



Housing Navigator and CoC COVID-19 Response Meeting

5/5/20

Agenda

- CDBG Funding Availability- Pamela Hodge, Deputy City Manager of Finance, Planning & Development, Columbus Consolidated Government
- Changes to Coordinated Entry to accommodate program flexibility
- 2020 US Census – Service Based Enumeration, Addie Britt, Transportation Planner Columbus Consolidated Government
- Mega Waiver
- Agency Updates
- Wrap Up
- Announcements/Upcoming Events
- Resources and Links



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Quick Guide to CDBG Eligible Activities to Support Infectious Disease Response

March 19, 2020

Grantees should coordinate with local health authorities before undertaking any activity to support state or local pandemic response. Grantees may use Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for a range of eligible activities that prevent and respond to the spread of infectious diseases such as the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Examples of Eligible Activities to Support Infectious Disease Response

For more information, refer to applicable sections of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (for State CDBG Grantees) and CDBG regulations (for Entitlement CDBG grantees).							
Buildings and Improvements, Including Public Facilities							
Acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or installation of public works, facilities, and site or other improvements. See section 105(a)(2) (42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2)); 24 CFR 570.201(c).	Construct a facility for testing, diagnosis, or treatment.						
	Rehabilitate a community facility to establish an infectious disease treatment clinic.						
	Acquire and rehabilitate, or construct, a group living facility that may be used to centralize patients undergoing treatment.						
Rehabilitation of buildings and improvements (including interim assistance). See section 105(a)(4) (42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4)); 24 CFR 570.201(f); 570.202(b).	Rehabilitate a commercial building or closed school building to establish an infectious disease treatment clinic, e.g., by replacing the HVAC system.						
	Acquire, and quickly rehabilitate (if necessary) a motel or hotel building to expand capacity of hospitals to accommodate isolation of patients during recovery.						
	Make interim improvements to private properties to enable an individual patient to remain quarantined on a temporary basis.						
Assistance to Businesses, including Special Economic Development Assistance							
Provision of assistance to private, for-profit entities, when appropriate to carry out an economic development project. See section 105(a)(17) (42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(17)); 24 CFR 570.203(b).	Provide grants or loans to support new businesses or business expansion to create jobs and manufacture medical supplies necessary to respond to infectious disease.						
	Avoid job loss caused by business closures related to social distancing by providing short-term working capital assistance to small businesses to enable retention of jobs held by low- and moderate-income persons.						
Provision of assistance to microenterprises. See section 105(a)(22) U.S.C. 5305(a)(22)); 24 CFR570.201(o).	Provide technical assistance, grants, loans, and other financial assistance to establish, stabilize, and expand microenterprises that provide medical, food delivery, cleaning, and other services to support home health and quarantine.						
Public Services (Capped at 15 Percent of the Grant, With Some Exceptions) ¹							
Provision of new or quantifiably increased public services. See section 105(a)(8) (42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(8)); 24 CFR 570.201(e).	Carry out job training to expand the pool of health care workers and technicians that are available to treat disease within a community.						
	Provide testing, diagnosis or other services at a fixed or mobile location.						
	Increase the capacity and availability of targeted health services for infectious disease response within existing health facilities.						
	Provide equipment, supplies, and materials necessary to carry-out a public service.						
	Deliver meals on wheels to quarantined individuals or individuals that need to maintain social distancing due to medical vulnerabilities.						

Planning, Capacity Building, and Technical Assistance	
States only: Planning grants and planning only grants. See section 105(a)(12).	Grant funds to units of general local government may be used for planning activities in conjunction with an activity, they may also be used for planning only as an activity. These activities must meet or demonstrate that they would meet a national objective. These activities are subject to the State’s 20 percent administration, planning and technical assistance cap.
States only: use a part of to support TA and capacity building. See section 106(d)(5) (42 U.S.C. 5306(d)(5).	Grant funds to units of general local government to hire technical assistance providers to deliver CDBG training to new subrecipients and local government departments that are administering CDBG funds for the first time to assist with infectious disease response. This activity is subject to the State’s 3 percent administration, planning and technical assistance cap.
Entitlement only. data gathering, studies, analysis, and preparation of plans and the identification of actions that will implement such plans. See 24 CFR 570.205.	Gather data and develop non-project specific emergency infectious disease response plans.

Planning Considerations

Infectious disease response conditions rapidly evolve and may require changes to the planned use of funds:

- CDBG grantees must amend their Consolidated Annual Action Plan when there is a change to the allocation priorities or method of distribution of funds; an addition of an activity not described in the plan; or a change to the purpose, scope, location, or beneficiaries of an activity (24 CFR 91.505).
- If the changes meet the criteria for a “substantial amendment” in the grantee’s citizen participation plan, the grantee must follow its citizen participation process for amendments (24 CFR 91.105 and 91.115).

