

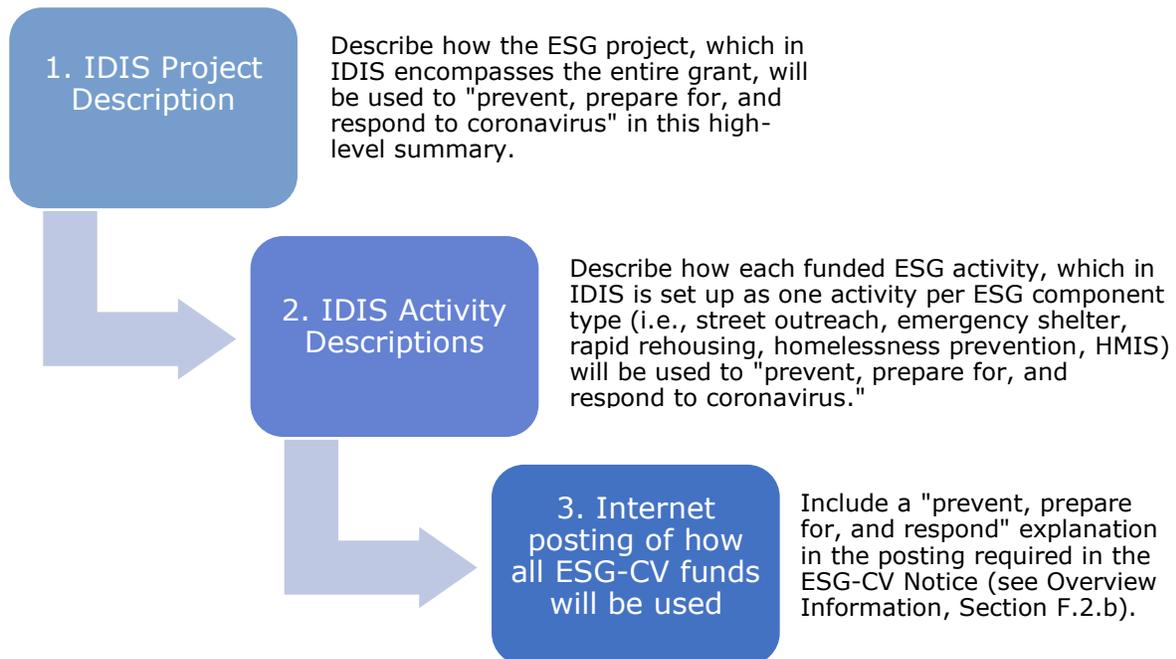
Homeless System Response: ESG-CV “Prevent, Prepare, and Respond” Tieback Flexibilities Quick Guide

The Emergency Solutions Grants Program under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (ESG-CV) funds must be used to “prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.” When recipients use annual ESG funds (FY 2020 and older) to “prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus” and meet the conditions in Section IV of the ESG-CV Notice, the flexibilities available for ESG-CV funds—such as no match requirement and the additional eligible activities—also apply to those annual funds.¹

This resource describes how ESG recipients can document how their ESG funds are being used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus (also known as “PPR tieback”). This quick guide will help recipients understand this approach and how to apply it.

Key guidelines for documenting PPR tieback:

- Document PPR at the ESG component level (i.e., street outreach, emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, homelessness prevention, and Homeless Management Information System [HMIS]), not at the program participant or household level.
- Use examples of specific activity types (e.g., landlord incentives, hazard pay, temporary emergency shelter, hotel/motel vouchers) to describe the scope of the ESG component being funded.
- PPR tieback documentation does **not** need to be maintained at the program participant level.
- PPR tieback should **not** be used as an eligibility criterion for program participants (e.g., requiring program participants to produce a positive COVID-19 test or to document a loss of income due to economic downturn caused by COVID-19, etc.)
- Needs that existed prior to COVID-19 (e.g., shelter roof repairs, ongoing shelter operating costs, program participants homeless prior to COVID-19 who still need housing) can also have a PPR tieback.
- Recipients must document the PPR tieback in each activity’s description in the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS).



¹ See Section III of Notice CPD 20-08 [Waivers and Alternative Requirements for the Emergency Solutions Grants \(ESG\) Program Under the CARES Act](#) for more information about available flexibilities.

