

HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION FUND OVERVIEW

Program Name: Homelessness Prevention Fund

Method of Distribution: Formula

Expected Number of Awards: 540

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$1.5 Billion

Eligible Applicants:

The only eligible applicants for this program are States, metropolitan cities, and urban counties that receive an allocation above \$500,000 according to the formula, and territories, which receive an allocation of 0.2% of the total. A list of eligible grantees is posted at www.hud.gov/recovery.

Background:

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, signed on February 17th, 2009, provides \$1.5 billion, allocated according to the current Emergency Shelter Grants formula with a grant minimum of \$500,000, to help families who are either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless to pay rent, make security deposits, pay utility bills, and cover other housing expenses. It also provides funds to help these families receive appropriate services related to housing search and retention. The Federal Register announcement, which will provide more details and guidance for grantees regarding requirements and eligible uses of these funds, is being prepared now, and should be published by mid-March. Specific language on the program can be found in the Act on pages 107-108 (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – H.R. 1), and the link to the Act is on the www.hudhre.info website.

Program Description:

This program will provide financial and other assistance to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless and help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. The funds under this program are intended to target individuals and families who would be homeless but for this assistance. The funds will provide for a variety of assistance, including: short-term or medium-term rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services, including such activities as mediation, security or utility deposits, utility payments, moving cost assistance, and case management.

Further Information:

Homelessness Prevention Fund program and applicable federal crosscutting requirements will be established by notice and posted on HUD's Recovery Act website, accessible through www.hud.gov/recovery. The 540 eligible grantees must submit to HUD an application, the details of which will be described in the Federal Register notice.