Resources

The Department has technical assistance providers that may be available to assist grantees in their implementation of CDBG Funds for activities to prevent or respond to the spread of infectious disease. Please contact your local CPD Field Office Director to request technical assistance from HUD staff or a TA provider.

- [Submit your questions to: CPDQuestionsAnswered@hud.gov](mailto:CPDQuestionsAnswered@hud.gov)
- [COVID-19 \(“Coronavirus”\) Information and Resources: https://www.hud.gov/coronavirus](https://www.hud.gov/coronavirus)
- [CPD Program Guidance and Training: https://www.hudexchange.info/program-support/](https://www.hudexchange.info/program-support/)

¹ Section 105(a)(8) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, provides a different percentage cap for some grantees.

CPD CARES Act Formula Grants					
KEY	STA	NAME	CDBG20-CARES	ESG20-CARES	HOPWA20-CARES
130054	GA	Albany	\$523,987	\$0	\$0
130168	GA	Athens-Clarke County	\$829,383	\$0	\$0
130174	GA	Atlanta	\$4,209,808	\$2,163,228	\$3,317,389
130192	GA	Augusta-Richmond County	\$1,061,135	\$539,590	\$152,172
130444	GA	Brunswick	\$226,384	\$0	\$0
130750	GA	Columbus	\$981,189	\$0	\$0
130882	GA	Dalton	\$255,543	\$0	\$0
131314	GA	Gainesville	\$282,736	\$0	\$0
131566	GA	Hinesville	\$135,513	\$0	\$0
131968	GA	Macon	\$1,118,535	\$565,638	\$0
131998	GA	Marietta	\$317,434	\$0	\$0
132814	GA	Rome	\$258,026	\$0	\$0
132832	GA	Roswell	\$296,302	\$0	\$0
132890	GA	Sandy Springs City	\$384,260	\$0	\$0
132916	GA	Savannah	\$1,360,248	\$693,166	\$0
133354	GA	Valdosta	\$387,715	\$0	\$0
133432	GA	Warner Robins	\$393,076	\$0	\$0
139057	GA	Cherokee County	\$736,185	\$0	\$0
139063	GA	Clayton County	\$1,474,066	\$780,931	\$0
139067	GA	Cobb County	\$2,150,898	\$988,062	\$0
139089	GA	De Kalb County	\$3,094,658	\$1,593,790	\$0
139121	GA	Fulton County	\$1,098,603	\$574,624	\$0
139135	GA	Gwinnett County	\$3,242,023	\$1,619,024	\$0
139151	GA	Henry County	\$704,701	\$0	\$0
139999	GA	Georgia Nonentitlement	\$24,960,281	\$15,920,176	\$562,987

FY 2020-CARES allocations





2020 Census

The Complete Count and Where We are Now

05/05/2020 Update

Links + Articles

2020 Census Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19

<https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/factsheets/2020/d ec/2020-census-operational-adjustments-short-version.pdf>

<https://www.npr.org/2020/04/01/825690923/how-the-epidemic-is-affecting-the-2020-census>

<https://www.citylab.com/equity/2020/03/coronavirus-census-bureau-san-francisco-pandemic-planning/607246/>

2020 Census Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19

The 2020 Census is underway and households across America are responding every day. In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, the U.S. Census Bureau has adjusted 2020 Census operations in order to:

- Protect the health and safety of Census Bureau employees and the American public.
- Implement guidance from federal, state, and local health authorities.
- Ensure a complete and accurate count of all communities.

The table below summarizes the adjustments to operations. Should any additional adjustment become necessary, the Census Bureau will promptly publish the change in an updated document.

STATUS OF CURRENT OPERATIONS

Activity/Operation	Planned Schedule	Adjustment	Revised Schedule
Self-Response Phase (online, phone, mail)	March 12–July 31	Extended	March 12–August 14
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Deliver apportionment counts to the President	By December 31	On schedule	By December 31
Deliver redistricting counts to states	By April 1, 2021	On schedule	By April 1, 2021

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SBE Operations

There has not been an update on when the SBE process will resume.

However, it is important that we continue to share information about the 2020 Census and how to respond safely during the coronavirus pandemic.

Ways to self-respond:

- Take the 2020 Census online at: www.my2020census.gov
- Take the 2020 Census by phone (up to 13 different languages available):

English - 844-330-2020

Spanish - 844-468-2020

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However, it is important that we continue to share information about the 2020 Census and how to respond safely during the coronavirus pandemic.

