

# HMIS Lead / Sys Admin – Q&A

## Questions from 6/17/20 Webinar

For any questions that were not addressed on the webinar, or if there are questions specific to your own systems, please submit an HMIS AAQ to receive a thorough answer: <https://www.hudexchange.info/program-support/my-question/>

**Q:** Will HUD-VASH projects still be required to be included in SPM reports since they are not required to enter data in HMIS?

**A:** The SPM is about anyone (with the right project types) using HMIS. If they aren't using HMIS they wouldn't be on the SPM, but if they are, regardless of funding source, and they are "continuum projects," they will be included in SPMs.

**Q:** Questions on ESG-CV project set up.

**A:** Please review the ESG Program HMIS Manual and then submit an HMIS AAQ if you still have project set up questions.

**Q:** What is the definition of a "Continuum Project"?

**A:** Per the HMIS Data Standards, a continuum project is: A project within the geographic boundaries of the Continuum(s) of Care served by the HMIS whose primary purpose is to meet the specific needs of people who are homeless by providing lodging and/or services. A continuum project is not limited to those projects funded by HUD and should include all of the Federal Partner projects and all other federally or non-federally funded projects functioning within the continuum.

**Q:** Should Moving On projects be included in the HIC?

**A:** We treat the "Move on" beds similar to how we treat beds that are set aside as part of a homeless preference in a PHA (beds that are not funded through the CoC Program). We believe this is a good resource to report on the HIC but you have flexibility to determine whether to include them. If the beds are truly set aside (i.e., you have a finite number of beds dedicated to this) that likely should be included.

**Q:** Who do we contact if we didn't get our certificates from NHSDC?

**A:** Certificate questions go to [HUDcertificates@abtassoc.com](mailto:HUDcertificates@abtassoc.com)

**Q:** If we are adding to our existing shelter capacity with ESG-CV funds, should we be including both Funding Sources and attach it to the same Program? I.e. ESG: Shelter & the new ESG CV funding sources?

**A:** Yes.

**Q:** If a community is using ESG-CV funds for Hazard Pay, how is this reported?

**A:** You should be prepared to report in narrative form regarding those activities. HUD does not plan on collecting client-level data on hazard pay (largely because there are no unique clients you are serving with these funds).

**Q:** How long will communities have to spend their ESG-CV funds?

**A:** This will be outlined in the ESG-CV notice.

**Q:** If a brick and mortar shelter uses ESG-CV funds to place clients in a hotel/motel, wouldn't we need a separate project for the Hotel/Motel since the bed type is different?

**A:** Yes, perhaps. However, the guidance HUD released about [HMIS setup during an infectious disease outbreak](#) allows a little more flexibility on this if inventory isn't changing just rearranging temporarily.

**Q:** When will the first quarterly report be due?

**A:** We anticipate the first quarterly report to be due October 1. This is partly dependent on the timing of the

Notice but you should plan on October at this point.

**Q:** Will CoC's and ESG Recipients be given the same details concerning the reporting responsibilities of the HMIS Leads?

**A:** We have begun that messaging already and will continue to do so. We are trying to message it before the Notice comes out because we know that funding allocation decisions are being made now. HMIS leads can certainly remind CoCs and ESG recipients of this reality as well.

**Q:** Are HMIS Leads able to attend vendor calls?

**A:** Vendor calls are for Vendors only as the content and conversation is concentrated on programming their software. All things not specific to programming are shared on this call.

**Q:** Should only current funding sources for projects be listed in HMIS? i.e., grants that get renewed with different grant numbers should only list the most current grants information?

**A:** Funding sources have start and end dates associated with them, so all funding sources should be listed - and those that are no longer applicable should have end dates.

**Q:** Do we still have to add ESG or ESG-CV as a funding source IF we get it from the state non-entitled grant and not directly from HUD?

**A:** Yes.

**Q:** If a seasonal shelter was open for the season, but NOT open on the night of the PIT, should it be included in the HIC?

**A:** No. The HIC should only include projects that had clients on the night of the count. The exception is RRH projects. CoCs can choose to include RRH projects with zero beds. We allow this because RRH projects that are year-round projects may have a temporary lull on the night of the count and CoCs want to use this inventory for annual planning purposes.

**Q:** Is hiring HMIS staff and/or adding technology (computers/remote access) to help with the new HMIS expanded workload an eligible cost for ESG-CV?

**A:** The ESG COVID waiver allows all ESG recipient to spend funds towards activities typically restricted to HMIS Leads, this would include HMIS staff or eligible technology. For the ESG-CV funds you will need to wait for the Notice for more information.