



OMHAS Criminal Justice Housing Program
(Emergency Housing Assistance Program Round 3)

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Individuals are eligible from which types of correctional facilities?

A: Prisons, county jails, halfway houses, and community based correctional facilities (CBCFs).

Q: What is a community based correctional facility?

A: A secure residential program that provides comprehensive programming for offenders on felony supervision. CBCFs provide a wide range of programming addressing offender needs such as cognitive behavioral therapy, chemical dependency, education, employment, and family relationships.

Q: How recently can an individual have left a correctional facility and be eligible for assistance?

A: Eligible individuals must have left a correctional facility within 180 days of seeking assistance.

Q: Is an individual who is currently homeless and living in a shelter eligible?

A: Yes, as long as the individual left a correctional facility within the preceding 180 days.

Q: What are eligible uses of the funds?

A: Homelessness prevention, rapid rehousing, emergency rental assistance or hotel/motel assistance.

Q: How long can assistance be provided?

A: Assistance may be provided for a period not to exceed 180 days.

Q: Can an individual be provided with multiple types of assistance? For example, can an individual be provided hotel/motel assistance for a period of two weeks and then be provided rental assistance?

A: Yes. Individuals may receive assistance in any combination for a period not to exceed 180 days.

Q: Can an individual receive assistance more than once?

A: Yes, but the total length of assistance provided may still not exceed 180 days.

Q: What type of documentation must be provided to verify an individual's eligibility for assistance?

A: No documentation is required to verify eligibility. Eligibility may be determined via verbal or written verification, e.g., a screening question.

Q: What information is required to be submitted for reporting purposes?

A: Recipient information must be tracked in HMIS or similar database, in accordance with the previous guidance for the Emergency Housing Assistance provided by OHFA.

Q: Is there any new information that needs to be collected?

A: Yes. The only new information needing to be collected for this 3rd round is as follows: 1) the type of correctional facility the individual exited from and 2) the individual's exit date/release date from the correctional facility. If this cannot be tracked in HMIS, this information should be tracked in OHFA's COVID-19 Data Reporting Form.

Q: In order to receive hotel/motel assistance, must an individual have a quarantine order?

A: Yes. The quarantine order must be provided by a local public health department.

Q: How long is someone eligible for assistance if they exited prison on Transitional Control or Treatment Transfer?

A: An individual has 180 days to seek assistance after being released from inmate status.

Q: How much can be spent on administrative costs?

A: 8 percent.

Q: Traditional homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing activities involve significant staff time and resources dedicated to providing referrals, negotiating with landlords, providing case management, etc. Can funds be used to provide such services?

A: Yes. The majority of funds should be provided directly to clients' housing costs. However, up to 25% of funds may be used to provide the aforementioned services to clients to ensure successful diversion and rehousing.

Q: How much should be spent on HPRR versus ERA versus hotel/motel stays for Isolation/Quarantine?

A: The Continuum of Care can determine the distribution of funds by type based on local needs.