Ways we can do this:

- Incorporating 2020 Census flyers with services currently provided
- 2020 Census posts on social media/virtual town halls
- Working together with CoC to plan for the eventual SBE process

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SBE Operations + Next Steps

While we have not been updated on when the SBE process will officially resume (this is due to field operations including enumerators being postponed until **June 1st, 2020**) we would still like to assist CoC providers in preparing for when these operations will resume:

1. Develop ways to share information with patrons about the 2020 Census
2. Learn more about the SBE process (taking the census online with enumerators OR paper responses through CoC provider)
3. Assessing Capacity

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Share 2020 Census Information with Patrons

1. Have flyers available with services (e.g. pass 2020 Census flyers with meals or other to-go services)
2. Have 2020 Census Information on answering machines/away messages
3. Social Media posts from your organization about 2020 Census
4. Other ideas?

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SBE Process + CoC Resources

1. Prepare databases for the SBE process and the eventual return of Census Bureau enumerators and other field operations (Pat)
2. Plan ways in which the CoC and individual providers can assist patrons in taking the 2020 Census **before** the SBE process/enumerators

- How can your organizations assist patrons in taking the 2020 Census while also practicing social distancing?

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Assessing Capacity

This is a strenuous time for community-based organizing, especially for organizations such as those within the CoC who may be experiencing increased need/inquiry of their services

1. Do you currently have the staff available to share information about the 2020 Census within your organization?
2. Do you currently have the staff available to facilitate/assist patrons in completing their 2020 Census prior to SBE operations (e.g. assist in mailing completed forms, assist in connecting patrons to Census Bureau call center, etc.)
3. Do you currently have the staff/volunteer base available for when the SBE process begins?

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Mega Waiver

This is quick reference and is not official guidance from HUD.

- Guidance was compiled as a quick reference while official guidance from HUD is pending.
- Link to actual waiver document is in title of document; confer with language for complete information.
- As HUD releases resources about using the waiver, defer to those.
- Work with your local HUD Field Office to obtain clarification or confirmation of how to use or document using the waivers.

Required notification process

- Recipients must provide notification in writing (mail or email) to the CPD Director of the HUD Field Office no less than two days before the recipient anticipates using the waiver flexibility. Example: Notify 4/2/2020- effective 4/4/2020

Documenting Use of Waivers

- Recipients must keep on file documented local rationale for 1.) requesting the waivers 2.) and use of the waivers on a participant-level basis.
- Drafting a set of emergency policies and procedures are highly encouraged by HUD and should be kept on file for recipients and sub-recipients' future monitoring visits.

Sections of Quick Reference Document

- [Continuum of Care Waivers](#)
- [Consolidated Plan Waivers](#)
- [Emergency Solutions Grant Waivers](#)
- [HOPWA Waivers](#)

CoC Program

Waiver	Duration	Suggested Documentation to Keep on File
1. Leasing projects may pay above FMR, but not greater than rent reasonableness for any lease executed during the waiver period	6 months	Recipient: Documentation FMR is impeding ability to find units in community Participant Level: lease w/execution date; note in file using FMR waiver with reason; rent reasonableness documentation.
2. PSH Disability Documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May use self-certification of disability until public health officials deem the crisis over May use intake worker observation of disability during 6 month waiver period 	<u>Self Cert:</u> Duration of public health crisis <u>Intake Worker Observation:</u> 6 months	Recipient: Documentation of local conditions that constrain verifying disability (shelter in place, office closures, overburdened healthcare system) Participant Level: Self cert-note within waiver timeline along with rationale to use waiver provision. Intake Worker Observation- note within waiver timeline along with rationale to use waiver provision.
3. Housing search and counseling services may pay up to 6 months of rental or utility arrears to remove barriers to obtaining housing.	1 year	Recipient: P/P's defining "difficulty to house" for use of waiver Participant Level: Documentation of inability to find housing due to rent/utility arrears.
4. RRH monthly case management requirement is waived	2 months	Recipient: Doc. Limited staff capacity, shelter in place order, other local conditions Participant Level: Note in file explaining rationale to use waiver for affected participants.
5. HQS Initial Inspection- Physical inspection is waived if recipient can 1.) visually inspect the unit using technology and 2.) has written policies to physically re-inspect the unit within 3 months after health officials determine special measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are no longer necessary	6 months	Recipient: P/P's outlining HQS process and conducting in-person after waiver expires. Participant Level: HQS form noting method used, date and that waiver was used; by 3-month deadline, a completed on-site HQS
6. HQS Annual Inspection- Waived	1 year	Recipient: P/P's outlining HQS process Participant Level: Note in file explaining rationale to use waiver for affected participants.
7. One-year lease requirement for permanent housing programs is waived. Initial lease terms executed during the waiver period must be for one month or longer.	6 months	Recipient: Documentation of local conditions that constrain securing 1 year leases Participant Level: Copy of lease w/dates and term; note in file explaining rationale to use waiver for affected participants.

