

2020/2021 RFP for CDBG Public Services Q&A

Updated November 8, 2019

Note: All projects must be consistent with the Snohomish County Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan 2015-2019 and address a goal outlined under Appendix A. Projects selected for funding must also be consistent with the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan currently in development.

Questions submitted to OCHS staff from 11/1/19 through 11/7/19;

Q: Can CDBG funds under this RFP be used to serve persons residing in the City of Everett, the City of Marysville, or the King County portion of Bothell?

A: No, funds under this RFP must be used to serve persons residing in areas participating in the Snohomish County Urban County Consortium (Consortium). The Consortium includes the unincorporated areas of the County and all the cities and towns within Snohomish County except for the City of Everett, the City of Marysville, and the King County portion of Bothell. Projects may serve persons in other communities with other project resources.

Furthermore, funds under this RFP may be used to serve individuals experiencing homelessness (as they do not access to a fixed residence) if the Project meets all presumed benefit activity requirements. Projects meeting presumed benefit activity requirements must document homelessness for all clients served and retain documentation in client files.

Questions submitted to OCHS staff from 10/16/19 through 11/1/19;

Q: Are CDBG-Public Service projects required to address specific goals in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan?

A: Yes, projects applying for CDBG-Public Service funds must address an applicable goal further described in Appendix A.

Q: Can CDBG-Public Service projects allow clients to self-certify income?

A: Yes, projects can use self-certification of income forms to meet the income requirement. The agency must keep record of self-certification forms in client files.

Q: Are homeless service projects required to participate in HMIS?

A: Certain service only projects may be exempt from HMIS requirements. Please contact OCHS staff if you have questions regarding HMIS requirements for a specific project. Outreach, Prevention, Emergency Shelter, Rapid Rehousing, Other Permanent Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing projects must participate in HMIS.

Q: Can CDBG-Public Service projects be exempt from Fenn-Jorstad Self-Sufficiency Matrix requirements?

A: CDBG-Public Service projects may be provided an exemption from using the Fenn-Jorstad Self-Sufficiency Matrix requirements upon approval by the County. Please contact OCHS staff if you have questions regarding Fenn-Jorstad Self Sufficiency Matrix requirements for a specific project.

Application Workshop (10/16/19)

Q: Can existing CDBG Public Service funded projects apply for an increase in funding?

A: Yes, increased requests for funding must be tied to a cost of living increase or to new or increased levels of service.

Q: What was the range of funding awards for CDBG Public Service projects in the last funding cycle?

A: Annual CDBG Public Service awards ranged from \$20,000 to \$128,000 in the last funding cycle.

Q: Are projects that have not received CDBG Public Services funding in the past eligible?

A: Yes.

Q: Are Fair Housing Counseling & Services eligible under the CDBG – Public Service application?

A: No, applicants seeking funds for fair housing services should use the Fair Housing and Counseling Services application.

Q: Are prohibitions on supplanting government funds applicable to private funds?

A: No, this prohibition is only applicable to government funds.