

Can a landlord receive both sections of the incentive?

- Yes, landlords can receive both of the approved incentives per the Addendum as long as the household situation qualifies. Please reference the [ESG-CV NOFA Addendum](#) for more information.

Is Street Outreach limited or have a budget threshold?

- There is no limit or threshold for the Street Outreach budget line.

For the staffing requirements, is there a minimum length of time that these positions need to be funded (i.e., do we need to fund through 9/30/22)?

- Subgrantees are responsible to staff positions required under ESG-CV 2nd Round funding for the duration of the grant (through 9/30/2022). CoCs and Local Planning Bodies (LPBs) should continuously review all funding opportunities to support added capacity beyond the end of the ESG-CV grant, as feasible.

Is a Housing Navigator and a Housing Resource Specialist both required vs. just one or the other?

- Minimum staffing requirements under ESG-CV 2nd Round are prescribed based on CoC and LPB allocations. Please reference the [ESG-CV NOFA Addendum](#) for specific details.

Should the 2nd Round budget spreadsheet be completed based on total funding (1st Round + 2nd Round) since this is an "amendment?" Or are we to complete the budget sheet based on the total 2nd Round allocation only?

- The budget spreadsheet in the 2nd Round amendment process is for 2nd Round funding allocations only. MSHDA will assist grant Fiduciaries to update Financial Status Report (FSR) spreadsheets to reflect the full ESG-CV grant (1st and 2nd Rounds) once the 2nd Round budget is approved.

Are the required staffing positions based upon both round 1 and round 2 funding or just the round 2 funding?

- Minimum staffing requirements under ESG-CV 2nd Round are based on 2nd Round allocations only.

Could you please specify what domestic violence service providers can apply for under ESG-CV?

- Under the [ESG-CV NOFA](#), domestic violence service providers can be a subgrantee for Rapid Re-Housing. This applies to both 1st and 2nd rounds of ESG-CV funding. As a reminder, all CoCs and LPBs are encouraged to consider new subgrantees, including domestic violence service providers.

Can rental assistance under ESG-CV be paired with the Eviction Diversion Program?

- ESG-CV funding can be used in conjunction with EDP funding by either assisting the eligible household with the required tenant portion of payment or to help maintain housing stability once EDP funding ends.

Will 1st and 2nd Round ESG-CV allocations be tracked as separate grants or combined?

- Once 2nd Round budgets are approved, allocations from both 1st and 2nd Rounds will be combined as one grant. Fiduciaries will submit FSRs for the entire grant, not individual funding rounds.

When should we begin advertising for the required positions of Housing Navigator and Housing Resource Specialist?

- Grantees should advertise for these positions as soon as possible. ESG-CV required positions must be filled by March 1, 2021.

Can the Housing Navigator and Housing Resource Specialist position be filled by the same person, if each role is only 20 hours per week?

- Subgrantees can consider fulfilling staffing requirements through one role, if their CoC or LPB allocation fits the parameters outlined in the [ESG-CV NOFA Addendum](#). However, subgrantees should be aware that each role has differing responsibilities and skills sets.

How should we classify the Housing Navigator position – as Rapid Re-Housing, Homelessness Prevention, or either?

- Subgrantees can classify the expenses under either Rapid Re-Housing or Homelessness Prevention, depending upon local allocation needs.

Who is responsible for hiring the required staffing positions?

- The minimum required staffing can be hired by any subgrantee, including the HARA.

If a Housing Navigator and/or Housing Resource Specialist were hired in the 1st Round of ESG-CV funding, are CoCs and LPBs required to fill the positions in this Round as well?

- If a CoC or LPB believes they have sufficiently improved their local staffing capacity through the 1st Round of ESG-CV funding, they can discuss amending staffing requirements under the 2nd Round with their assigned MSHDA Homeless Assistance Specialist. See the [Homeless Assistance Specialist map](#) for more information.

Where can I find information on the allocation amount for my community?

- Please contact your assigned MSHDA Homeless Assistance Specialist or CoC/LPB Chair for information regarding ESG-CV allocations.

What training requirements are needed for a Housing Navigator and/or Housing Resource Specialist?