Consolidated Plan Requirements

Waiver	Duration	Suggested Documentation to Keep on File
8. 30 day minimum public comment period may be replaced with a 5 day public comment period; applies to substantial amendments in Con Plan (CDBG, HOME, HTF, HOPWA, ESG)	Through the end of the recipient's 2020 program year	Recipient: 1) Documentation of the need to expedite the amendment and demonstrating both publication and 5-day comment period; 2) A record of all comments received, and responses must be submitted with the amendment
9. Citizen participation requirement is waived	Through the end of the recipient's 2020 program year	Recipient 1) Policies and procedures including the definition of "reasonable notice and opportunity to comment"

ESG

Note: These waivers apply to the existing ESG formula grants; ESG CARES funds may have a set of different waivers once HUD publishes the notice that regulates these funds. Once the notice(s) are published, the chart will be updated to reflect both ESG and ESG CARES provisions.

Waiver	Duration	Suggested Documentation to Keep on File
10. Any recipient can use ESG funds to pay costs of upgrading and enhancing HMIS for COVID reasons; the recipient does not need to have the HMIS Lead designation during the waiver time period.	6 months	Recipient Documentation of the need to upgrade or enhance the HMIS as a result of COVID-19 and that it met the "necessity" threshold established in the policies and procedures
11. Homelessness prevention re-evaluations for assistance may be done every 6 months instead of every 3 months	1 year	Recipient Documentation of local need to keep participants housed during COVID response; Participant Level: 1) A note in the files of affected clients explaining use of waiver; 2) and documentation of 6-month requirement.
12. HP & RRH monthly case management requirement is waived	2 months	Recipient Documentation of limited staff capacity, shelter-in-place order, or similar COVID-19 related impediment; Participant Level: A note in the files of affected clients explaining use of this waiver
13. RRH & HP may pay above FMR, but no greater than rent reasonableness for leases executed during the waiver period.	6 months	Recipient: Documentation FMR is impeding ability to find units in community Participant Level: lease w/execution date; note in file using this waiver with reason; rent reasonableness documentation.

HOPWA

Waiver	Duration	Suggested Documentation to Keep on File
14. Self-certification of HIV status and income for HOPWA eligibility; recipient must obtain source documentation within 3 months after public health deem the crisis over	Duration of public health crisis	Recipient: Documentation of COVID-19 related constraints preventing collection of income and HIV verification documentation such as shelter-in-place orders or office closures Participant Level: A note in the file of affected clients of why waiver was used; copy of self-certs.
15. Allows grantees to establish rent standards for TBRA by unit size that are reasonable and based upon rents being charged for comparable unassisted units in the area, taking into account location, size, type, quality, amenities, facilities, management and maintenance of each unit.	1 year	Recipient: Documentation outlining the recipient's difficulty in obtaining housing at the current rent standard; Participant Level: A copy of the application of the revised rent standard to the client's unit, including rent reasonableness documentation.
16. HQS Initial Inspection- Physical inspection is waived if recipient can 1.) visually inspect the unit using technology and 2.) has written policies to physically re-inspect the unit after health officials determine special measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are no longer necessary	1 year	Recipient: P/P's outlining HQS process and conducting in-person after waiver expires. Participant Level: HQS form noting method used, date and that waiver was used; a completed on-site HQS after officials determine special measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are no longer necessary
17. Space and security requirement is waived for grantees addressing appropriate quarantine space for affected eligible households during the allotted quarantined time frame recommended by local health care professionals.	Allotted quarantined time frame recommended by local healthcare professionals	Recipient: Documentation of the need for quarantine space as a result of COVID-19; Participant Level: 1) Documentation demonstrating quarantine recommendation of local health-care professionals including the timeframe for quarantine; 2) a note in the file of affected clients outlining the application of the waiver.



Agency Updates



Wrap up

What is our
collective
next step?

How can we
help each
other?



