**CoC Program Environmental Review (ER) Tips and Resources**

**Tips**

**Most commonly-used ERs:**

* Exempt/CENST (tenant-based leasing or rental assistance; operating; supportive services only; HMIS)
* CEST “Limited Scope” Review (project-based or sponsor-based leasing or rental assistance)

**Less commonly-used ERs:**

* Environmental assessment (major rehabilitation, conversion, or demolition/ new construction of more than four units)
* CEST (for projects not covered by other review types) (rarely used)

**What to review for Exempt/CENST:**

The review should first cover all of the anticipated CENST units for the program via completion of the following process:

* List the apartment complexes, boarding houses, etc. where tenants have stayed in the past.
* List any new apartment complexes, boarding houses, etc. where there is a very high likelihood of tenants staying.
* Clear all of the anticipated units in one programmatic review.

Once this programmatic review is completed CENST units that were not previously cleared can be reviewed as they are added.

**Who is to complete the review for Exempt/CENST or CEST “Limited Scope”:**

If the grantee is completing projects throughout the county, they should contact the county and ask them to be the responsible entity.  However, if the grantee is only completing projects within the confines of a town or city, the grantee should contact the town or city with jurisdiction over the area being served and ask them to be the responsible entity before going to the county.

If the local jurisdiction cannot or will not perform the environmental review, obtain a written objection and notify your HUD CPD Representative. HUD will work with the grantee to perform the review if the local jurisdiction cannot or will not.

**Resources**

**HUD Exchange CoC Environmental Review FAQs:** <https://www.hudexchange.info/faqs/programs/continuum-of-care-coc-program/#?topic=Environmental%20Review&id=C1B13F5B-A5B7-AB0F-82B0C7F8BC53415F>

**CoC Program Environmental Review Flow Chart**

Date Published: February 2015

Description

This tool provides CoC Program recipients assistance in correctly identifying what level of environmental review is required for their CoC Program project(s). This tool provides links to the following forms: CoC Program 'CEST' Limited Scope Review, Exempt/CENST, EA, and CEST.

Resource Links

* [CoC Program Environmental Review Flow Chart (DOCX)](https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CoC-Program-Environmental-Review-Flow-Chart.docx) (DOCX)
* [CoC Program Environmental Review Flow Chart (PDF)](https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CoC-Program-Environmental-Review-Flow-Chart.pdf) (PDF)

Flow Chart Resource Links (continued)

* [CoC Program Environmental Review Flow Chart (508 Compliant Version)](https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CoC-Program-Environmental-Review-Flow-Chart-508-version.pdf) (PDF)
* [Exempt/CENST Form](https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3141/part-58-environmental-review-exempt-or-censt-format/) (HTML)
* [CoC Program 'CEST' Limited Scope Review](https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3800/limited-scope-environmental-review-coc/) (HTML)
* [Environmental Assessment (EA) Form](https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3140/part-58-environmental-assessment-form/) (HTML)
* [CEST Form](https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3139/part-58-environmental-review-cest-format/) (HTML)

(source: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4045/coc-program-environmental-review-flow-chart/>)

**Part 58 Environmental Review - Format for Activities Categorically Excluded under 58.35(a) (CEST)**

Date Published: June 2016

Description

This form is a suggested environmental review format for a Part 58 CEST project (categorically excluded, subject to the Federal laws and authorities referenced at 24 CFR 58.5).

Resource Links

* [Part 58 Environmental Review - Format for Activities Categorically Excluded under 58.35(a) (CEST)](https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Part-58-CEST-Format.docx) (DOCX)

(source: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3139/part-58-environmental-review-cest-format/>)

**Limited Scope Environmental Review CoC**

Date Published: April 2016

Description

The Limited Scope Environmental Review Instructions provides guidance on how to complete a limited scope review, and the Limited Scope Environmental Review Format is the recommended format for completing limited scope environmental reviews when used in tandem with the Instructions. These documents were designed specifically for projects funded by the Continuum of Care (CoC) program.

Projects that consist only of leasing or rental assistance activities require only a “limited scope” environmental review. Responsible Entities conducting a limited scope review need only analyze certain environmental laws and authorities and may document that the project is in compliance with others without analysis. A limited scope review is appropriate only if the project consists entirely of leasing or rental assistance activities in existing residential buildings without any associated physical impacts, including repairs, rehabilitation, or new construction.

Resource Links

* [Limited Scope Environmental Review Instructions - Continuum of Care (CoC)](https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Limited-Scope-Environmental-Review-Instructions-CoC.pdf) (PDF)
* [Limited Scope Environmental Review Format -- Continuum of Care (CoC)](https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Limited-Scope-Environmental-Review-Format-CoC.docx) (DOCX)

(source: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3800/limited-scope-environmental-review-coc/>)