible

# Program Design

## Homelessness Prevention

- Difficult to strategically target
- Targets resources effectively by addressing those who are about to become homeless “but for” this assistance
- Focused on shelter diversion

# Program Design

## Rapid Rehousing

- Reduce the length of time program participants are homeless
- Financial assistance should be flexible and individualized
- Progressive engagement approach maximizes the number of households you can assist
- Strong case management should focus on helping participants navigate barriers to tenancy and build a support system by connecting them with people and programs in the community



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# ESG Application Guidance

Part 2

MHDC.com

# Application Overview

## Key Resources

- Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
- Allocation Plan
- Application Guidance
- Previous funding year Desk Guide & forms
- All forms are available on the [MHDC website](#)

# Application Overview

## Eligible Applicants

- All applicants must be:
  - A non-profit entity with capacity to administer the funds directly
  - Be eligible to conduct business in Missouri
  - Be an entity in good standing with the state of Missouri
  - Provide housing or housing services
- Funding will not be awarded to individuals
- Funding may not be sub-granted



# Application Overview

## Requirements

- Applicants may only submit one application per Missouri Continuum of Care
- Applicants applying for emergency shelter funds may only request funds for the county in which the shelter is located
- Eligible to apply for up to \$50,000 per grant application
  - If agency serves multiple counties, may apply for up to \$50,000 per county up to \$100,000 total

# Application Overview

## Application Interface

- All applications will be submitted on [Grant Interface](#)
- Applicants must respond to each question on the application
- Each answer should be clear and concise and not refer to any other area of the application
- Certain sections will become available and required depending on the applicants answers
- Does not need to be completed all at once

# Application Workflow

## Initial Applicant Details

- Agency Details
- Application Type
- ESG History
- Financial Management Details
- MHDC and Federal Funding Regulations

# Application Workflow

## ESG-25 Funding Request

- Component Breakdown
- Match Waiver Request

# Application Workflow

## Follow-Up Sections

- Comparable Database Details
- HMIS Reporting Compliance Plan
- ESG-24 Funding History
- Other ESG Award Details
- Match Waiver Request Details
- ESG Specific Program Guidelines
- Emergency Shelter Facility Details

# Application Guidance

## Funding Component Details

- Request Breakdown
- Program Structure
- Clients and Need
- Capacity
- Written Program Standards

# Application Guidance

## Attachments

- Agency Budget Form
- Match Summary Form
- Most Recent Audit Report
- Homeless Participation Certification
- Certificate of Good Standing
- Organizational Chart
- Agency Financial Policies
- 501(c)(3) Verification

# Application Workflow

## Additional Sections

- Letters of Support #1 & #2
- Citizen Outreach Contact Information



# Application Evaluation

- Funds awarded will be based on scoring system for applications
- Individual scores by component may be assessed for:
  - Completeness and organization of the grant application
  - Extent to which the applicant demonstrates an understanding of the ESG program and HUD priorities
  - Past performance in ESG programs
  - Amount of funds requested
  - Eligibility of funds requested
  - Value of applicant match contributions
  - Strength of program design and implementation strategy

# Application Evaluation

- Extent to which programs result in increased housing stability and permanent housing outcomes for clients
- Coordination and participation with local Continuum of Care
- Extent to which project approach makes homelessness rare, brief, and non-reoccurring
- Consistency with local need, collaboration with local plans, participation in Coordinated Entry, and service delivery strategies
- Demonstrated ability to move homeless individuals into housing or demonstrated ability to increase housing stability of individuals and families

# Application Submission

## Electronic Application

- Complete application submissions are done through the Grant Interface:  
<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=mhdc>
- The application does not have to be completed immediately, it may be started and saved to resume later by clicking the “Save Application” button
- Applicants may also delete an application by clicking “Abandon Request.” This feature is permanent.
  - If “Abandon Request” is selected, the application will be deleted and the applicant will need to start over in order to resume
- Once the application is complete and ready to be submitted, click “Submit Application.”
  - Once an application is submitted it cannot be edited
  - An auto-response email will confirm receipt of application

# Application Submission

## Grant Interface

- Applicants who previously received an ESG award from MHDC will already have a profile created.
  - Use your email to reset your password
  - Contact Grant administrator with any further issues
- Google Chrome is the recommended internet browser.
- For further guidance on logging in please visit MHDC website for the log in guide instructions.

Missouri Housing Development Commission

Logon Page

Email Address\*

Password\*

Log On Create New Account

Forgot your Password?

Welcome to the MHDC Community Initiatives Department Online Portal.

New Users: Please click on "Create New Account" to complete the registration process and create your logon credentials.

Existing Users: Please enter your credentials and log in. If you forgot your password, please use the "Forgot your Password?" link to the left to reset your password.

Not Sure? If you think that you or someone at your organization has already registered in the system, do not create a new account. Please contact our Grant Administrator to receive your username.

Grant Management Software provided by Foundant Technologies © 2020

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[grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?URL=mhdc](http://grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?URL=mhdc)

# Application Submission

## Deadline

- **Due 11:59 p.m. Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**
- Failure to submit fully completed applications by the above date will result in a point reduction when the application is evaluated
- Applications received after the deadline will not be considered for funding

# Resources

- HUD Exchange ESG Page
  - <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/esg/>
- HUD Regulations for ESG
  - [https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title24/24cfr576\\_main\\_02.tpl](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title24/24cfr576_main_02.tpl)
- MHDC ESG Information Page
  - <https://mhdc.com/programs/hud-programs/emergency-solutions-grant/>

# Contact Information

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