Announcements/Upcoming Events

Tuesday June 2, 2020 Housing
Navigator and COVID-19
Response Meeting

Links to Resources and Information

www.irs.gov/coronavirus

<https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/factsheets/2020/dec/2020-census-operational-adjustments-short-version.pdf>

<https://www.npr.org/2020/04/01/825690923/how-the-epidemic-is-affecting-the-2020-census>

<https://www.citylab.com/equity/2020/03/coronavirus-census-bureau-san-francisco-pandemic-planning/607246/>

https://2020census.gov/content/dam/2020census/materials/partners/2020-01/2020_Census_Community_Benefits_Toolkit.pdf

www.my2020census.gov

<https://www.everyonecountsga.org/factsheets-and-print-material-1>

<https://www.facebook.com/columbus.plans/>

<https://2020census.gov/en.html>

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/budget/fy20/?utm_source=HUD+Exchange+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=17abb0c3dd-FY+20+CPD+Program+Formula+Allocations+4-21-20&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f32b935a5f-17abb0c3dd-19580038

<https://files.hudexchange.info/course-content/covid-19-planning-response-for-homeless-assistance-providers-office-hours-april-17/COVID-19-Planning-and-Response-Office-Hours-April-17-2020-Slides.pdf>

Submit your questions to: CPDQuestionsAnswered@hud.gov

COVID-19 (“Coronavirus”) Information and Resources: <https://www.hud.gov/coronavirus>

CPD Program Guidance and Training: <https://www.hudexchange.info/program-support/>

2020 Census Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19

The 2020 Census is underway and households across America are responding every day. In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, the U.S. Census Bureau has adjusted 2020 Census operations in order to:

- Protect the health and safety of Census Bureau employees and the American public.
- Implement guidance from federal, state, and local health authorities.
- Ensure a complete and accurate count of all communities.

The table below summarizes the adjustments to operations. Should any additional adjustment become necessary, the Census Bureau will promptly publish the change in an updated document.

STATUS OF CURRENT OPERATIONS

Activity/Operation	Planned Schedule	Adjustment	Revised Schedule
Self-Response Phase (online, phone, mail)	March 12–July 31	Extended	March 12–August 14
Update Leave	March 15–April 17	Delayed	March 29–May 1
Update Enumerate	March 16–April 30	Suspended and extended	March 16–May 14
Mobile Questionnaire Assistance	March 30–July 31	Delayed	April 13–August 14
Early Nonresponse Followup (NRFU)	April 9–July 31	Delayed	May 7–August 14
Nonresponse Followup (NRFU) and NRFU Reinterview	May 13–July 31	Delayed	May 28–August 14
Group Quarters Enumeration	April 2–June 5	Delayed	April 16–June 19
Service-Based Enumeration	March 30–April 1	Delayed	April 29–May 1
Census counts people experiencing homelessness outdoors	April 1	Delayed	May 1
Enumeration of Transitory Locations	April 9–May 4	Delayed	April 23–May 18
Deliver apportionment counts to the President	By December 31	On schedule	By December 31
Deliver redistricting counts to states	By April 1, 2021	On schedule	By April 1, 2021

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For more information:
2020CENSUS.GOV

D-FS-GP-EN-017 March 21, 2020

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United States[®]
Census
2020



ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENTS

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

\$1,200* FOR INDIVIDUALS

Eligible individuals with adjusted gross income up to **\$75,000** will automatically receive the full \$1,200 payment.



\$2,400* FOR MARRIED COUPLES



Eligible married couples filing a joint return with adjusted gross income up to **\$150,000** will automatically receive the full \$2,400 payment.

\$500* PER CHILD

Parents also get \$500 for each eligible child **under 17**.



AUTOMATIC PAYMENTS



Most taxpayers don't need to take any extra steps to receive a payment. The IRS will use information from a taxpayer's **2019 tax return** if they've filed it, or their 2018 tax return, if they haven't.

* Income and other limits apply.

LEARN MORE & STAY UPDATED
www.irs.gov/coronavirus

www.irs.gov/coronavirus

**IRS is offering
coronavirus tax relief.
Check for frequent updates.**



www.irs.gov/coronavirus

El IRS ofrece alivio tributario por el coronavirus.

Verifique las actualizaciones frecuentes.



ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENTS



The vast majority of people do not need to take any action.
The IRS will calculate and automatically send the economic impact
payments to those eligible.



Anyone with a tax filing obligation who has not yet filed a tax return for 2018 or 2019 should file as soon as they can to receive an economic impact payment.

IF YOU STILL NEED TO FILE, USE:



e-File

Taxpayers and tax professionals are encouraged to file electronically.



Free File

Use IRS Free File if your adjusted gross income is \$69,000 or less.



Direct Deposit*

Combining direct deposit with electronic filing is the fastest way to receive your refund.

* The economic impact payment will be deposited directly into the same bank account reflected on the return filed.



www.irs.gov/coronavirus