- MSHDA is developing materials for training and learning collaboratives for these roles. In the interim, please be sure to review the [MSHDA ESG website](#) for information on required documentation, policies and procedures, and any recorded webinars.

What is the rental assistance cap for Rapid Re-Housing? Is it the same for both ESG and ESG-CV?

- The rental assistance cap is 9 months for Rapid Re-Housing. This is the same for both ESG and ESG-CV. Homelessness Prevention is also capped at 9 months of rental assistance, which includes up to 6 months of rental arrears paid.

Is the Housing Resource Specialist required to enroll clients in the ESG or ESG-CV program specifically or can they provide case management services to all housing resources?

- Housing Resource Specialist must provide case management services to households eligible for ESG or ESG-CV housing services. The Housing Navigator position can support ESG, ESG-CV, and all other identified housing programs within the Coordinated Entry System.

1st Round ESG-CV tracked security deposits under Rental Assistance, but 2nd Round is tracking them under Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services (known as Essential Services in the MATT 2.0 grant system). How do we need to track these expenses moving forward so we don't have to complete several line item transfers?

- Once the 2nd Round budget is approved, MSHDA will work directly with each Fiduciary to update the FSR spreadsheet (which tracks the overall CoC/LPB budget) to ensure all funding aligns correctly with HUD and MSHDA ESG budget definitions going forward.

For staff that was hired through the Eviction Diversion Program (EDP), it was suggested that this staff salary could be moved to ESG-CV after EDP ended. Can this staff title be changed to Housing Resource Specialist and not require any subgrantee to hire additional new staff?

- Subgrantees are encouraged to leverage trained staff from programs that are ending (like EDP) to retain knowledge and experience for ESG and ESG-CV services.

Would the landlord incentives be entered under security deposits or will there be a separate landlord incentive line item within the budget spreadsheet?

- Landlord incentives and security deposits can be tracked separately as Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services – Financial Assistance within the ESG-CV 2nd Round Budget Spreadsheet. Please review the [ESG Eligible Expense Quick Reference Sheet](#) for more information.

What is the priority for spending out funds between our annual ESG allocation and ESG-CV?

- Subgrantees receiving both ESG and ESG-CV funds should prioritize expenditure of annual ESG funding ahead of ESG-CV funds. This does not mean that subgrantees must wait to expend ESG-CV funds until all annual ESG are spent but that subgrantees should map their spending to ensure that the annual allocation is completed expended by the end of the grant year.

If we do leverage EDP staff for ESG-CV, is staff pay retroactive before March?

- The March 1, 2021 deadline established by MSHDA is to complete the hiring process. Subgrantees are welcomed and encouraged to fill the position as soon as possible and can pay hired staff immediately.

Is there a job description for a Housing Navigator that can be shared?

- MSHDA will share examples as they become available. In the interim, please review the example provided by the Veterans Administration in the Housing Navigator Toolkit:
<https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/nchav/education/Housing-Navigator-Toolkit.asp>

Can we use landlord incentives to secure a landlord who will be paid with annual ESG funds?

- Yes, as long as the situation and household served meeting ESG and ESG-CV requirements. Landlord incentives can only be paid using ESG-CV funding. Please reference the [ESG-CV NOFA Addendum](#) for additional details.

We provide a lot of security deposits for HCV clients. If we move Security Deposits out of Rental Assistance (Financial Assistance per MATT) and into Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services (Essential Services per MATT), then it will eat into our funds for staffing. Is there a discussion about moving this cost back under Rental Assistance?

- According to HUD, security deposits must be paid as part of Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services (currently Essential Services with MATT). CoCs and LPBs must adhere to the minimum amounts of rental assistance outlined in the [ESG-CV NOFA Addendum](#) to ensure sufficient funding for this activity.

Could you please confirm the following? The Area Median Income (AMI) limit is up to 50% for Homeless Prevention under ESG-CV. Otherwise, AMI for Rapid Re-Housing (both annual ESG and ESG-CV), Homelessness Prevention (annual ESG), and all other components is up to 30% AMI.

- Yes, this is correct. Please reference the [Financial Assistance Quick Reference Sheet](#) for more information.