

Q: What kind of HUD program is the Recovery Housing Program (RHP), and where can I find more information on program requirements?

A: The RHP is a component of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act of 2018, which HUD is administering as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. On July 21, 2021, HUD issued an RHP Notice of Waivers and Alternative Requirements in the Federal Register at FR-6225-N-01 summarizing how the CDBG program is modified for RHP. Additional guidance is available at the [HUD Exchange website](#).

Q: Can for-profit agencies/programs apply for this funding?

A: Per the HUD RHP Notice, only public and private non-profit entities that can apply as subrecipients. For-profit entities can only be considered via contract procurement, which MSHDA is not pursuing at this time. Therefore, for-profit entities are not eligible to apply as subrecipients under MSHDA's Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).

Q: If the grant term is technically one year, how can a participant receive rent assistance for up to two years?

A: Based on previously awarded projects, MSHDA anticipates this project will be awarded annually by HUD. Participants can be served for up to two years, provided that successful applicants under this NOFA are awarded in future funding rounds and that MSHDA is awarded subsequent funding from HUD.

Q: Can we use this funding to pay for mortgage or lease-to-own payments on the home the program is administered from?

A: MSHDA RHP funding cannot be used for purchasing properties, such as mortgage costs, land contract payments, lease-to-own. RHP funding can be used to pay the rent on a leased building or home, the program participant's rent and utilities, as well as up to 5% of the grant for Administrative Costs.

Q: If we currently require our Recovery Housing residents to pay rent in order to participate in the program, would we be eligible to apply for these funds?

A: If a recovery residence requires participants to pay rent, the program must demonstrate in its application how RHP funds will be used to support program expansion and how program income (in this case, participant rent payments) factor into the overall application budget. The RHP program is intended to increase housing services, not merely support existing services. Eligible applicants must meet the criteria outlined in the NOFA and provide any program income as part of the application budget.

Q: PIHP funding was cut and cut the length of stay for participants from six months to three months. Could these funds be used to expand funding for qualified individuals who need an extended stay?

A: RHP funding must be used to expand the current number of beds/units available to support those in recovery services. Extending length of stay for current units does not meet this requirement.

Q: As long as there is room for expansion of beds, can a current Recovery Housing Residence apply for these funds?

A: Yes, the main goal of the RHP funding is to expand/create new Recovery Housing beds/units.

Q: When will funding applicants be notified of their approved/denied application?

A: Selected applicants will be notified in March 2022 and grant documents will be sent out no later than April 1, 2022.

Q: Will there be a per diem/cost per day/per participant cap?

A: RHP does not operate with a per diem. The purpose of the funds is to increase the number of beds/units available to those in recovery services by supporting lease, rental assistance, and utility costs. Selected applicants are responsible to secure supportive services funding to match the expansion.

Q: Can RHP rental assistance be provided to participants in conjunction with other federal housing assistance programs?

A: No, RHP rental assistance cannot be used in conjunction with any other federal subsidy, i.e. Section 8 Vouchers, Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Rapid Re-Housing Programs, etc.

Q: Is there official training that needs to be done in order to complete the Habitability Standards Inspection?

A: No formal training is required for RHP staff to complete a Habitability Standards Inspection and they do not need to be a certified housing inspector.

Q: How would a grantee use program income generated by participants paying a portion of their rent?

A: The RHP grantee that generating program income by requiring Recovery Housing Program participants to pay a portion of their rent back to the agency would need to use the generated program income RHP-eligible activities only. This means it can be used to pay rental costs, leasing costs, or utilities. The funds would need to be fully expended for these purposes within the grant year they were collected.