Sample IDIS Activity Descriptions

Activity	Sample Text for IDIS
ESG20 Street Outreach Component	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training homeless providers on infectious disease prevention and mitigation. • Hazard pay for street outreach staff working directly to prevent, prepare for, or respond to coronavirus among people who are experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations. • Handwashing stations and portable toilets for use by people living in unsheltered situations will help prevent the spread of coronavirus by providing regular access to bathrooms and the ability to wash their hands. • Volunteer incentives (e.g. cash or gift cards) for people helping with street outreach projects. • Providing personal protective equipment (PPE) to people experiencing homelessness and outreach staff. • Transporting individuals and families experiencing homelessness to medical appointments.
ESG20 Shelter Component	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary emergency shelters to isolate individuals who have contracted coronavirus from other program participants and people experiencing homelessness and to expand capacity for non-congregate shelters when current shelter capacity is insufficient while maintaining social distancing protocols. • Shelter rehabilitation intended to keep shelters safe and functioning (roof repairs; fire safety systems; ventilation systems, etc.) or enable appropriate social distancing (installation of partitions; etc.). • Hazard pay for shelter and other staff working directly to prevent, prepare for or respond to coronavirus among people who are experiencing homelessness. • Volunteer incentives (e.g., cash or gift cards) for people helping with emergency shelter projects to maintain adequate staffing or increase staffing as necessary. • Transporting individuals and families experiencing homelessness to essential services facilities (i.e., transportation to medical care, vaccination events, and testing events). • Training homeless providers on infectious disease prevention and mitigation. • Providing PPE to shelter residents and staff. • Paying for hotel/motel costs (directly or through vouchers) for people experiencing homelessness, receiving rapid rehousing under the Continuum of Care or ESG program, receiving homelessness prevention under the ESG program, or residing in permanent supportive housing when needed to prevent the spread of coronavirus among households or shelter occupants. • Legal services (limited to those necessary to help program participants obtain housing, which will decrease their risk of COVID-19 infection).

Activity	Sample Text for IDIS
ESG20 Rapid ReHousing Component	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental assistance to those who are literally homeless to mitigate the economic impacts caused by coronavirus and reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection by providing stable housing. • Rental arrears (one-time payment for up to six months of rent in arrears, including late fees), when necessary to obtain housing. • Landlord incentives to increase the number of units available for experiencing homelessness (up to three times rent charged for the unit) because obtaining housing is critical to prevent the spread of coronavirus and mitigate the economic impact of the crisis. • Volunteer incentives (e.g. cash or gift cards) for people helping with housing relocation and stabilization services. • Providing PPE to people experiencing homelessness and program staff. • Conducting landlord engagement to increase the availability of units for people experiencing homelessness and minimize their time homeless to decrease their risk of COVID-19 infection. • Hazard pay to recipient or subrecipient staff working directly to PPR among persons experiencing homelessness. • Legal services (limited to those necessary to help program participants obtain housing, which will decrease their risk of COVID-19 infection). • Training homeless providers on infectious disease prevention and mitigation.
ESG20 Homeless Prevention Component	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental assistance to those who are at risk of homelessness to mitigate the economic impacts caused by coronavirus and reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection by providing stable housing. • Rental arrears (one-time payment for up to six months of rent in arrears, including late fees), when necessary to obtain or maintain housing. • Landlord incentives to increase the number of units available for experiencing homelessness (up to three times rent charged for the unit) because obtaining housing is critical to prevent the spread of coronavirus and mitigate the economic impact of the crisis. • Volunteer incentives (e.g. cash or gift cards) for people helping with housing relocation and stabilization services. • Providing PPE to people experiencing homelessness and program staff. • Developing a strategy and recruiting landlords to provide housing to people at risk of homelessness. • Paying hazard pay to recipient or subrecipient staff who put their own health at risk to continue to provide necessary services to individuals and families at risk of homelessness. • Legal services (limited to those necessary to help protect program participants from losing housing where they currently reside or obtain other permanent housing). • Training homeless providers on infectious disease prevention and mitigation.

Activity	Sample Text for IDIS
ESG20 Data Collection (HMIS) Component	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs eligible at 24 CFR 576.107(b), even though the recipient is not the HMIS lead, because these costs are needed to help the jurisdiction increase its reporting capacity for ESG-CV and to expand data collection capabilities for coronavirus response. • Gathering and analyzing data to determine needs and other eligible activities determined by the recipient to prepare for coronavirus. • Meeting U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) reporting requirements, including QPR reporting for ESG-CV. • Evaluating program performance.
ESG20 Administration Component	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing budgets, schedules, reports, amendments, and agreements with subrecipients and contractors for program activities. • Monitoring and evaluating program activities. • Preparing reports and other documents directly related to the program for submission to HUD. • Administrative services performed under third-party contracts or agreements. • Environmental review. • Costs of preparing and amending the ESG and homelessness-related sections of the consolidated plan. • Increasing grants management capacity for ESG-CV funding.

Other Helpful Resources

- TA Resource: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/COVID-19-Homeless-System-Response-IDIS-Fact-Sheet-for-ESG-and-ESG-CV-Funds-Setup.pdf>